

Module 19: Land Use / Vegetation [§§77.408/77.409]

19.1 Land Use

- a) Identify the present uses of land use areas within the permit area (Key land use(s) to Exhibit 18: "Land Use and Reclamation Map").

The present land uses within the permit area are Forestland, Cropland/Pastureland/Land Occasionally Cut for Hay, Unmanaged Natural Habitat and Residential.

- b) For cropland, pastureland or land occasionally cut for hay, or commercial forest identify the productivity expressed as average yield of food, fiber, forage or wood products. Use yield data or estimates for similar sites based on current data from U.S. Department of Agriculture or Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Soil Type	Pasture	Corn	Oats	Alfalfa Hay	
CaB	7.00 AUM*		125 bu./acre	60 bu./acre	4.00 tons/acre
DoB	7.00 AUM*		125 bu./acre	70 bu./acre	4.00 tons/acre
DoC	7.00 AUM*		110 bu./acre	70 bu./acre	4.00 tons/acre
GeC	5.90 AUM*		95 bu./acre	61 bu./acre	NR**

*AUM = Animal-unit-month: The amount of forage or feed required to feed one animal unit (one cow, one horse, one mule, five sheep or five goats) for 30 days.

**NR = Not Rated by USDA

- c) Identify any lands classified as Primary Agricultural Land under Executive Orders 1994-3 and 2003-2 (The Agricultural Land Preservation Policy). If there are, then indicate the alternatives to this disturbance considered and the reasons they were not deemed feasible.

Not Applicable. No Primary Agricultural Land is located within the surface permit area.

19.2 Vegetation

Identify the percent ground cover of the natural vegetation within the permit area. If the postmining land use is fish and wildlife habitat, also identify the stocking and species composition of woody plants.

Based on visual observation of aerial photographs and on-site inspections, the surface permit area generally displays greater than seventy percent ground cover.

19.3 Fish and Wildlife (Protection/Enhancement Plan)

- a) Have any threatened or endangered species and/or critical habitats of these species (includes species listed or proposed and habitats listed by the U.S. Department of Interior under the Endangered Species Act of 1973) been identified within or adjacent (within 1000 feet) to the proposed permit area? Yes No

If "yes" checked, identify the species and habitat area and include within your response to c) and d) information specific to the species and habitats identified.

- b) Have any habitats of unusually high value (e.g., wild trout streams, wetlands, riparian areas, cliffs/caves supporting raptors, areas offering special shelter or protection) been identified within or adjacent to the proposed permit area? Yes No

If "yes" checked, identify the habitat area and include within your response to c) and d) information specific to the habitats identified.

- c) Describe the measures which will be taken to avoid or minimize adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources.

Avoidance Measure: Conduct a tree cutting, disturbance, inundation (flooding) and prescribed burning from October 1 to March 31

- d) Describe the measures which will be taken to enhance fish and wildlife resources. Any facilities proposed for protection or enhancement of fish and wildlife resources are to be identified on Exhibit 18.

Avoidance Measure is included with

- e) If no enhancement measures are identified in d), explain why enhancement is not practicable.
