

# Integration/Coordination of Permitting Between Federal and State Agencies

# Pipeline Permitting in Pennsylvania by the US Army Corps of Engineers

**COL Ed Chamberlayne, P.E.**

District Commander

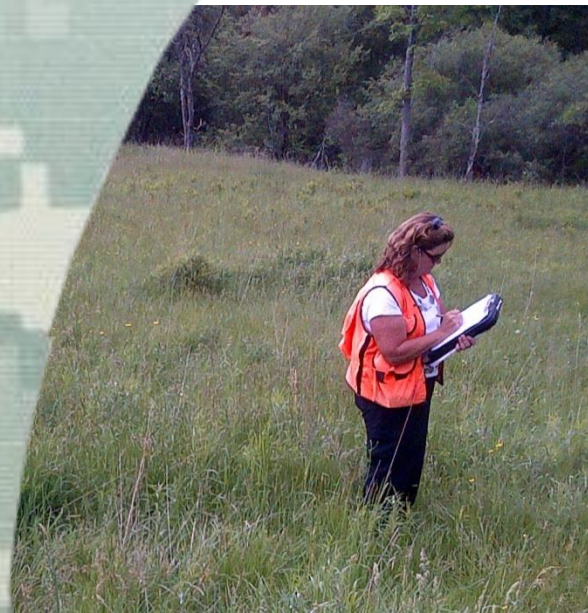
Baltimore District

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



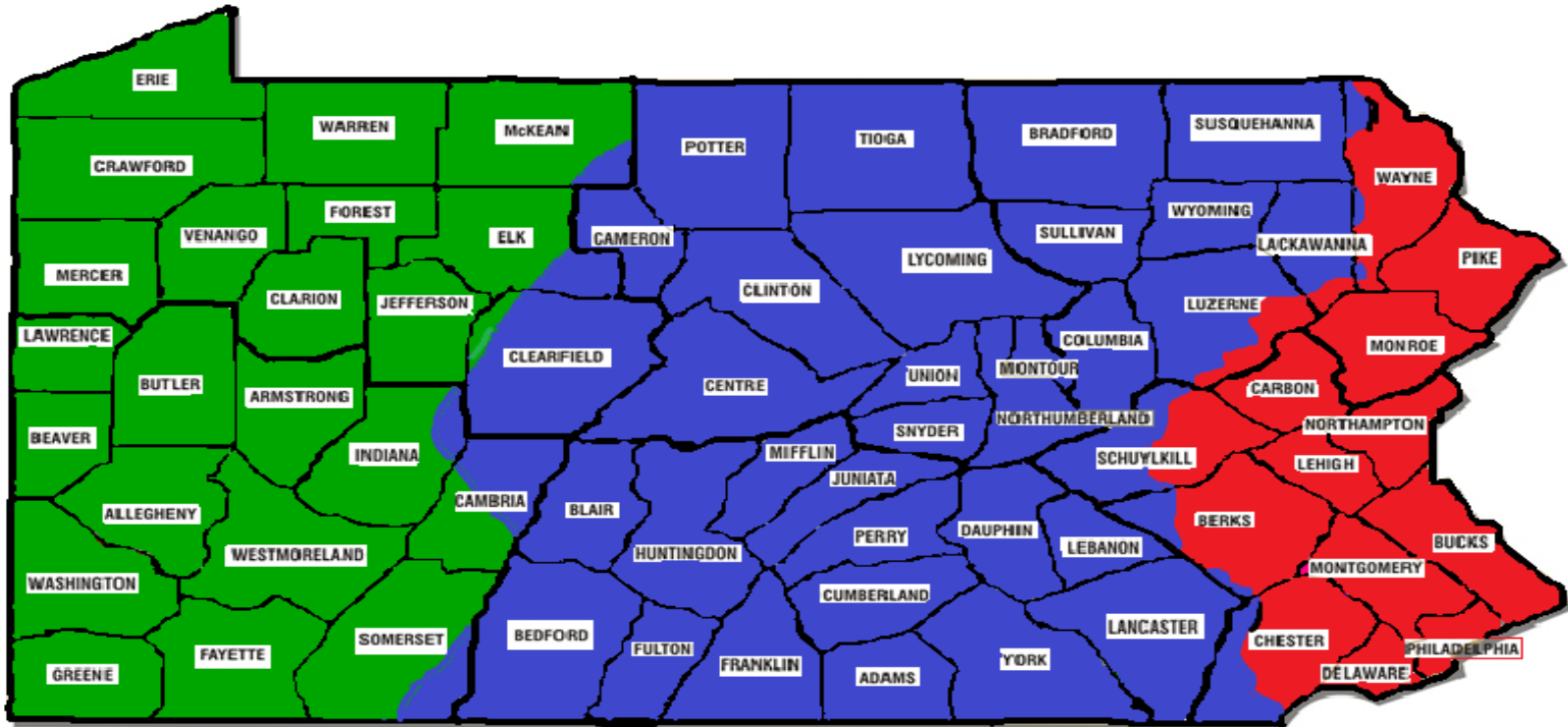
®

US Army Corps of Engineers  
**BUILDING STRONG**®



# The Corps in PA

## Counties In Pennsylvania



**Pittsburgh District**

**Baltimore District**

**Philadelphia District**

# Why is the Army Involved?

- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA)
- Section 14 of the RHA [33 USC 408 (Section 408)]



# Regulatory Program Review Requirements

- Requirements for impacts to the aquatic environment to be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent practicable.
- Compensatory mitigation required for functions and services lost as a result of activity.
- Corps must comply with:
  - ▶ National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)
  - ▶ Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines
  - ▶ Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA)
  - ▶ Public Interest Review
  - ▶ Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
  - ▶ Tribal coordination requirements.



# NEPA

- Preparation of an EA or EIS for all authorizations.
- The Corps' Regulatory Program scope of analysis under the NEPA, for linear type projects, in most cases, does not include the entire project area; limited to the locations of the proposed crossing of waters and/or wetlands, and a portion of the uplands immediately adjacent to the crossing location.



# 404(b)(1) Guidelines

- Impacts to waters of the US are to be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent practicable.
  - For non-water dependent projects, an upland alternatives is presumed to exist.
- Compensatory mitigation required to replace lost aquatic functions and services.



# Section 7 ESA

- Coordinate with the USFWS and NMFS to determine effect of projects on endangered species.
- Utilize the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) as a screening tool to reduce coordination timeframes.



# Section 106 NHPA

- Coordinate projects with the State Historic Preservation Office (Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission (PHMC)) to determine project impacts on cultural resources.
- Processes developed through consultation with PHMC to streamline coordination efforts.



# What We Permit

Work in waters and/or wetlands



# What We Do Not Permit

## Work in uplands



# PADEP Coordination

- The Corps and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) have utilized a Joint Permit Application since the mid 1980's.
- A State Programmatic General Permit (SPGP) was issued in 1995; PASPGP-1.
  - Permit operates in conjunction with a State Regulatory program that protects the aquatic environment in a manner equivalent to the Corps regulatory program.
  - Subsequent SPGPs have been issued; currently PASPGP-4 is valid.
- Under PASPGP-4 process, PADEP screens applications to determine if a Corps review is required.



# PADEP Coordination

- Corps and PADEP staff often jointly attend pre-application meetings; office and field visits.
- Frequent coordination on project-specific issues occurs between Corps and PADEP staff.
- The three Corps Districts in PA are currently developing PASPGP-5 through coordination with PADEP.



