

**PENNSYLVANIA IMPORTANT BIRD AREA # 35
ROTHROCK STATE PARK AND STONE MOUNTAIN**

**Phase I Conservation Plan
(Produced By: Michelle Cohen and Stephen Goin; May 2004)**

Purpose of the Phase I Conservation Plan: This Phase I Conservation Plan is a preliminary document to: 1) catalogue the natural resources and built environment for each Important Bird Area (IBA), 2) identify habitat-based site boundaries, 3) document the criteria for which it was selected, 4) describe the birds and wildlife habitat which occur on the site, with special reference to the species for which the site was selected as an IBA, 5) identify conservation issues and threats to the site, and 6) provide recommendations for conservation actions to conserve, enhance and/or restore habitat for bird populations, especially for those species for which the site was selected as an IBA. This Phase I Conservation Plan is intended to augment and expand the one-page site report contained in “A Guide to Critical Bird Habitat in Pennsylvania” (Crossley, 1999). The recommendations are presented from the perspective of bird and wildlife habitat conservation. It is acknowledged that not all the recommendations contained herein may be feasible or affordable. However, the plan is presented as an initial position from which to plan for and implement bird conservation on the site.

Site Name: Rothrock State Forest (Thickhead Mountain Wild Area, Alan Seeger Natural Area) - Stone Mountain

Size: 126,820 acres (51,324 hectares) – The Important Bird Area (IBA) is composed of the 4,886 acre (1,977 hectares) Thickhead Mountain Wild Area (WA) which includes Detweiler Run, Big Flat Laurel, Bear Meadows Natural Area, and Alan Seeger Natural Area (390 acres, 158 hectares); Stone Mountain Ridgeline (33,000 acres, 13,355 hectares); and surrounding 26,556 acres (10,747 hectares) of Rothrock State Forest. The site also includes the Pennsylvania State University’s Stone Valley Forest (6,775 acres, 2,710 hectares) Whipple Dam State Park, Penn Roosevelt State Park, portions of Greenwood Furnace State Park, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission’s Coyler Lake and private land.

Ownership:

Public [Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR), Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and Pennsylvania State University (PSU)] and private

County/Municipality:

Centre County / Harris and Potter Townships; Huntingdon County / Barree, Henderson, Bradey, Jackson and Miller Townships, Mifflin County / Armagh, Brown, Menno and Union Townships

Physiographic Provinces/Bird Conservation Region/Watersheds:

The IBA is within the Appalachian Mountain Section of the Ridge and Valley Physiographic Province. The IBA is within the Appalachian Mountain Bird Conservation Region (BCR) #28. The IBA is associated with several subwatersheds of the Susquehanna River Drainage Basin. The primary subwatersheds include: South Bald Eagle Creek, Standing Stone Creek and Kishacoquillas Creek, Jacks Creek and Penns Creek and Middle Creek. Standing Stone Creek, Kishacoquillas Creek and Jacks Creek flow to the Juniata River. South Bald Eagle Creek flows to the Little Juniata River. Middle Creek converges with Penns Creek, which is a tributary of the Susquehanna River.

Legislative Districts:

9th Congressional District U.S. Representative Bill Shuster, Jr. (R) – Huntingdon and Mifflin Counties

5th Congressional District, U.S. Representative John E. Peterson (R) – Centre County

34th Senatorial District, State Senator Jake Corman (R) – Armagh, Harris, Potter, Brown, and Union Townships

30th Senatorial District, State Senator Robert C. Jubelirer (R) – Barree, Henderson, Bradey, Jackson, Miller and Menno Townships

81st House District, State Representative Larry O. Sather (R) – Barree, Henderson, Bradey, Menno, Jackson, Miller and Union Townships

171st House District, State Representative Kerry A. Benninghoff (R) – Armagh, Harris, Potter and Brown Townships

Stewardship Adoption Status:

The State College Bird Club has officially adopted the Rothrock IBA site.

