

KENNERDELL TRACT

Clear Creek State Forest

Venango County PA



Welcome to the Kennerdell Tract of the Clear Creek State Forest. Many different aspects of natural history and human influence are represented on 3,200 acre piece of Pennsylvania's State Forest Lands.

One interesting fact is that prior to the last ice age the Allegheny River flowed north, opposite the direction of flow today. After the glaciers receded the river valley experienced continuous human habitation. During what is known as the Woodland Period, Native Indian villages appeared in the valley. The complex village communities relied on agriculture and trade to sustain them. Trade centers were established within a vast network of navigable streams and footpaths. One important trading center was located at the confluence of French Creek and the Allegheny River at what is now the city of Franklin.

The settlement of our country was heavily influenced by the river systems. In 1749, Celeron de Bienville traveled down the Allegheny claiming this area for France. Diseases inadvertently brought by de Bienville and other European explorers devastated the Native American population along the Allegheny River. By the time major colonial settlements began to develop there were few Native Americans left in this region.

The four major development phases, farming, timber harvesting, iron making and oil development can be found on this tract. The trail system directs you to view these activity areas as well as the extraordinary river valley views from the overlooks. We trust that you will enjoy your stay here. We ask you to leave only your foot prints and take away only memories and photographs.

Pennsylvania contains more than 17 million acres of forestland. Of this total, over two million acres are in the state forest system, which is publicly owned and managed by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry.

Clear Creek State Forest comprises about 13,000 acres located in Clarion, Jefferson, Forest, and Venango Counties. The Kennerdell Tract covers 3,200 acres in Venango County with 6 miles of shoreline along the Allegheny River.



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Edward G. Rendell, *Governor*

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Michael DiBerardinis, *Secretary*

Visit us at www.dcnr.state.pa.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry manages over two million acres of forest land in 48 of the Commonwealth's 67 Counties.

The State Forests are managed as a multiple-use resource. The Forest provides an abundance of high quality forest products, water, minerals and wildlife habitat. The ecosystem management approach focuses on the conservation of biological diversity while providing public benefits including recreational opportunities and sustainable forest products for future generations.

As you explore the Kennerdell Tract you will see the influence of man past & present. From the iron furnace at Bullion Run, to the abandoned oil fields of the last century, people have lived and worked in this area for hundreds of years. The timber was cut off this tract initially to provide charcoal for the iron furnace and later to provide construction lumber for settlers and the growing nation. You'll see the current logging operations. The timber harvest is managed using proper silvicultural methods to insure that new forest regeneration will become established. There are several deer fence enclosures designed to protect tree seedlings from overbrowsing by deer.

There are over 27 miles of trails through the tract. The trail system south of Dennison Run, the Goat, Ho-Ya-Neh and the midsection of the River trail are limited to hiking due to trail conditions and to protect the watershed. All other trails are open to mountain bike, horseback riding and cross-country skiing. The River Road gate is open in the fall to the 2nd week of January to allow access for hunters.

Any questions or comments should be directed to the District Forester at:

Bureau of Forestry
158 S. 2nd Ave., Clarion PA 16214
814-226-1901

DENNISON RUN

Following River Trail for about 1 mile upstream along the Allegheny River from the Kennerdell Bridge, you will come to Dennison Run. Dennison Run is rated exceptional value (EV) in stream quality by the PA Fish & Boat Commission due to its pristine aquatic characteristics.

Flowing for 3 1/4 miles through a deep and steep narrow valley, this mountain stream drains about 4.1 square miles of forested watershed. This EV freestone stream provides habitat requirements for a number of aquatic invertebrates, crustaceans, and our State fish the native brook trout.

Wildflowers, mosses, ferns, and an array of other herbaceous plants inhabit the moist, forested slopes adjacent to Dennison Run. Our State tree, the eastern hemlock, combined with hardwood species such as red oak, white oak, basswood, hickories, and maples, and shrubs/small trees like flowering dogwood and witch hazel provide excellent habitat for a number of terrestrial animals and avian species. Dennison Run is truly an exceptional stream ecosystem and an ecological and aesthetic asset to our state forest. Enjoy, but respect Dennison Run's valuable attributes.

CAMPING INFORMATION

Only primitive camping is permitted on the Kennerdell Tract. Trailer, motorhome, pickup camper and tent trailer camping is prohibited.

Primitive backpacking or boating campers spending no more than one night at a campsite do not need a camping permit. However, a camping permit is required if:

- ▶ You desire an emergency point-of-contact;
- ▶ You stay at a campsite more than one night;
- ▶ A campfire is desired during spring fire season (March 1 to May 25) or fall fire season (October 1 to December 1).

Contact the District Office at Clarion to obtain camping permits (814) 226-1901.