# The Corps and FERC

- The Corps is frequently a cooperating agency with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in development of an EIS/EA for large transmission line projects.
  - FERCs NEPA scope is the entire project, which goes beyond Corps' scope
  - Corps may supplement EIS/EA to ensure Section 7 ESA and Section 106 NHPA compliance
  - Corps may require mitigation for impacts beyond what FERC requires



# U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Pennsylvania Field Office

Lora Zimmerman  
Field Office Supervisor



# U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Authorities

- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
  - Online screening
  - Permit authority
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act
  - Best management practices
  - No permit authority



# U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Authorities

- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
  - *Typically*, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- National Environmental Policy Act
  - *Typically*, Federal Regulatory Energy Commission (FERC)



# Endangered Species Act

## *Federal Agencies*

- Interagency agency consultation
  - Federal agencies shall use their authorities for the *conservation* of listed species
  - Federal agencies must consult to ensure that their actions are *not likely to jeopardize* listed species.
    - *May Affect trigger*



# Endangered Species Act

## *Non-federal*

- Prohibitions and permits (Sections 9 and 10)
  - No consultation required
  - It is unlawful for any “person” subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. to . . . “TAKE” federally listed species
- Civil and criminal penalties (Sections 9 and 11)



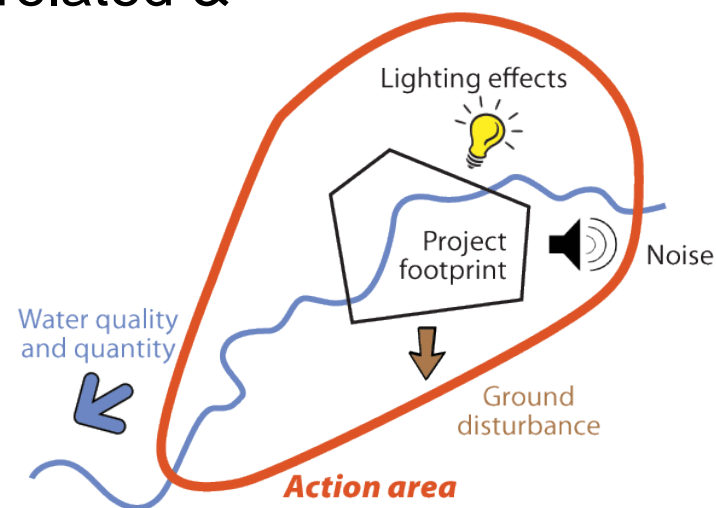
# Fish and Wildlife Service Involvement

- Traditional reviews
  - Interagency Cooperation – List Request
  - Technical Assistance
- Online screening tools
  - Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI)
  - Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC)
- Habitat and species assessments
- Federal, state and local permits



# Action Area

- “...all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action.” [50 CFR §402.02]
  - . . . also includes effects from interrelated & interdependent activities



# Pipeline Reviews

- Variable nexus (FERC/DOT/USACE)
- Segmentation verses *Action Area*
- Late design changes
- Effective conservation measures, such as
  - Seasonal restrictions
  - Directional drilling



# Directional drilling

- Often effective at avoiding “take”
  - However,
    - Not always feasible
    - May eliminate federal nexus
    - Inadvertent returns (IR) can result in incidental “take”
    - IRs may result in federal nexus



# Recommendations

- Early coordination
- Landscape-level planning
- Multi-agency coordination teams
- Programmatic incidental take





**pennsylvania**

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

**Domenic Rocco**

# State Permitting

- Here are the typical state authorizations that may be required for Pipeline Projects:
  - Ch. 102 - Erosion & Sediment Control Permitting (ESCGP-2)
  - Ch. 105- Water Obstruction & Encroachment Permitting
  - NPDES Permit for Discharge of Hydrostatic Test Water.
  - If FERC regulated – Comprehensive 401 Water Quality Certification.

# 401 WQC for FERC Regulated Pipelines

If project is FERC-regulated, DEP will require a single Comprehensive 401 Water Quality Certification which certifies that the construction, operation and maintenance of the project:

- Complies with the applicable provisions of the Federal CWA
- Complies with Commonwealth water quality standards
- Complies with the criteria and conditions of the below mentioned DEP authorizations

## **Permitting Entity:**

- Lead DEP Regional Office (Waterways & Wetlands Program)

## **Coordinating Agencies:**

- Coordination is carried out through normal permitting process.

# 401 WQC for FERC Regulated Pipelines (cont)

## Preferred Sequence:

1. Applicant Consultation with DEP (including early use of PNDI environmental review tool and early discussion with regulatory agencies during establishment of pipeline route)
2. Submission of Federal Application
3. Applicant Request for Section 401 Water Quality Certification
4. Section 401 Water Quality Certification Issuance
5. Process the State Permits, Authorizations and Approvals

# For Non-FERC Regulated Pipelines

## Preferred Sequence:

1. Applicant Consultation with DEP (including early use of PNDI environmental review tool and early discussion with regulatory agencies during establishment of pipeline route)
- ~~2. Submission of Federal Application~~
- ~~3. Applicant Request for Section 401 Water Quality Certification~~
- ~~4. Section 401 Water Quality Certification Issuance~~
5. Process the State Permits, Authorizations and Approvals

# Chapter 102

## Erosion and Sediment Control Permit

- Chapter 102 ESCGP-2 Permit for Earth Disturbance Associated with Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Processing or Treatment.

## **Permitting Entity:**

- County Conservation District (if project in one county), DEP Regional Office(s) (Waterways & Wetlands Program) for multiple counties.



# Chapter 102 (cont.)

## **Coordinating Agencies:**

- PA Fish and Boat Commission – management of fish, reptiles, amphibians and aquatic organisms
- PA Game Commission – state listed wild birds and mammals
- US Fish and Wildlife Service – federally listed, proposed and candidate species under the Federal Endangered Species Act

## **Best Practices:**

- Early use of PNDI Environmental Review Tool
- Early discussions with DEP and the Conservation District(s) during establishment of pipeline route
- Early Synchronization of Ch. 102 and 105 permit reviews - particularly with stream and wetlands crossings.

# Chapter 105

- **Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit** - Chapter 105 Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit for the construction, operation and maintenance of all water obstructions and encroachments associated with the project.
- **Permitting Entity:** This is a joint permit that is processed by both the DEP Regional Office(s) (Waterways & Wetlands Program) and the pertinent USACOE District Office(s).



# Chapter 105 (cont.)

## **Coordinating Agencies:**

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and PA Fish and Boat Commission.
- County Conservation Districts – Review of E&S and PCSM Plans.
- PA DCNR Pennsylvania Conservation Explorer Conservation Planning and PNDI environmental review tool
  - DCNR– native wild plants, and overall mgmt of PNDI database.
  - PFBC– mgmt of fish, reptiles, amphibians & aquatic organisms
  - PA Game Commission – state’s wild birds and mammals
  - US Fish and Wildlife Service – federally listed, proposed and candidate species under the Federal Endangered Species Act

## **Best Practices:**

- Early use of PNDI Environmental Review Tool
- Early discussions with DEP and the US Army Corps of Engineers during establishment of pipeline route
- Early Synchronization of Ch. 102 and 105 permit reviews- particularly with stream and wetlands crossings.

# NPDES

- **Discharge Permit** – a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the discharge of water from the hydrostatic testing of the pipeline.
- **Permitting Entity:** DEP Regional Office(s) – Clean Water Program



# NPDES (cont.)

## **Coordinating Agencies:**

- Susquehanna River Basin Commission and/or Delaware River Basin Commission.

