

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Save Spring Creek, Centre County

Re: Save Spring Creek, Centre County

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URL:

The land in question totals about 1800 acres. Legislators Hanna and Benninghoff had introduced competing legislation. But now they've come up with a compromise. Everyone around here seems to believe that this compromise will go through. So things have quieted down. It never hurts to send your views to your legislators, because the actual legislation has not yet been presented. But unless something unusual happens, their plan will probably go through.

Their plan for the 1800 acres is:

Penn State (Ag Science Dept.) would get 500 acres flanking I99.

PFBC would get the land Benner Spring hatchery is located on and little bit of adjacent land. And they would get stream corridor land at the lower end, that would extend up past the pistol range, past the blue footbridge, past the old hatch house, past the dirt ponds, around the bend, and ending at old diversion dam near the sign where the pentitentiary currently has no trespassing signs.

Benner Twp would get a few acres for a public parking area. (They threw them a bone.)

The majority of the acreage, including the middle part of the stream corridor and the bulk of the uplands, would go to the PA Game Commission.

So, I think the issue is basically over. For those of you contacted your legislators expressing your views, congratulations for being active citizens.

Locally, we will continue to try to do what we can to maintain the integrity of the creek and land. But I think the ownership issue has probably been decided.

When this legislation might be introduced and passed, I don't know. But they will surely try to get it done before the Rendell administration is over.