Pine Ridge Natural Area

Area Facts



- ≥568-acre area
- Located one mile southeast of Chaneysville, Bedford County
- Site is former resettlement land purchased by the US government to encourage Depression era farmers to move to more productive agricultural lands.
- ➤Old granaries, cemeteries, foundations, and orchards are still evident.

Buchanan State Forest

For more information, please contact Buchanan State Forest.

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Ecosystem/Terrain

- ➤ Terrain ranges from 1200' to 1400' elevation with moderate slopes.
- ➤ Pine plantings and natural Virginia pine dominate.
- ➤ Oaks and hickories occupy the area, contributing to a mixed forest type.



Pink ladies slipper wildflowers appear in early spring.

Birds

- The mixed forest provides habitat for diverse songbird populations, including forest interior birds which require contiguous forest.
- ➤ Birds of prey include sharp-shinned hawks and great horned owls.
- Turkeys and ruffed grouse inhabit the natural area.



Great horned owl

Mammals

- The mixed forest in the natural area provides habitat for many mammal species.
- ➤ Deer and black bears are big game species found in the natural area.



White-tailed deer are common in the natural area.

Small mammals like whitefooted mice and chipmunks are common prey for predators like coyotes, fishers, and bobcats.

Access

- ➤ Major routes nearby include routes 26 and 326.
- Ragged Mountain Road accesses the natural area from the north.
- ➤ Abey Road accesses the natural area to the west and south.
- William Bowman, Mack, Buxton, and Jasper trails traverse the natural area.

Numerous hiking trails cross the Pine Ridge Natural Area.