## **Best Practices:**

- Early identification of Special Protection Waters, including Exceptional Value Wetlands.
- Early discussions with DEP during establishment of pipeline route.

# Questions?

**Contact: Domenic Rocco  
Regional Manager  
Waterways and Wetlands  
Program**

**[drocco@pa.gov](mailto:drocco@pa.gov)**

**484-250-5174**

# **Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC)**

**Doug McLearen**

**State Historic Preservation Office  
(SHPO) Review of Pipeline  
Projects**

# SHPO Role in Project Review

One of the activities of the SHPO offices is review of federal or federally assisted/permitted projects under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36CFR Part 800.

# SHPO Responsibilities

- Technical advisory: Advise and assist federal and state agencies on the technical aspects of the historic built environment and archaeology and respond to findings made by agencies. We ensure that the review process is followed, **but we do not issue permits for the projects.**
- Ensure/consider wide range of alternatives to minimize or avoid adverse effects to historic properties.

# Definition of Historic Property

**The term comes from the 36CFR800 (16) (I) (1)**

**“A historic property means any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places...includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe...and that meet the National Register criteria.”**

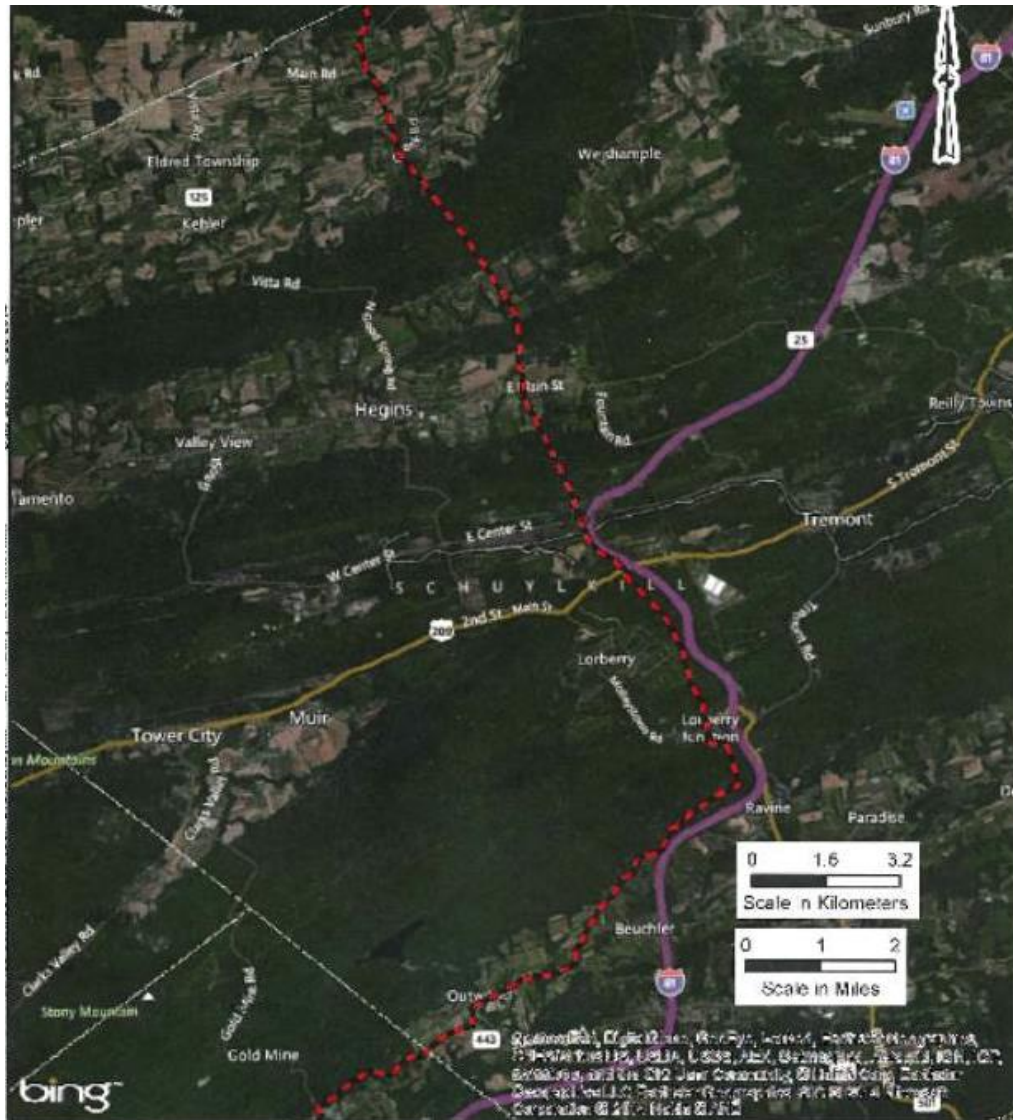
# Gas Pipelines and Project Reviews

- 1) Typical gas gathering lines and liquid fuels transmission lines are regulated by PA DEP and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) for jurisdictional permit areas of the lines.
- 2) Large gas transmission lines, intrastate or (usually) Interstate, are regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Corps and DEP still issue their permits but FERC is the lead federal agency for purposes of 106 review. In such cases, the entire line is regulated, not discontinuous permit areas.