Group camping of more than 10 persons requires a Letter of Authorization from the District Forester.

Camp sites should be at least 100 feet from any stream or open water source.

Washing in a spring, lake or waterway is prohibited.

Campsites must be at least 25 feet from the nearest edge of a trail, and should be out of sight of the trail where possible.

Pets must be under control at all times.

*Carry it in.....Carry it out
Leave nothing but footprints.*

BULLION RUN IRON FURNACE

Established in 1840 and lasting only a few years the Bullion Run Iron Furnace had a major influence on the local forest landscape. The furnace required about an acre of trees for every day of operation. Colliers (charcoal makers) cut the trees and stacked the wood in piles that were covered with earth. The piles were burned in a smoldering fire that converted the wood into charcoal. Small-flattened areas containing charcoal fragments can be found on the hillsides near the furnace.

A work force of 8-9 skilled workers plus a few helpers were needed to operate the furnace. The furnace operation was seasonal and shut down completely during the summer while workers were busy on local farms.

Iron ore was mined in shallow open pits along the hillsides. The pits with trees up to 2-feet in diameter growing on the debris piles are still apparent in many places.

The iron ingots called pigs were transported down Bullion Run by cart or sled and loaded on timber rafts and floated down the Allegheny River to Pittsburgh.

Follow Iron Furnace Trail to see the Bullion Run Furnace.