IBA Selection Criteria:

- (1d) Site is an important migratory pathway for raptors during fall migration. Full season (spring or fall) migration data is not available. Fall migration (FM*) observations of raptors average 4,028 and include: Broad-winged Hawk (1,044), Red-tailed Hawk (1,268), Sharp-shinned Hawk (945), and American Kestrel (139) (State College Bird Club hawk watch mean counts 1995 - 2001).
- (3) Site supports populations of species listed on the Pennsylvania’s “species of special concern” list. The Northern Goshawk is identified as *Candidate-rare* and breeds on site (Northern Goshawk, B – 2 pair).
- (4b) Site supports large unfragmented natural habitat characteristic of the Ridge and Valley Province, including areas of old-growth forest. Area-sensitive forest interior bird species dominate the site.
- (5) Site has been the location of ongoing avian monitoring. A hawk watch on Stone Mountain Ridgeline has been conducted since 1991. Four Special Area Projects (SAP) are being conducted within this IBA. Three Breeding Bird Survey routes are conducted annually within the forest, beginning in 1992. A Breeding Bird Census was conducted between 1994-1996 in Detweiler Run NA.

Note: Numbers indicate single season maximum documented in recent years.

*SM= spring migration; FM= fall migration; B= breeding; W=winter

Important Avian Habitats:

Wetland habitat (bog forest, open bog, bog meadow), forest habitat including mixed-oak, coniferous and mixed; unfragmented forest community, old-growth forest.

General Site Description:

The site is largely comprised of Natural Area (NA) or Wild Area (WA) designations within Rothrock State Forest, primarily southeast of State College. This IBA also includes the Stone Mountain ridgeline. The PA DCNR's Bureau of Forestry manages the state forest for the public to use, enjoy, and experience. Large undisturbed tracts of deciduous and mixed forests provide suitable breeding habitat for forest interior species. Areas of old-growth and relic habitats such as the conifer bog at Bear Meadows NA increase the diversity of the site, allowing greater numbers of bird species to inhabit the area. The Stone Mountain ridgeline, situated in the middle of the Eastern Flyway, is important for migrating raptors in autumn. The IBA is in the vicinity of other IBAs, including the Frankstown Branch Lower Trail IBA, Bald Eagle Ridge IBA, Greater Tussey Mountain IBA and the Barrens at Scotia IBA.

The Thickhead WA (4,886 acres, 1977 ha) includes Detweiler Run NA (463 acres, 187 hectares), Bear Meadows NA (890 acres, 360 hectares), and Big Flat Laurel NA (184 acres, 75 hectares). Detweiler Run NA is a valley comprised of old-growth white pine and Eastern hemlock with a dense rhododendron understory. Bear Meadows NA is a high elevation valley (1800ft, 548.6 m) surrounded on all sides by high elevation ridges (2,400 ft, 7,32 m) which forms a cold air drainage allowing the persistence of cold tolerant plant species such as balsam fir, red spruce, and black spruce. The many hydrosere stages of Bear Meadows create a diverse landscape including: open bog, bog meadow (sedges, sphagnum moss), bog shrub (highbush blueberry, hazel alder), bog forest (spruce, balsam fir, hemlock, white pine, rhododendron), border forest (eastern hemlock, red maple, birches, rhododendron), and upland forest (oaks, red maple, black birch, pitch pine, blueberry, mountain laurel). Big Flat Laurel NA, a flat ridgetop, supports stunted chestnut oak, scrub oak, pitch pine, and heath. Wild Areas not associated with the NAs maintain a wild appearance. Old-growth chestnut oak forest has been found on ridges, particularly in an area north of Detweiler Run NA on Thickhead Mountain.

Alan Seeger NA (390 acres, 158 ha) borders Thickhead WA at its most southerly point. Two public picnic areas occur beyond the NA border. Areas of an old-growth eastern hemlock community exist between Detweiler Run and Standing Stone Creek. Old growth species of the hemlock community include: eastern hemlock, tulipolar, black gum and yellow birch.

The Stone Mountain ridgeline extends in a southwest direction from the southern portion of the largest tract of Rothrock State Forest. Deciduous and mixed dry site species occur. This area includes Rocky Ridge NA protected for its unique geology and flower species. State Game Land No. 112 extends south from the state forest boundary and private cabins with varying sized properties of forestland are on the southeast-facing slope.

Many trails run through or around areas of the site including the Mid-State Trail, which travels through Thickhead WA. A hawk watch platform is located on the top of the Stone Mountain ridgeline to view migrating raptors.

The site is also comprised of additional lands managed by PA DCNR, including Whipple Dam State Park, Greenwood Furnace State Park and Penn Roosevelt State Park. Habitats provided by each of the parks are primarily forested. Whipple Dam contains a 22-acre (9-hectare) lake, Greenwood Furnace contains a 6-acre (2.4-hectare) lake and Penn Roosevelt contains a 3.5 acre (1.4 hectare) water body.