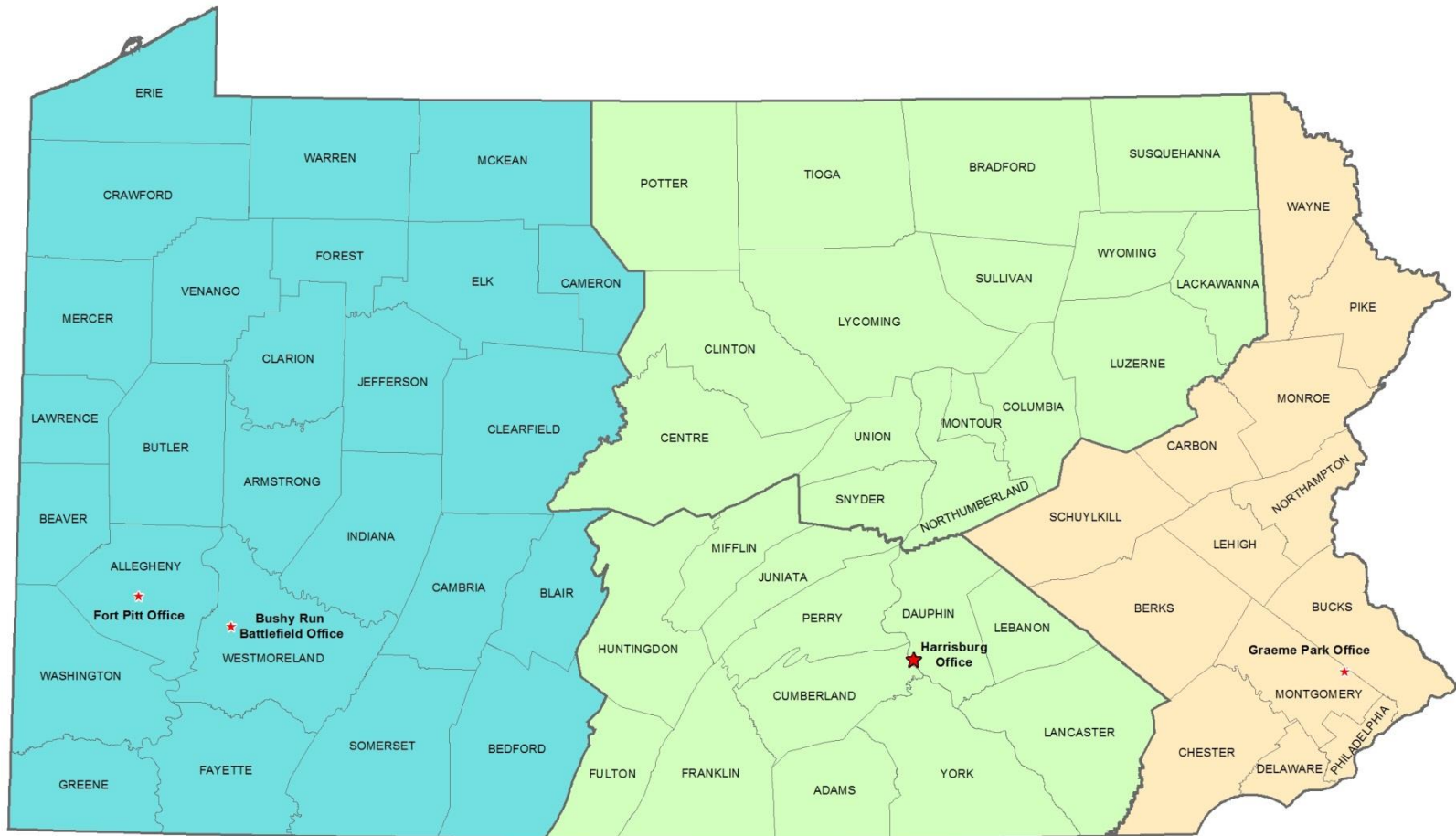
# Permit Areas



# Area of Potential Affect



# PA SHPO Review Regions





**PROJECT REVIEW FORM**  
Request to Initiate SHPO Consultation on  
State and Federal Undertakings

SHPO USE ONLY	
DATE RECEIVED:	
ER NUMBER:	

REV. 10/2014

**SECTION A: PROJECT NAME & LOCATION**

Is this a new submittal?    YES    NO    OR    This is additional information for ER Number:

Project Name \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Municipality \_\_\_\_\_

Project Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION B: CONTACT INFORMATION & MAILING ADDRESS**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Street/PO Box \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION C: PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project is located on:  
(check all that apply)    Federal property    State property    Municipal property    Private property

List all federal and state agencies and programs providing funds, permits, licenses.	Agency Type	Agency/Program/Permit Name	Project/Permit/Tracking Number (if applicable)

**Proposed Work – Attach project description, scope of work, site plans, and/or drawings**

Project includes (check all that apply):    Construction    Demolition    Rehabilitation    Disposition

Total acres of project area: \_\_\_\_\_ Total acres of earth disturbance: \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any buildings or structures within the project area?    Yes    No    Approximate age of buildings: \_\_\_\_\_

Does this project involve properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, or designated as historic by a local government?	Yes	No	Unsure	Name of historic property or historic districts

Please print and mail completed form and all attachments to:  <b>PHMC</b> State Historic Preservation Office 400 North St. Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093	<b>Attachments – Please include the following information with this form</b>			
	Map – 7.5' USGS quad showing project boundary and Area of Potential Effect			
	Description/Scope – Describe the project, including any ground disturbance and previous land use			
	Site Plans/Drawings – Indicate the location and age, if known, of all buildings in the project area			
	Photographs – Attach prints or digital photographs showing the project site, including images of all buildings and structures keyed to a site plan			

**SHPO DETERMINATION (SHPO USE ONLY)**

<input type="checkbox"/> There are NO HISTORIC PROPERTIES in the Area of Potential Effect	<input type="checkbox"/> The project will have NO ADVERSE EFFECTS WITH CONDITIONS (see attached)
<input type="checkbox"/> The project will have NO EFFECT on historic properties	<input type="checkbox"/> SHPO REQUESTS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (see attached)
<input type="checkbox"/> The project will have NO ADVERSE EFFECTS on historic properties:	

SHPO REVIEWER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION C: PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project is located on:  Federal property  State property  Municipal property  Private property  
 (check all that apply)

List all federal and state agencies and programs providing funds, permits, licenses.	Agency Type	Agency/Program/Permit Name	Project/Permit/Tracking Number (if applicable)

**Proposed Work – Attach project description, scope of work, site plans, and/or drawings**

Project includes (check all that apply):  Construction  Demolition  Rehabilitation  Disposition

Total acres of project area: \_\_\_\_\_ Total acres of earth disturbance: \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any buildings or structures within the project area?  Yes  No Approximate age of buildings: \_\_\_\_\_

Does this project involve properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, or designated as historic by a local government?	Yes	No	Unsure	Name of historic property or historic districts
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

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**SHPO DETERMINATION (SHPO USE ONLY)**

- There are **NO HISTORIC PROPERTIES** in the Area of Potential Effect
- The project will have **NO EFFECT** on historic properties
- The project will have **NO ADVERSE EFFECTS** on historic properties:
- The project will have **NO ADVERSE EFFECTS WITH CONDITIONS** (see attached)
- SHPO REQUESTS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** (see attached)

SHPO REVIEWER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

If nothing was found, the applicant  
has crossed the finish line!



# **If historic properties (or potential historic properties) are present:**

- Above ground: Historic Resource Survey Form is prepared and submitted to our office, usually by a consultant
- Archaeology: additional testing (“Phase II”) is conducted and a report is submitted.
- We have 30 days to comment
- Comment letters forwarded to permitting agencies by applicant or their consultant

# If there is an adverse effect on a historic property

- Avoid the property.
- Minimize the affect on the property.
- Mitigation and memorandum of agreement created and signed by federal agency, SHPO and applicant.
  - Archaeology, typically data recovery excavation
  - Above ground, various efforts

# Advice for applicants

- Consult with our office as early as possible.
- Send adequate documentation the first time.
- Keep the permitting agencies in the loop.
- Remember that the SHPO does not issue the permits. The 106 process must be concluded before the permitting agencies can issue their permits.
- Avoid the resources whenever possible.

# PFBC Role in Pipeline Review

Heather Smiles

Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission



# Proactive Role:

- Conduct Permit Reviews
- Review Laws/Regulations
- Provide Technical Assistance
- Assess Environmental Risk

# Permit Reviews

Our staff review projects to insure that the aquatic resources (both game and nongame) which live in all of our Commonwealth waters remain protected:

- Threatened & Endangered Species Impacts
- Chapter 105 Waterway Obstruction/Encroachments
- Water Withdrawals
- Blasting Permits
- Aids to Navigation Plans

# Threatened & Endangered Species Impact Review

- Projects are screened for potential conflicts with rare, candidate, threatened or endangered species under Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission jurisdiction (fish, reptiles, amphibians, aquatic invertebrates only) using the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) database and our own files.

# PA Species of Special Concern

10/06/15

- Endangered (48)
  - Fish (28)
  - Aquatic Invertebrates (10)
  - Amphibians and Reptiles (10)
- Threatened (14)
  - Fish (10)
  - Aquatic Invertebrates (1)
  - Amphibians and Reptiles (3)
- Candidate (10)
  - Fish (7)
  - Amphibians and Reptiles (3)



# Avoid Critical Habitat





C. Camacho

Minimize  
Species  
Impacts with  
BMP's such  
as Time of  
Year Work  
Restrictions,  
or On-site  
Biological  
Monitors

# Other Ways to Minimize Impacts

Survey and Relocate  
Animals Out of Harms  
Way.