TRAIL CHART

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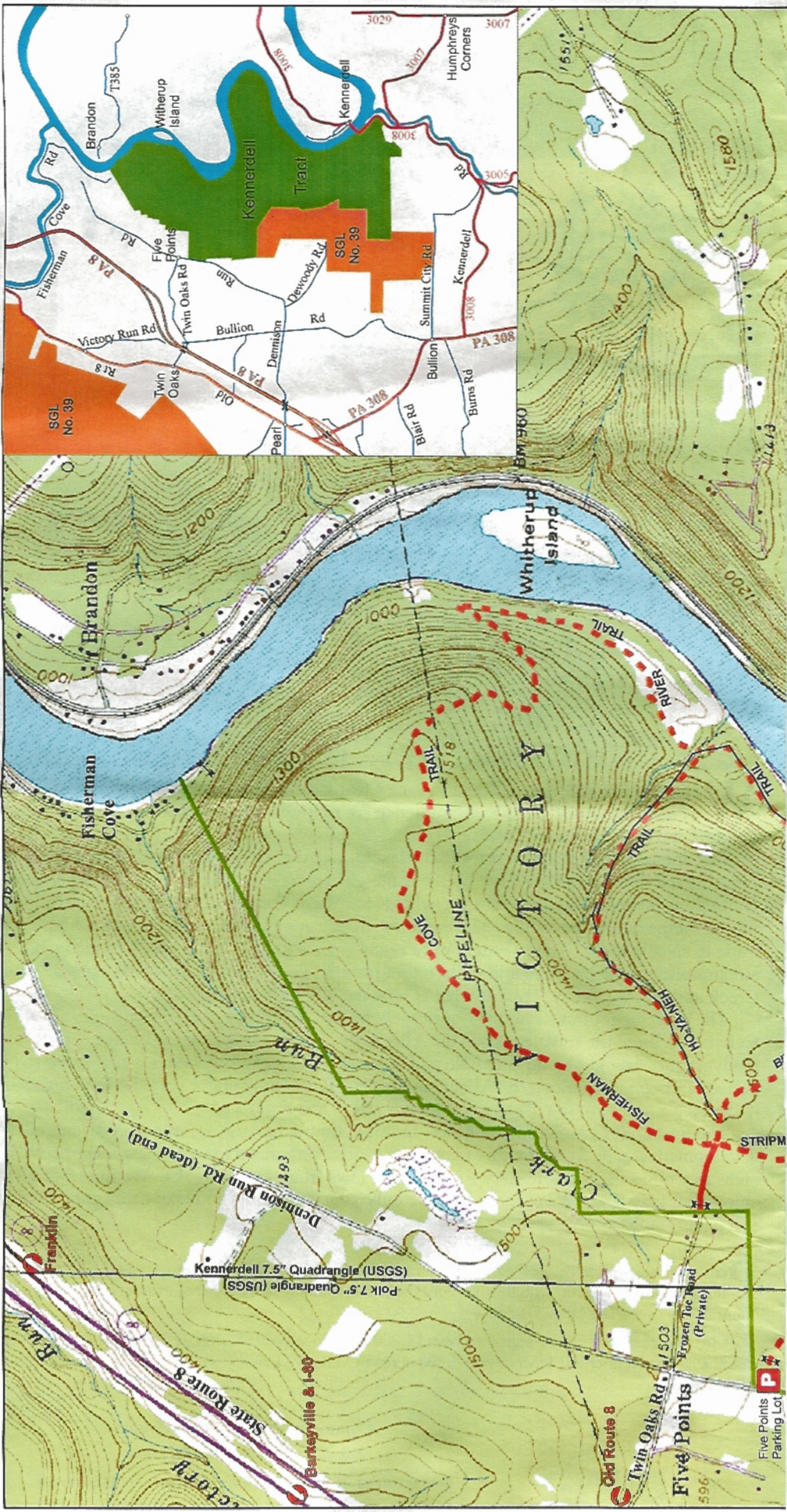
Trail / Road Name	Section	Section End Points	Length in Feet *	Difficulty **	Deer Fence Gate(s)	Hiking	Mt. Biking	Horse Riding
AB Haul Rd.	1	S Haul Rd. - dead end	1810	1	yes	◆	◆	◆
Bear Wallow	1	Ho-Ya-Neh T.- Rock Oak T.	4430	1	no	◆	◆	◆
Blunder	1	Ridge T. - River T.	4200	2	no	◆	◆	◆
Dennison Run	1	Iron Furnace T. - Goat T.	4250	5	no	◆		
	2	Goat T.- Overlook T.	2470	1	no	◆		
	3	Overlook T.- River T.	1520	1	no	◆		
Fisherman Cove	1	Ho-Ya-Neh T. - pipeline R/W	2860	1		◆		
	2	pipeline R/W - pipeline R/W	3910	1		◆	◆	◆
	3	pipeline R/W - River T.	2800	3		◆	◆	◆
Game Rd.	1	SGL P/L - Iron Furnace T.		1		◆		
	2	Iron Furnace T. - deer fence		1		◆		
Goat	1	Ridge T. - Dennison Run T.	1720	5		◆		
Ho-Ya-Neh	1	Fisherman Cove T. - Bear Wallow T.	330	1		◆	◆	◆
	2	Bear Wallow T. - River T.	4990	4		◆		
Iron Furnace	1	Game Rd. - Overlook T.	3320	2	yes	◆		
	2	Overlook T. - South T.	2090	3	yes	◆		
	3	South T. - furnace overlook	1400	4		◆		
Kennerdell	1	Overlook T.-- South T.	4860	2		◆		
	2	South T. - Bullion Run point	1410	4		◆		
	3	Bullion Run point - Kennerdell Rd	980	4		◆		
Overlook	1	Iron Furnace T. - Kennerdell T.	1750	2	yes	◆		
	2	Kennerdell T. - Overlook Spur	2470	2		◆		
	3	Overlook Spur	220	1		◆		
	4	Overlook Spur - Dennison Run T.	3000	5		◆		
Pipe Ridge Pipeline	1	Pipeline T. - Ridge T.	1610	3		◆	◆	◆
	1	5 Pointts P/L - Rock Oak T.	3530	1		◆	◆	◆
	2	Rock Oak T. - Pipe Ridge T.	3190	2		◆	◆	◆
	3	Pipe Ridge T. - Ridge T.	2110	2		◆	◆	◆
	4	Ridge T. - Ridge T.	1740	2		◆	◆	◆
	5	combined w/ Ridge T.	1230	2		◆	◆	◆
River	6	Ridge T - River T.	3940	4		◆	◆	◆
	1	Kennerdell P/L - Dennison Run T.	4520	1		◆	◆	◆
	2	Dennison Run T. - Pipeline T.	5380	1		◆	◆	◆
	3	Pipeline T.- end of drive-able path	4200	1		◆	◆	◆
	4	end of drive-able path - Ho-Ya-Neh T.	8720	5		◆		
	5	Ho-Ya-Neh T. - Fisherman Cove T.	3180	2		◆	◆	◆
Rock Oak	1	Pipeline T. - Ridge T.	4400	2		◆	◆	◆
S Haul Rd.	1	deer fence - AB Haul Rd.		2	yes	◆	◆	◆
	2	AB Haul Rd. - dead end		3	yes	◆	◆	◆
	3			3	yes	◆	◆	◆
South	1	south connector w/ Iron Furnace T.	720	2		◆	◆	◆
	2	connectors - Kennerdell T.	5220	2		◆	◆	◆
	3	north connector w/ Iron Furnace T.	860	2		◆	◆	◆
Strip Mine	1	Fisherman Cove T. - Pipeline T.	3140	1		◆	◆	◆
Window	1	Ridge T. - River T.	3010	4		◆	◆	◆

* Length is the horizontal "map" length; actual ground length may be longer due to slopes**

