

Marion Brooks Natural Area

Area Facts



The distinctive white birch forest at Marion Brooks Natural Area

- Area is 975 acres.
- Tract is found west of the Quehanna Wild Area in southeastern Elk County.
- Area is located within Pennsylvania's Allegheny Plateau ecoregion.
- Area is part of the Pennsylvania Wilds, a vast wilderness consisting of eight state forests.
- Area was extensively logged in the early 1900s.

Moshannon State Forest

For more information, please contact:

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pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
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BUREAU OF FORESTRY

Ecosystem/Terrain

- The forest at Marion Brooks is substantially affected by the area's history of logging and wildfire, whose poor resulting soils derived this unique white birch community.
- Other common tree species include hardwoods like red oak and sassafras, as well as evergreens like hemlock, pitch pine, and white pine.



Eastern hemlock, the state tree.

- Terrain is essentially flat or gently sloping at approximately 2000' elevation.

Wildlife

- The natural area provides important habitat for many species of birds, including several warbler species.
- The area is part of Pennsylvania's elk range.



The rough-legged grouse, Pennsylvania's state bird.

- The buds of white birches are an important winter food for the state bird, the ruffed grouse.
- Game species like deer, turkey, and bear are common in the natural area and may be hunted during appropriate seasons.

Access

- The Quehanna Highway is the main route leading to the area.
- Deible and Losey roads access the area north of the Quehanna Highway.
- The Quehanna Highway can be accessed by Route 555 to the north, and by Route 879 to the south.
- US80 is a preferred route from points far east and west of the natural area.



The rare creeping snowberry can be found in the natural area.



Whispering
Viewing Area

Miller Run
Viewing Area

PROPOSED

MARION
BROOKS
NATURAL
AREA

QUEHANNA

WILD

AREA

ELK CO.
CLEARFIELD CO.

STATE GAME
LANDS 34

Hoover
Farm
Viewing Area