



A Pennsylvania Recreational Guide for

Frances Slocum

Frances Slocum State Park

Pennsylvania
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Pennsylvania State Parks Mission

The primary purpose of Pennsylvania state parks is to provide opportunities for enjoying healthful outdoor recreation and serve as outdoor classrooms for environmental education. In meeting these purposes, the conservation of the natural, scenic, aesthetic, and historical values of parks should be given first consideration. Stewardship responsibilities should be carried out in a way that protects the natural outdoor experience for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

PAStateParks

2025



Frances Slocum State Park

Frances Slocum State Park consists of 1,085 acres in Luzerne County. The horseshoe-shaped, 165-acre lake is popular for boating and fishing, and is a home to many species of birds, fish, and other wildlife. The hiking and mountain biking trails entice visitors to explore the forests while the large day use area is popular for picnicking.

Reservations

Make online reservations at www.pa.gov/state-parks or call toll-free 888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757), 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Saturday.

Directions

GPS DD: Lat. 41.34433 Long. -75.89186

The park is five miles from Dallas and ten miles from Wilkes-Barre. From exit 170B of I-81, take PA 309 north 7.2 miles. Turn right (east) onto Carverton Road and drive for 4.2 miles. Turn left (north) on West 8th Street and drive 1.3 miles. Turn left (west) onto Mt. Olivet Road and drive one mile to the park entrance on the left.



Learn, Experience, Connect

Frances Slocum State Park offers a wide variety of programs from March through November. Gain a better understanding of the park's natural, cultural, and historical resources through guided outdoor recreation, hands-on activities, walks, special events, and other programs. The Patrick J. Solano Environmental Education Center in the day use area features cultural and natural resource topics.

Curriculum-based environmental education programs are available to schools and organized groups. Call the park office to schedule a group program. A variety of professional development workshops are offered for teachers.

Contact the park office or explore the online calendar of events, https://events.dcnr.pa.gov, for more information on programs and other learning experiences.



Painted turtles

Recreational Opportunities

Spend the Day

♿ **SWIMMING:** The swimming pool is open daily from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day, unless posted otherwise. A seasonal snack bar has food and beverages.



BOATING: Electric motors only; slow, no-wake speed
The 165-acre Frances Slocum Lake has two boat launches with courtesy docks and two mooring areas. A boat concession rents rowboats, paddleboats, kayaks, and canoes.

Motorboats must display a boat registration from any state. Non-powered boats must display one of the following: boat registration from any state; launch permit or mooring permit from Pennsylvania State Parks, available at most state park offices; launch use permit from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

MOUNTAIN BIKING: 5 miles
Located on the west side of the park, the mountain biking trails range in difficulty. Bikers should respect other riders and hikers when using designated trails. All mountain biking trails are designated with red blazes. E-bikes are permitted but must follow all e-bike guidelines. www.pa.gov/dcnr/ebike-policy

Hiking: See **Trails** section on other side.

♿ **FISHING:** The 165-acre Frances Slocum Lake is a warmwater fishery. Common species are crappie, bluegill, perch, catfish, muskellunge, pickerel, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, walleye, and stocked trout. Ice fishing is permitted. An ADA-accessible fishing pier is between Picnic Pavilion 3 and the main boat launch. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations and laws apply.

♿ **PICNICKING:** Most picnic areas are available year-round. Picnic facilities include drinking water fountains, modern restrooms, trash and recycling receptacles, charcoal grills, and charcoal disposal pits. All areas are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Three ADA-accessible picnic pavilions may be reserved up to 11 months in advance for a fee. Unreserved picnic pavilions are free on a first-come, first-served basis.

♿ **HUNTING AND FIREARMS:** On the west side of the park, about 350 acres are open to hunting, trapping, and the training of dogs during established seasons. An additional 400 acres are open to archery hunting only in designated areas. Common game species are white-tailed deer, waterfowl, turkey, rabbit, and squirrel.

Hunting woodchucks, also known as groundhogs, is prohibited. Dog training is only permitted from the day following Labor Day through March 31 in designated hunting areas. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania Game Commission rules and regulations apply. Contact the park office for ADA-accessible hunting information.

Use extreme caution with firearms at all times. Other visitors use the park during hunting seasons. Firearms and archery equipment used for hunting may be uncased and ready for use only in authorized hunting areas during hunting seasons. In areas not open to hunting or during non-hunting seasons, firearms and archery equipment shall be kept in the owner's vehicle or enclosed trailer. Exceptions include: law enforcement officers and individuals with a valid *Pennsylvania License to Carry Firearms* are authorized to carry a firearm concealed on their person while they are within a state park.