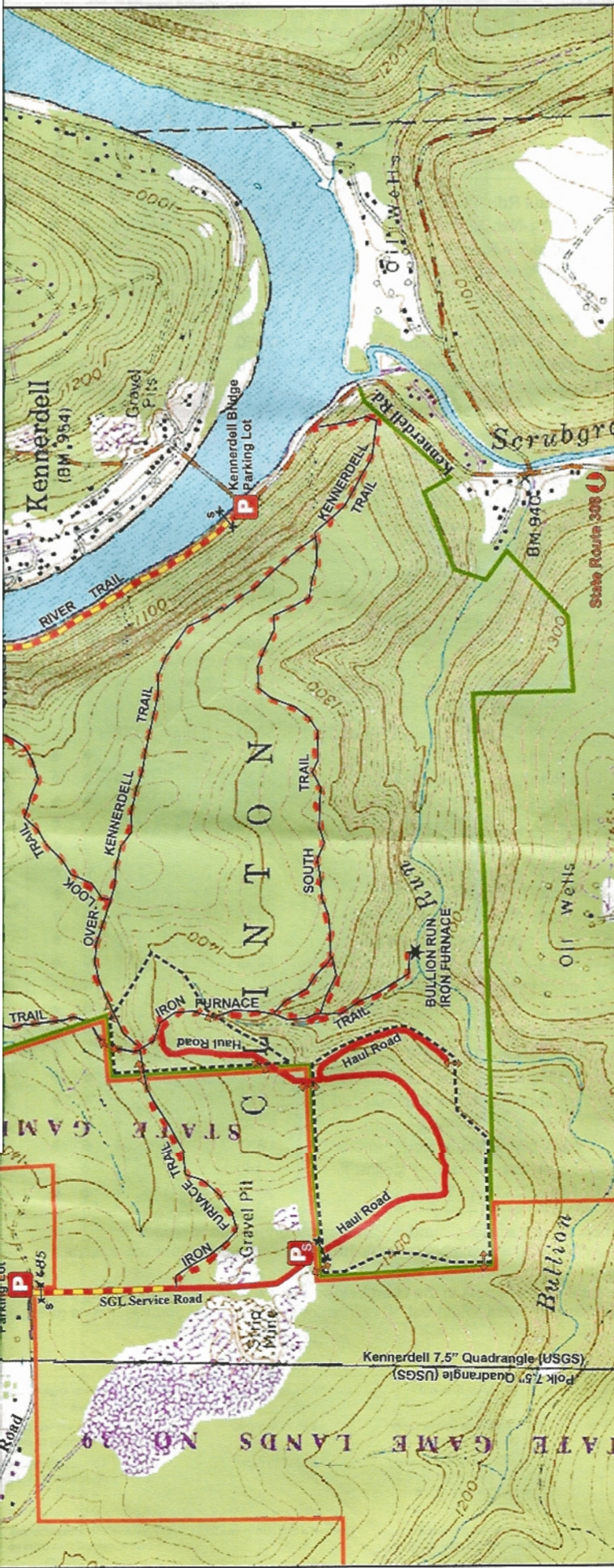
**Cross-Country Skiing & Snow Shoeing is available through the entire tract with suitable conditions.

** Difficulty rating is an average of the factors in the chart below. For example, a particular trail segment may have "2" ratings for Grades and Track Width but "4" ratings for Track Surface and Wet Areas giving an averaged Difficulty Rating of 3.

Rating	Grades	Track Surface	Track Width	Wet Areas
1	None to low, 0 to 5%	No rocks, firm soil	Wide, service road	Bridges or no wet areas on trail track
2	Low to moderate, 5 to 10%	Occasional rock and/or some loose soil or gravel	Two to four feet	Mud puddles in wet weather; intermittent stream(s) to cross
3	Moderate, 10 to 20%	Some rocky areas and/or some loose, unstable soil on slopes but can be traversed with care	One to two feet	Numerous wet areas during wet weather; small stream(s) to long-step across
4	Moderately steep, 20 to 30%	Short rocky areas and/or unstable soil on steeper slopes	One and a half feet to one foot	Persistent wet areas after wet weather; stream(s) to cross on stepping stones
5	Steep, 30% or more	Very rocky, scree and/or very loose, unstable soil	Very narrow track, sometimes less than one foot in rocky areas	Wet sections in both dry and wet weather; stream(s) to ford w/o stepping stones







KENNERDELL TRACT

Clear Creek State Forest Venango County PA

Legend

- State Forest Boundary
- State Gameland Boundary
- - - Deer Exclusion Fence
- ↔ Deer Fence Person Gate
- ⊥ Gate - Closed to Public Year Round
- ⊥ Gate - Open to Public Seasonally
- Service Road
- - - Trail
- - - Trail - Road
- - - Trail - Hiking Only
- P Parking Lot - All Season Use
- P_S Parking Lot - Seasonal Use

Scale in Feet

0 1000 2000

0 1000 2000