Lands within the IBA also include PSU's Stone Valley Forest. The forest is managed to support the educational goals of the University's School of Forest Resources. The forest is managed for multiple uses and opportunities including education, research, demonstration and benefits including timber, wildlife, water, recreation, aesthetics, cultural and natural resources. In addition the forest serves as a model for other forest landowners. As a result of the active forest management practices the forest is highly diverse. In addition to the various deciduous forest types and successional stages, conifer forest types are also present. The forest is required to have 500 acres (202 hectares) of conifer cover.

Coyler Lake is actively managed by the PFBC as a fishery resource. However the water body and adjacent forest and fields attract a diversity of species. The Double-crested Cormorant and Ruddy Duck are often observed during migration. The Osprey is also known to feed at the lake. Rough-legged hawks are often observed using the fields adjacent to the lake during the winter months.

Summary of Birds:

Presently, approximately 134 bird species have been identified within the IBA. This site is of primary importance to area-sensitive, forest-interior bird species. Approximately 50 breeding bird species utilizing forest-interior habitat have been recorded breeding on the site. Stone Mountain ridgeline is important to migrating raptors. In addition, the site provides habitat for songbirds during migration. Approximately 12 species of northern migrants have been recorded, and include: Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Fox Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow and White-throated Sparrow. Bird counts are ongoing. The following IBA categories reflect the importance of the habitats within the site.

PA-1 Birds include: Broad-winged Hawk (1044), Red-tailed Hawk (1,268), Sharp-shinned Hawk (945), and American Kestrel (139) (numbers are mean counts from 1995 – 2001 conducted by State College Bird Club). The number of species observed reflects fall migration counts. Full season count data is not available. Fall migration counts indicate concentration of a large number of migrating birds. Observations were made at Stone Mountain Hawk Watch platform as the raptors migrate south using the thermals and wind currents created by the ridges of this region. The Stone Mountain Ridgeline is largely forested, which may contribute to the use of the ridge during migration.

PA-3 Birds include the Northern Goshawk (B – 2 pair). The Northern Goshawk is a year-round resident in the deciduous forests of northern and central Pennsylvania. The goshawk has been found breeding in Alan Seeger NA. The goshawk may potential breed within the PSU's Stone Valley Forest, based upon observations of attempted nesting behavior. The Northern Harrier is a suspected resident breeder on the site. The harrier is found hunting in open country near marshes and old-field habitat similar to Bear Meadows NA.

PA-4 Large populations of forest interior species are present here, including the Ovenbird, Red-eyed Vireo, Scarlet Tanager, Black-throated Green Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, American Redstart, Louisiana Waterthrush, and Hooded Warbler. The Acadian Flycatcher exists here at the extreme northern edge of its range, in deciduous forests and swamps such as those surrounding Bear Meadows NA.

Audubon's WatchList species inhabiting the site include: Canada Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, and Wood Thrush. The Cerulean Warbler has been proposed for federal listing as "threatened." This proposal is currently being evaluated by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Cerulean Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler and Louisiana Waterthrush are also listed as *Birds of Conservation Concern* (2002) by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The Canada Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, and Blackburnian Warbler prefer unfragmented eastern hemlock and rhododendron habitat common in Detweiler Run NA and Alan Seeger NA. The Golden-crowned Kinglet prefers to nest in spruce thickets, which occur in Bear Meadows NA.

The Golden-winged Warbler is a WatchList species, and also listed as by the US Fish and Wildlife Service as *Birds of Conservation Concern* (2002). It is present within the IBA at the Stone Valley Forest. Golden-winged Warbler hybrids are also present in some years.

Greenwood Furnace, Whipple Dam and Penn Roosevelt State Parks contain forested communities that are extensions of the forest complexes associated with the larger component of the IBA containing Rothrock State Forest. Bird assemblages are typical of large forested communities. Some open woodland habitat at Greenwood Furnace supports a population of Whip-poor-wills. This park also contains some wooded wetland habitat, supporting American Woodcock. The associated small lake at Greenwood Furnace also supports Green and Great Blue Herons. The lake provides habitat for migrating waterfowl, including Wood Ducks. Greenwood Furnace also contains some small field containing a mixture of shrubs and grassland, which support Yellow Warblers and Yellowthroats.

