

PFSC Report and PFSC Fall Convention  
October 3, 2010, Submitted by Don Heckman, PANWTF Delegate to PFSC

I was unable to attend PFSC Fall Convention, September 17-19, 2010, and requested Ed Tanczos to represent PA Chapter NWTF as Alternate Delegate.

At September 2010 PFSC Fall Convention the Board and Delegates approved membership fee increases for sportsmen's clubs, individual memberships, and organizations. Currently PANWTF pays \$1500 per year as state-wide conservation organization with delegate voting powers on PFSC Board, Delegate Session, Game and Trapping Committee. New membership fee for 2011 and 2012 will be \$1600, for 2013 and 2014 will be \$1700, and for 2015 and 2016 will be \$1800.

During Game & Trapping Committee meeting, PGC Executive Director Carl Roe and Mike DiMatteo, Chief Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection Director, gave a power point presentation on the Marcellus Shale Development on SGL's. Highlights of the presentation:

- 961,000 acres of the 1.4 million acres of SGL is over Marcellus Shale
- 87 permits on SGL's of the 4,015 permits issued in PA in 2009
- 31 wells drilled on SGL's of the 1,788 wells drilled in PA in 2009
- PGC must approve well locations and field review construction plans
- Who actually owns the mineral rights is still a big problem for some of the lands
- Impoundments need liners and safety fence
- Takes 15-30 days to drill 24/7
- Drilling casing is a big concern as it needs to get thru the fresh water zone without leaking
- Threat of spread of invasive species
- Water must come from somewhere other than SGL's for fracking
- Impact to the surface is lessened by drilling many wells from one pad versus constructing many well pads
- Pipeline and well pads could be improved for small game habitat. So far, the PGC has been able to negotiate what plants are used to plant well sites and on pipelines
- Impact during hunting seasons are minimized.
- Need to develop BMP's for wildlife habitat with the oil & gas companies
- One well can affect 60-180 acres
- The gas royalty has not replaced the loss of the timber revenue over the last 3 years

After much discussion during the past year, delegates approved raising membership dues for clubs and individuals. Individual members will see their dues increase from \$20 to \$25 beginning January 1st, and individual sportsmen's club membership rates will also increase. This is the first increase in over 10 years.

As part of a new membership drive, clubs, counties, and divisions collecting individual PFSC membership dues from their members will be able to keep \$2 from each membership they obtain for PFSC.

The PFSC Spring convention will be held at the Country Cupboard Best Western in Lewisburg, March 11, 12, 13, 2011.