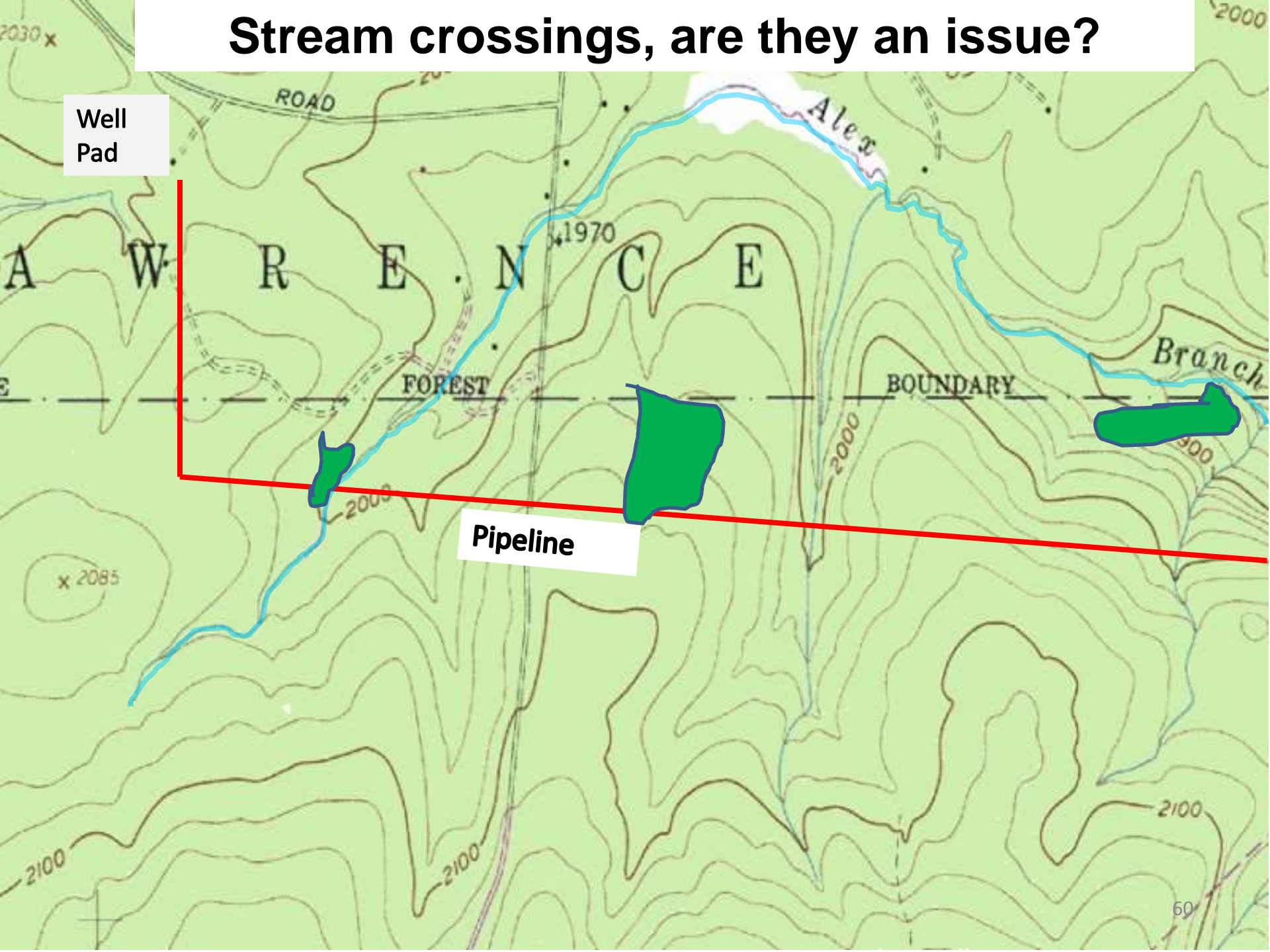


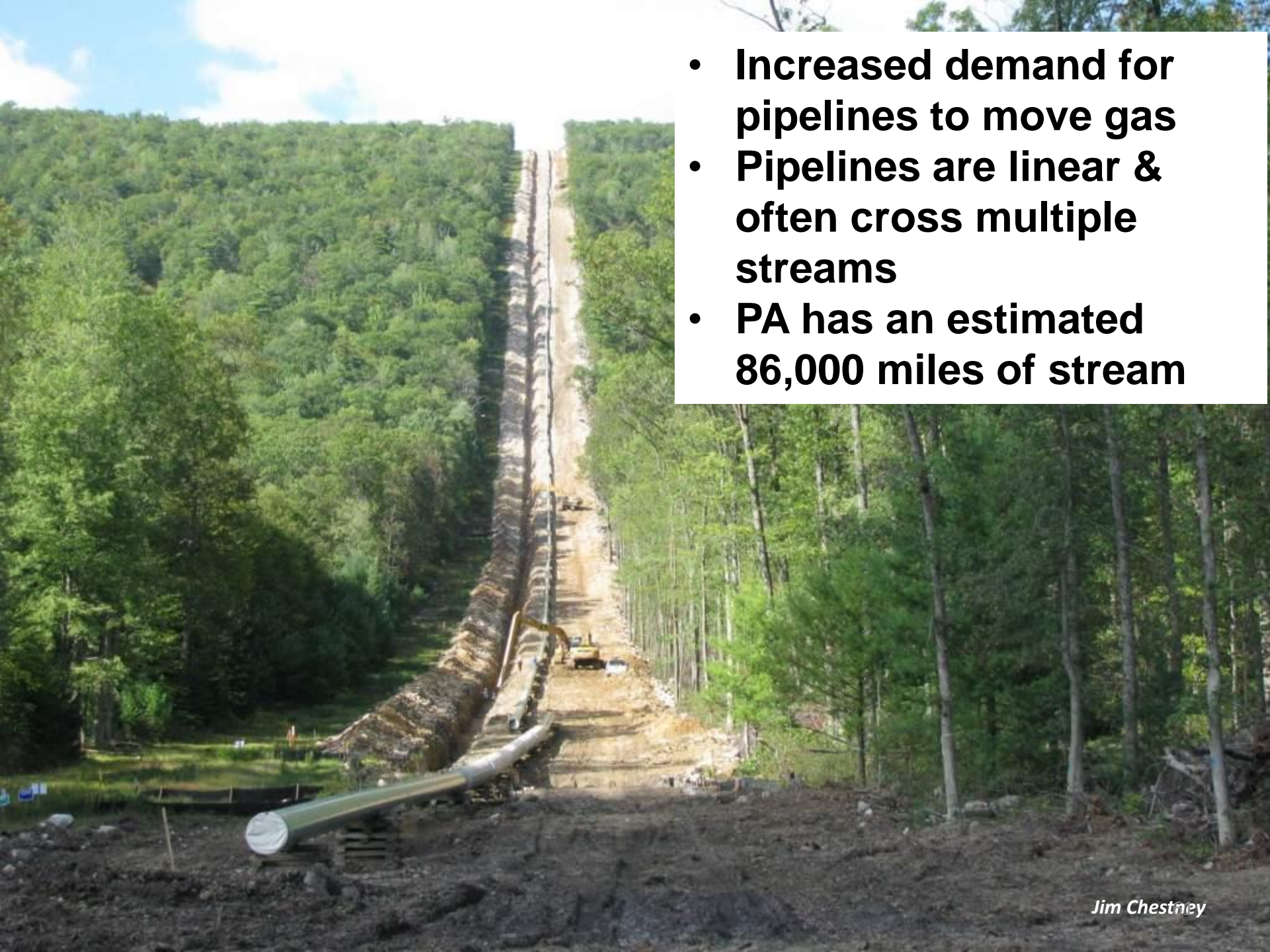
Encourage Habitat  
Creation

# Stream crossings, are they an issue?

Well Pad

Pipeline





- **Increased demand for pipelines to move gas**
- **Pipelines are linear & often cross multiple streams**
- **PA has an estimated 86,000 miles of stream**