Whipple Dam State Park also contains a lake that provides habitat for migrating waterfowl such as mergansers, Mallards, and Wood Ducks. Ospreys and Bald Eagles also use the lake during migration. Whipple Dam State Park also contains some conifer habitat. Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl and Barred Owls inhabit the site as breeders.

Avian Monitoring Efforts:

Three Breeding Bird Survey routes through Rothrock State Forest have identified 80 species of birds since 1992. The data for the three routes was combined for records between 1992 and 2001. In 2001, 50 stops were made on one route in the State Forest, 22 stops were within the IBA, and 42 species were identified. A Breeding Bird Census was conducted from 1994 -1996. Two points of the Huntingdon Christmas Bird Count are in the vicinity of the IBA. Stone Mountain hawk watch activities have detected 16 species of raptors in migration since 1991. The hawk watch station is manned on weekends and somewhat sporadically during the week, although coverage is good during the time of high raptor migration activity. Four Special Area Project (SAP) sites have been identified and monitored. Sites include Bear Meadows NA, Detweiler Run NA, Big Flat Laurel NA, and Alan Seeger NA. Data are being compiled from the remainder of Thickhead WA that is outside NAs. (See "Key Contacts" at the end of this document for more specific information regarding the SAP sites.) Pennsylvania Audubon and volunteers with the State College Bird Club have established a large number of long term point counts within the IBA. Approximately 50 points have been established. Greg Grove and Nick Bolgiano of the State College Bird Club are coordinating this annual survey.

A few Eastern Bluebird boxes occur at Greenwood Park. The boxes are monitored and maintained by local volunteers.

The Stone Valley Nature Center sponsors a Northern Saw-whet Owl banding project in the fall for migrating owls. Over 100 owls are typically banded.

Education/Outdoor Recreation/Ecotourism Activities and Opportunities:

The State College Bird Club organizes bird watching trips throughout the forest. A hawk watch platform is located on Stone Mountain Ridge for viewing migrating raptors. Due to the close proximity to the Pennsylvania State University many classes visit the site for a variety of educational opportunities. (Classes visiting the site on a regular basis include Dendrology and Forest Ecology.) Several hiking trails occur throughout the IBA within Rothrock State Forest. The hiking trails offer outstanding recreational opportunities. Ecotourism potential for this IBA is rated extremely high.

Greenwood Furnace and Whipple Dam State Parks hold educational programs throughout the summer months. Some of the programs are related to bird education and conservation. Swimming, fishing, picnicking and hunting are available at both parks. Boating is also offered at Whipple Dam. Camping is offered at Greenwood Furnace. Penn Roosevelt State Park is a small, rustic park (41 acres, 17 hectares in size) and offers picnicking, camping for tents only and horseback riding. The Mid-State Trail also bisects the park. Fishing is offered at the small 3.5-acre (1.4 hectare) lake. Coyler Lake is also open to the public for fishing and other recreational activities such as hiking and bird watching.

Hunting is permitted within the PSU Stone Valley Forest. Camping is allowed with a permit. Shaver's Creek Nature Center is located in Stone Valley Forest. The Nature

Center provides educational programs, including bird programs for the public. The Center offers Bird of Prey shows, bird walks and other birding programs throughout the year. The Center holds an annual "Birding Cup" program to raise funds and document the total number of species seen within a 24-hour period. Observation records from the "Birding Cup" have been maintained for approximately ten years, beginning in 1993. The Nature Center serves as a valuable resource for bird conservation and the dispersal of information regarding birding issues.

Management/Conservation Issues and Opportunities:

Several issues have been identified that may affect the quality of the IBA. These include: the invasion of exotic insects and plant species; decline of species diversity in a unique bog community; human use impacts and white-tailed deer overabundance. The hemlock woolly adelgid, an exotic insect which feeds primarily on hemlock sap, often causes mortality of the infected tree. The hemlock woolly adelgid first appeared in Pennsylvania in the mid-1960's. The adelgid was confirmed on the lower slope of the Stone Mountain ridgeline in 2001. Currently, the adelgid has not been identified in the Thickhead WA or Alan Seeger NA, where stands of old-growth hemlock are vulnerable to the adelgid. However, the lady beetle introduced from Japan has been used as a biological control in other areas of Pennsylvania. The lady beetle is only capable of limiting the hemlock woolly adelgid population, but cannot eradicate it. The Bureau of Forestry has had trouble gaining approval from the public for lady beetle introductions. The public mistakenly associates the small lady beetles with the common larger ladybugs that sometimes invade homes in the winter.