Stay the Night

♿ **CAMPING:** The campground with electric, non-electric, and walk-to sites is available from mid-April to mid-October. A few ADA-accessible campsites are available. Walk-to tent sites offer additional privacy. Each campsite contains a picnic table and fire ring. Flush toilets, showers, drinking water, sanitary dump station, and a boat launch are available. Pets are permitted on designated sites for a fee.

ORGANIZED GROUP TENTING: Organized groups can reserve this modern area, which accommodates up to 40 people. The camping area has drinking water, fire rings, picnic tables, flush toilets, and showers.



Enjoy the Winter



ICE SAFETY: Ice thickness is not monitored. For your safety, make sure ice is at least 4" thick for a single user and 7" thick for a small group. Always carry safety equipment.

ICE SKATING: When conditions permit, ice skating is permitted on the natural ice of the lake.

ICE FISHING: Ice fishing is permitted on the entire lake.

SLEDDING: A sledding hill is west of the swimming pool.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING: When conditions permit, Campground Road and day-use areas are popular for cross-country skiing.

SNOWMOBILING: About 5 miles of trails and roads on the eastern side of the park are available for snowmobiling when conditions permit.

Park History



Butchers Mill

Frances Slocum Lake was created to control flooding. Picnicking areas and the dam were constructed and opened in the spring of 1968. In 1972, Tropical Storm Agnes devastated large areas of the adjacent Wyoming Valley. Frances Slocum State Park was closed to the public and 280 families moved into temporary houses in the park until their homes were restored. After the last family moved out, the park reopened to the public in June 1974.

FRANCES SLOCUM
The park is named for Frances Slocum, a young girl who was kidnapped by a group of Lenape People. Frances was one of ten children of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Slocum. This Quaker family lived on what is now North Street in Wilkes-Barre.

On November 2, 1778, a small group of Lenape entered the Slocum home and carried away Frances, who was five years old. The first night after her abduction was spent in a crude shelter under a rock ledge along Abraham Creek, believed to be within the state park boundary. She tried to escape during the first night but was quickly recaptured. Frances was taken along as the Lenape moved westward and spent the rest of her life with them.

Her brothers never gave up the search. Fifty-nine years after her abduction, they found her living on a reservation near Peru, Indiana. She had been married twice and had borne four children. Frances refused the pleas of her brothers to return to Pennsylvania. The brothers wrote to her and learned many of the details of her abduction and life with the Lenape People.

Frances Slocum died in Indiana in 1847, at the age of 74. Mississinewa Lake in Indiana contains the Frances Slocum State Recreational Area and Lost Sister Trail. Along the Mississinewa River in Indiana, a monument marks the final resting-place of Frances Slocum.

Information and Reservations

Frances Slocum State Park
565 Mt. Olivet Road
Wyoming, PA 18644
570-696-3525
FrancesSlocumSP@pa.gov

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www.pa.gov/state-parks
Equal opportunity employer

Access for People with Disabilities

♿ This symbol indicates facilities and activities that are Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible for people with disabilities. This publication text is available in alternative formats.

If you need an accommodation to participate in park activities due to a disability, please contact the park you plan to visit.

In an Emergency

Call 911 and contact a park employee to summon medical, fire, or safety professionals.

Call or text 988 to contact a crisis center counselor during a mental health or substance abuse crisis.

Directions to the nearest hospital are posted on bulletin boards and at the park office.

NEAREST HOSPITAL
Wilkes-Barre General Hospital
575 North River Street
(North River and Auburn streets)
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18764
570-829-8111





Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from:
Discover NEPA. https://discovernepa.com
Visit Luzerne County. 888-905-2872.
www.visitluzernecounty.com

Nearby **Pinchot State Forest** includes Moon Lake and Seven Tubs natural areas. 570-945-7133