# Aquatic Resource Protection

## Fishery Classification:

- Wild trout, stocked trout, migratory fish, warmwater



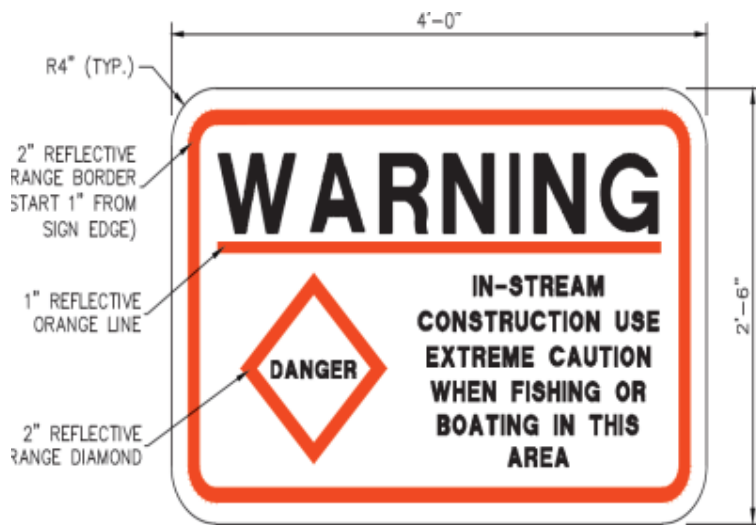
# Aquatic Resource Protection

Recreational use:

- Anglers
- Boaters



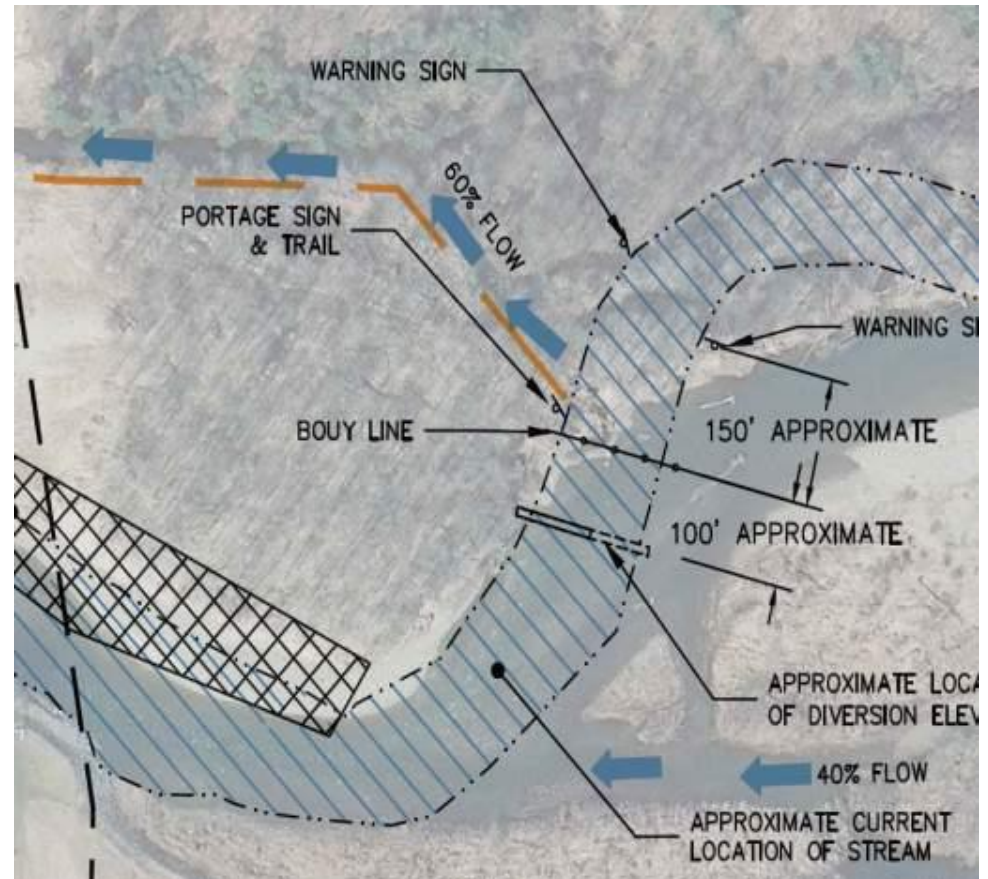
An Aids to Navigation Plan (**ATON**) may be required when a proposed project will have a potential impact on recreational boating



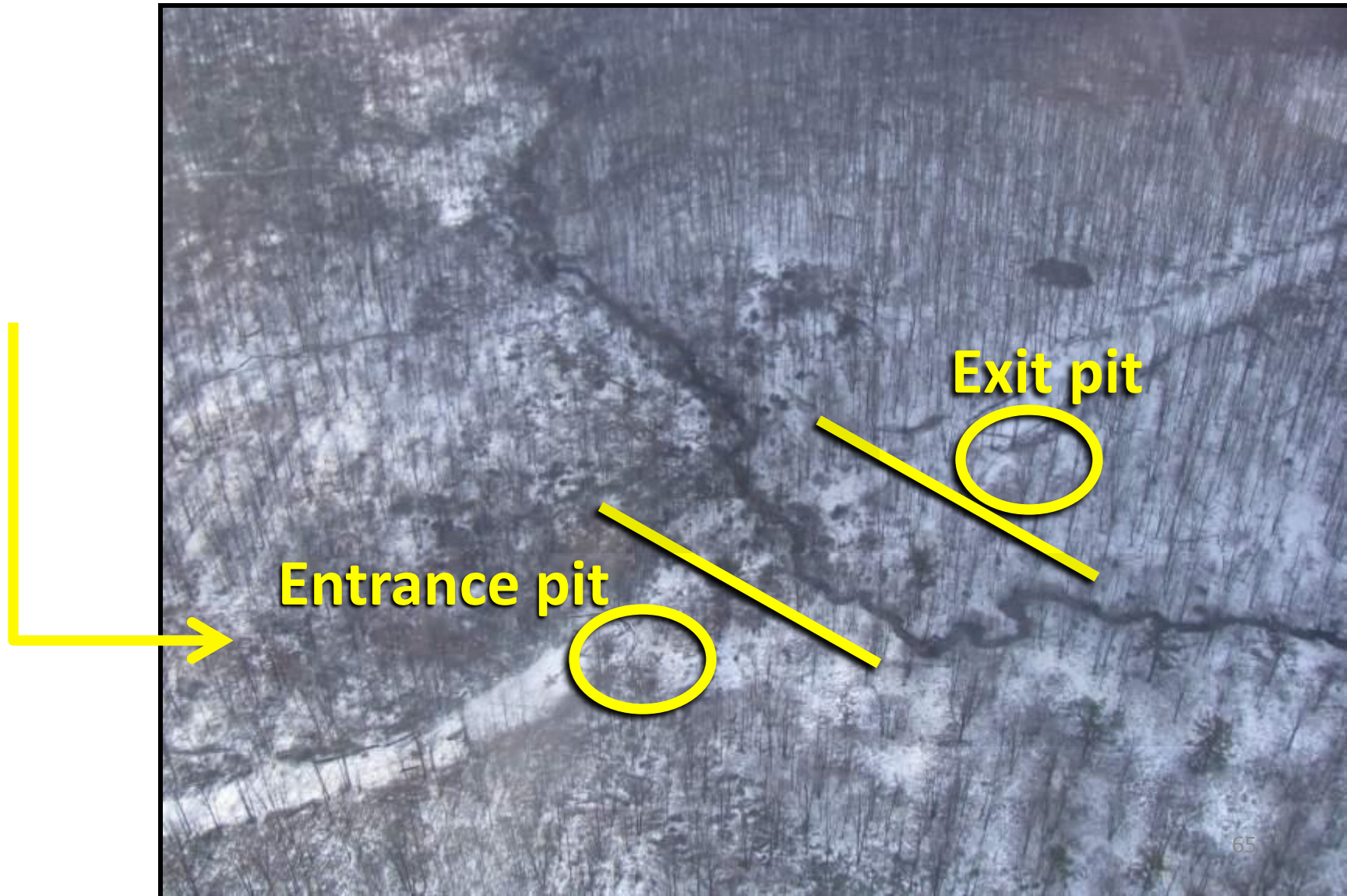
NOTE:  
1. ALL LETTERS (BLACK) ARE IN PROPORTION TO SIZE OF SIGN.