Gypsy moths also pose a threat to the oak-forest community. However, the Bureau of Forestry has not applied chemicals to combat gypsy moths in the last several years. Gypsy moth outbreaks are considered sporadic and the naturalized population has not require additional control measures. A biological agent has been considered to help reduce gypsy moth numbers, but is not currently applied to the site.

Tree of Heaven is an aggressive exotic tree species that threatens the natural community. The Bureau of Forestry actively controls this species through herbicide applications. Balsam fir populations in Bear Meadows NA have been in decline. The warm weather trends are likely the cause of the decline.

Human impacts also threaten the IBA. The ecological condition of the bog at Bear Meadows NA is potentially threatened by the use of the site by seasonal activities of blueberry pickers. The search for blueberries caused new paths to be created and also results in the compaction of the peat. However, the extent of this impact is unknown. Increasing development surrounding the IBA may also affect the habitat through increased recreational use on the IBA and fragmentation and loss of habitat surrounding the IBA.

The overabundance of the white-tailed deer population also threatens the ecology of the forest community. Over-browsing of the forest understory has hindered regeneration and altered forest composition.

Natural Areas receive the highest level of resource protection within the IBA. NAs are designated to protect a unique feature found on the site, such as unique geology or vegetation. No active management takes place within NAs, and the land is reserved only for hiking and cross-country skiing.

Thickhead WA is reasonably wild and connects the NAs. Habitat manipulation (timber cutting) is permitted in WAs, however no timbering is anticipated in the near future, according to DCNR. A 600-foot (183-meter) buffer surrounds NAs and limits the type of silvicultural activities that occur within the buffer. Camping, horseback riding, and mountain bikes are allowed in the WA, and many trails in the area facilitate these activities. At this time overuse does not appear to be degrading the site; however, adverse impacts could occur in the future.

The Bureau of Forestry is attempting to restrict vehicle use on the roads, which pass through the WA and NAs. Bear Meadows Road is a partially macadam road running through Thickhead WA. The road is considered a main artery, and accommodates a fair amount of traffic due to its access to State College. No vehicular count data are available. All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) are not permitted within the Stone Valley Forest. Motorcycles are permitted in the Stone Valley Forest on forest roads only.

Stone Mountain is managed forestland. However, the ridgeline contains forest that cannot be harvested due to site conditions. Areas of virgin timber exist where the slope is too great or too many rocks occur for timber harvesting. DCNR's Bureau of Forestry intensively manages the lower slopes within the state forest for timber.

No plans or public pressure have been expressed to convert already designated NAs to managed forestland. The Bureau of Forestry is considering expanding the Thickhead WA approximately 300-500 acres (121-202 hectare) in the northeast between the WA boundary and Thickhead Mountain Road.

The main feature of the IBA is the large, unfragmented, and diverse habitats, which provide forest-interior habitat for breeding, foraging, and nesting. The continued protection of this site is important. Expansion of the WA or NAs would serve to provide a larger buffer from logged areas and increase protection for interior-forest birds.

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENN DOT), Engineering District 2-0 has initiated the South Central Centre County Transportation Study (SCCCTS) to investigate transportation improvements for US Route 322. A Community Advisory Committee (CAC) has been established to facilitate communication between PENN DOT and the public. The CAC holds monthly meetings that are open to the public. The initial phase of the project resulted in the proposal of 36 preliminary alternatives. Three of the preliminary alternatives (Alternatives 5, 7, and 8) would directly affect portions of Rothrock State Forest. Alternative 8 directly affects Thickhead WA and is in close proximity to Bear Meadows and Detweiler Run NAs. Eight of the 36 alternatives have been recommended for further study, based upon review by representatives from PENN DOT, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and CAC and natural resource agencies.

Alternatives 5, 7, and 8 have been dismissed and not recommended for additional study. In addition to the positions taken by these agencies and the CAC, public input also supports this recommendation. PENN DOT and FHWA are considering these recommendations and all comments. They will make a final announcement regarding the alternatives to be carried forward for additional study. An environmental impact assessment of the proposed routes will be conducted on the alternatives carried forward. PENN DOT anticipates a preferred alternative route will be developed in 2005. Development of the project should be monitored. Visit PENNDOT, District 2-0 website at <http://www.scccts.org> for project and scheduling information. Concern should be expressed to PENN DOT, FHWA and the natural resource professionals if the IBA is threatened in the future by a roadway alternative.

Conservation Actions: *The following conservation actions describe **current and ongoing efforts** by PA DCNR and the Pennsylvania State University and other interested organizations:*

- Expand Thickhead WA in the northeast to Thickhead Mountain Road and into all surrounding forestland
- Continue to monitor forest health impacts from insects (gypsy moth, hemlock woolly adelgid), wildlife (white-tailed deer) and invasive species (tree of heaven)
- Conduct a bird monitoring program throughout the IBA

*The following conservation actions described are **proposed recommendations** for consideration by the PA DCNR, Pennsylvania State University and other interested organizations, agencies and groups for the maintenance, improvement and restoration of habitat for bird species, especially to optimize habitat for IBA target species as well as for the promotion of bird conservation through educational outreach:*

- Conduct educational outreach programs and projects by designing displays (house at the Greenwood Visitor Center or Shaver's Creek Nature Center), placing IBA signs at public access points, distributing materials (IBA brochures) and conducting projects to promote bird conservation and the IBA program
- Monitor bird occurrence in the IBA and update the bird checklist as needed
- Monitor populations of species of concern such as the Northern Goshawk and Golden-winged Warbler
- Expand and maintain the bluebird trail at Greenwood Furnace State Park
- Examine the impacts of blueberry pickers in Bear Meadows NA and propose responsible habitat protection measures, if necessary
- Monitor recreational use and potential impacts inside of Thickhead WA
- Assist the Bureau of Forestry to manage conflicts between public recreational use and wildlife habitat protection
- Review DCNR's Forest Management Plan as part of the public review process and provide input regarding bird and habitat conservation
- Monitor regulations and changes regarding ATV use on state forestland and potential effects to avian community

- Monitor issues associated with SCCCTS by continuing to express public concern for all US 322 Route alternatives extending South of Colyer Mountain; providing IBA data to natural resource agencies, PENN DOT and FHWA to demonstrate the importance of the site and to oppose any alternative affecting the IBA and establishing a relationship with CAC member/organization; and requesting to be on the project mailing list to receive newsletters and notification of public meeting dates as well as attending/monitoring the content of public meetings.

Institutional Partners and Key Contacts:

- ClearWater Conservancy (CWC) Ed Dunkleberger, CAC Representative, 814-353-8957
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Jim Garling (Engineering), 717-221-3718; Ross Mantione (Environmental), 717-221-3465
- McCormick, Taylor & Associates, Inc. (MTA) Joseph W. Hlivia (Environmental Scientist), 814-861-4495
- Pennsylvania DCNR, Bureau of State Parks (SP) Jenny Zolstadt, Park Supervisor and Paul Fagley, Education Specialist, 814-667-1880; Jim Barr, Chief, 717-272-3755
- Pennsylvania DCNR, Bureau of Forestry (BF) Bradley Elison (Resource Assistant), Gary N. Rutherford (District Forester), District Headquarters, 814-643-2340
- Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) Regional Headquarters 814-359-5193
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT) Steve Fentechi (PennDOT Project Engineer), 814-765-0400
- Pennsylvania State University (PSU) Bryan Black, PSU Doctoral Candidate, Forest Ecology studies at Alan Seeger NA; 203 Forest Resources Laboratory, University Park, PA 16802 814-865-3049; Mark McLaughlin Shaver's Creek Nature Center 814-863-2000
- State College Bird Club (SCBC) Gregory Grove, 814-865-2231, Nick Bolgiano, 814-234-2746
- South Central Centre County Transportation Study (SCCCTS) Innovation Park at Penn State, 103 Innovation Boulevard Suite 215, State College, PA 16803; www.scccts.com; 1-877-7-SCCCTS

Reference:

Crossley, Gary, 1999. *A Guide to Critical Bird Habitat in Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Important Bird Areas Program*, Pennsylvania Audubon Society, 211pp.

Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory database. Available online at:

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/pndi/pndiweb.htm>

The Pennsylvania Code, Title 58, Subchapter B.BIRDS, Section 133.2.1. Classification of birds, as amended.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2002. *Birds of conservation concern 2002*. Division of Migratory Bird Management, Arlington, Virginia. 99pp. [Online version available at <http://migratorybirds.fws.gov/reports/bcc2002.pdf>]