**TEMPORARY WARNING SIGN DETAIL**

NOT TO SCALE



# Directional Drilling Instead of Open Trenching Across Streams



# Minimize Impacts

Narrow  
impact  
at  
resource  
crossing



# Look at Alternatives

**AMD as an alternative source for water withdrawals with less impact on aquatic resources.**



# **Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) Environmental Review Process**

Note: This process is used by the PGC for all  
PNDI project reviews.

John Taucher

# PGC Jurisdiction

- Species (Birds and Mammals)
  - *Endangered*: American bittern, black tern, black-crowned night-heron, blackpoll warbler, common tern, dickcissel, great egret, Indiana bat, king rail, least bittern, least shrew, least tern, loggerhead shrike, northern flying squirrel, peregrine falcon, sedge wren, short-eared owl, upland sandpiper, yellow-bellied flycatcher, and yellow-crowned night-heron
  - *Threatened*: Allegheny woodrat, Eastern small-footed bat, long-eared owl, northern harrier, northern long-eared bat, osprey, and West Virginia water shrew
  - *Special Concern*: American Coot, Barn Owl, Common gallinule, great blue heron, marsh wren, northern goshawk, pied-billed grebe, prothonotary warbler, rock vole, silver-haired bat, Swainson's thrush, water shrew, Wilson's snipe, and bat hibernacula
- Resources
  - State Game Lands
  - Habitats associated with above listed species

# PNDI Receipt Results

- Applicant enters their project into the online PNDI Environmental Review Tool ([www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us)) or fills out PNDI Large Project Form if the project is too large to be entered in the current tool
- PNDI Receipt is generated with two potential PGC results:
  - No Further Review is Required
    - ✓ No additional coordination with PGC is required
    - ✓ Applicant submits PNDI receipt to necessary permitting agency(s) – USACOE, PADEP, etc.
  - Further Review is Required
    - ✓ Additional coordination with PGC is required to resolve potential impacts
    - ✓ Applicant must submit the PNDI Receipt to PGC for review

# PGC Environmental Review Process

- Applicant submits the following to the PGC for review:
  - PNDI receipt or PNDI Large Project form
  - Map of project boundary and/or GIS shapefiles
  - Project narrative describing project, activities, timeline, etc.
  - Any other relevant information
- Upon receipt of PNDI review request, the PGC reviews information provided for completeness and contacts applicant if additional information is needed
- Once all necessary information is provided to the PGC, the PGC determines which if any species and resources under the PGC's jurisdiction may be impacted

# PGC Environmental Review Process

- **Avoid:** Work with project proponent to avoid impacts through project modifications or seasonal timing restrictions
- **Minimize:** If avoidance is not possible, work with project proponent to minimize impacts to species by using seasonal timing restrictions and/or monitoring
- **Mitigate:** Worst case scenario for the species. If avoidance is not possible, work with the project proponent to mitigate for the impacts to species due to the project. Mitigation may include habitat replacement, improvement, or protection for impacted species

# Data Used by PGC to Review Projects

- Project information provided
- PGC data
  - Species location and associated information
  - State Game Lands boundaries
- Other data:
  - Aerial photography, topographic maps, lidar, landcover
  - Aquatic resources: stream, wetlands, etc.
  - PA DEP Mine feature
  - Transportation features

# PGC PNDI Response Letters

- PGC response time is <30 working days
- One of two PGC letters are generated for each review:
  - No Impact Letter. PGC reviews the project information and determines that impacts to species and/or resources under the PGC's jurisdiction are not anticipated. Letter states that no further coordination with PGC is necessary.
  - Potential Impact Letter. PGC reviews the project information and determines that impacts to species and/or resources under the PGC's jurisdiction are anticipated. Letter may include one or more of the following, as applicable:
    - ✓ Deferral to USFWS regarding impacts to federally listed species
    - ✓ Seasonal restrictions
    - ✓ Habitat and/or species survey requests
    - ✓ Mitigation

# PGC PNDI Response Letters

- Once the requested surveys are completed and/or a mitigation plan is approved an update PNDI potential impact letter will be generated
- The 'No Impact' or 'Potential Impact' PGC letter is then submitted by the applicant to the necessary permitting agency(s)
- If the permitting agency(s) have questions about a PGC PNDI response letter they contact the PGC reviewer who wrote the letter

# PA DCNR Pipeline Review Role



Dan Devlin

Director, PA Bureau of Forestry

# DCNR's Roles



- **DCNR lands**

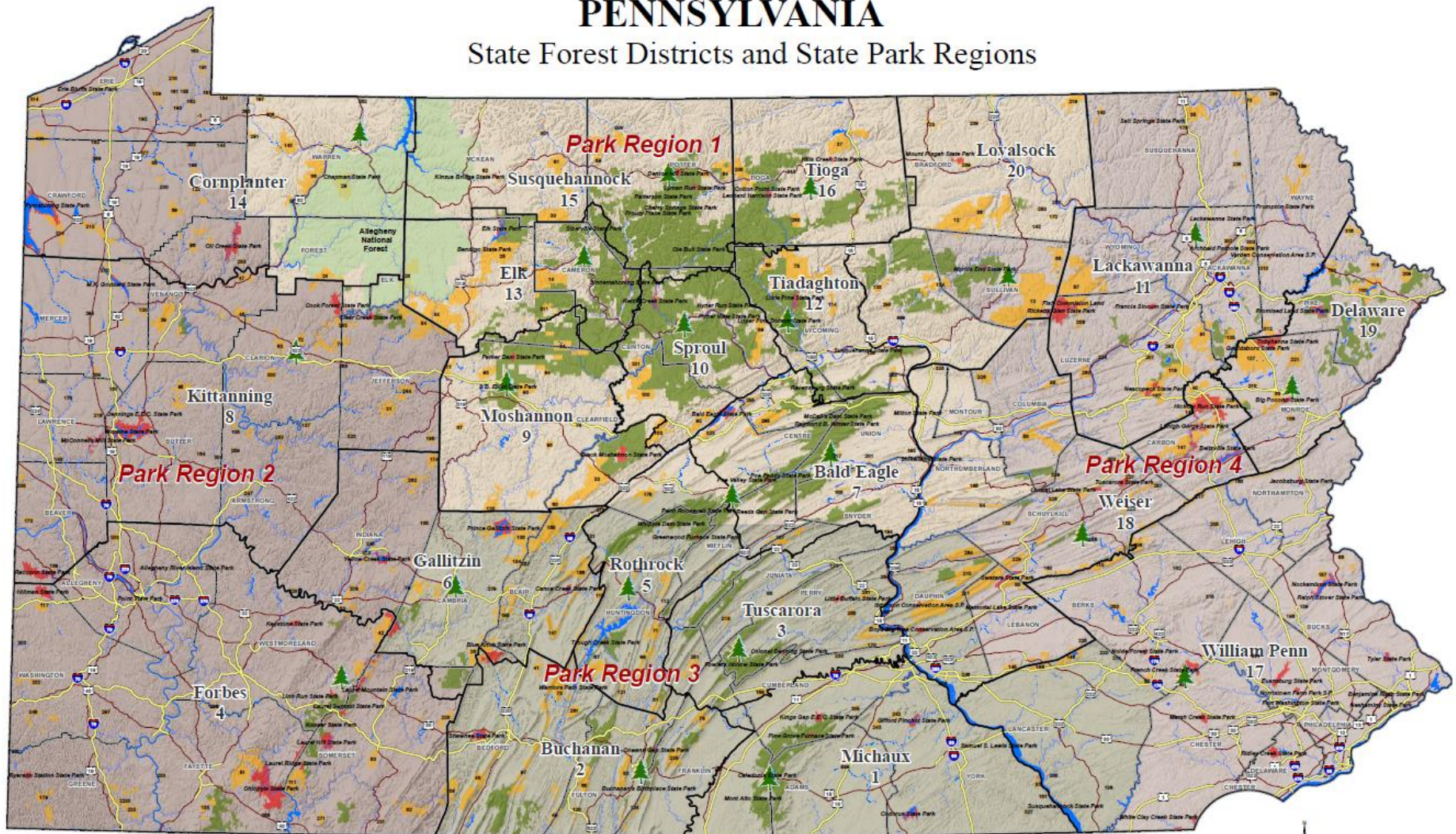
- State Forest lands      2.2 million acres
- State Park lands      ~300,000 acres

- **PNDI review**

- PNDI Tool Management
- PNDI Review of:
  - plants, terrestrial invertebrates, natural plant communities and geologic features

# PENNSYLVANIA

## State Forest Districts and State Park Regions



State Forest District Office  
 Counties  
 Major Rivers  
 Limited Access  
 Highway



State Forest  
 State Gameland  
 State Park  
 Allegheny National Forest  
 State Park Region 1  
 State Park Region 2  
 State Park Region 3  
 State Park Region 4



0 12.5 25 50 Miles

2.2 million acres of State Forest Lands  
 120 State Parks, ~300,000 acres

# DCNR Lands



## State Park lands

- Considered undesirable ROW sites; Avoid if possible
- Formal review Process for ROW requests on SP lands

## State Forest lands

ROW's come from two different processes:

- **Pipelines associated with gas activity on SF lands**
  - Going from wells on SF lands to gathering/transmission
- **Pipeline requests to cross SF lands**
  - Formal review process for ROW requests on SF lands
  - Natural & Wild Areas, primitive recreation zones considered undesirable ROW sites

# DCNR lands— *Review process*



- State Park & Forest lands Review Same/Similar
- Review assesses:
  - Opportunities for Co-location (minimize fragmentation & impact)
  - Route alternatives (do other routes have less impact)
  - Avoidance areas (wild areas, T&E species habitat)
  - Recreation and aesthetics (is the ROW within high use or vista areas)

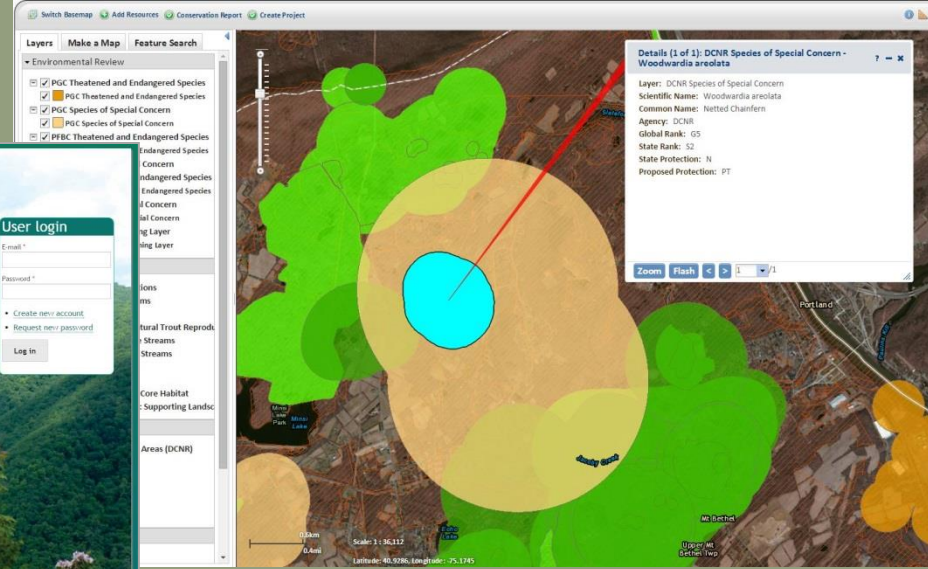
# DCNR lands— *Approval process*



- Once approved, typically ROW conditions or reqs
- ROW or Surface Use agreements: spell out agreed upon conditions and ROW specifications
- Specific route location and ROW width requested depending on conditions and resources
- Typical requests or conditions:
  - Native Plantings & Timing of plantings
  - Buffer zone plantings (shrubs, feathering)
  - Invasive Plant monitoring, treatment & maintenance
  - Wildlife habitat enhancement and habitat plantings
  - Recreation: co-location opportunities, aesthetics



# PNDI Coordination



## DCNR manages and administers PNDI tool

- **Current PNDI Tool**
  - Increased project screening area in tool to incorporate opportunity for more ROW's to be reviewed within the tool
- **New tool: PA Conservation Explorer**
  - Conservation planning—ability to see many conservation layers for assessing ROW locations across the state
  - PNDI Project Screening—view conservation layers while screening specific project and obtain PNDI Receipt
  - PACE Tool will be beneficial for large/linear assessment of ROW locations

# DCNR PNDI Review



- DCNR reviews for: Plants, terrestrial invertebrates, geologic features, and natural plant communities
- DCNR staff provide:
  - Assessment of entire project—providing summary of areas along line with increased plant diversity or potential impact
  - Survey requests when needed to clarify and locate populations along the ROW
  - Planting guidelines to reduce introduction on invasive plants; which harm T&E plants
    - Native plant seeding mixes for re-vegetation
    - Site monitoring and invasive mgmt when invasive plants an issue along the ROW

# Thank You