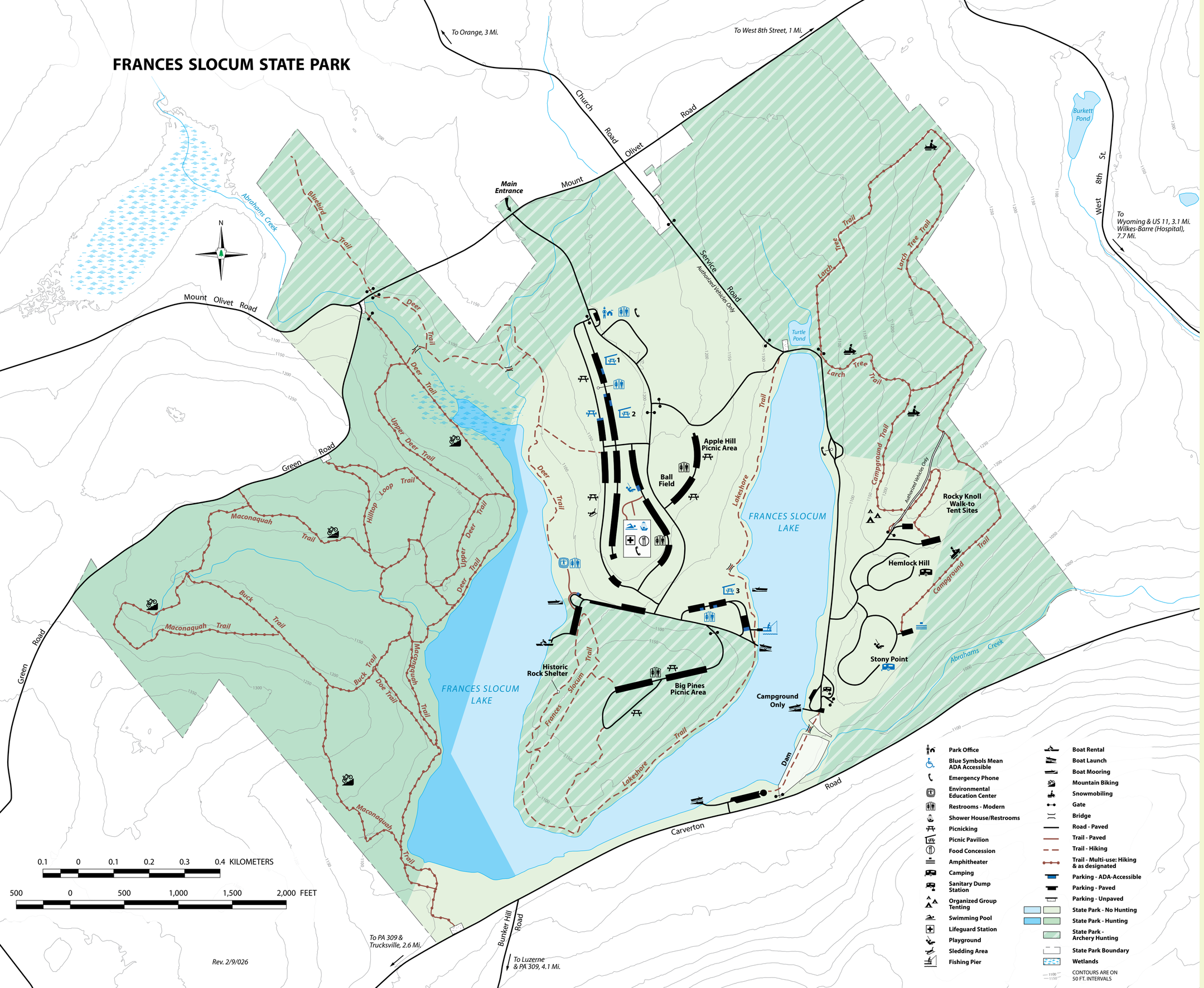
The 700-acre **Moon Lake Recreation Area** surrounds the scenic Moon Lake and offers rustic campsites, 20 miles of mountain biking trails, fishing, and boating.

The 537-acre **Seven Tubs Recreation Area** includes hiking trails, waterfalls, and seven potholes formed by Wheelbarrow Run.

Ricketts Glen State Park has modern camping, cabins, boating, swimming, and hiking. The rugged trails in the the Glens Natural Area pass 22 beautiful waterfalls. 570-477-5675



FRANCES SLOCUM STATE PARK



Trails: 13.7 miles

Bluebird Trail: 0.5 mile
Easiest hiking | Out-and-back trail | Yellow blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking

In the northern portion of the park, this trail passes through fields and mixed forests.

Buck Trail: 0.8 mile
More difficult hiking | Connector trail | Red blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking, mountain biking

While skirting stone walls and old fields and passing through stands of pines, this trail connects to Maconaquah Trail in several places.

Campground Trail: 1.0 mile
More difficult hiking | Loop trail | Yellow blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking, snowmobiling
Trailhead amenities: modern restrooms

Hikers can access this trail from the amphitheater parking lot in Stony Point. Enjoy hiking through the quiet forest surrounding the campground. A short stretch of Campground Trail overlaps with Larch Tree Trail. To make a complete loop, walk the campground roads from the organized group tenting area back to the amphitheater parking lot.

Deer Trail: 3.2 miles
Most difficult hiking | Out-and-back trail | Yellow/Red blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking, mountain biking
Trailhead amenities: modern restrooms, picnic table, benches

This trail passes through an incredibly diverse woodland which includes a variety of wildlife habitats and historic areas. Hike through beautiful pines, across bridges, down an old macadam road, and across concrete stepping stones in the marshy area.

Doe Trail: 0.3 mile
More difficult hiking | Connector trail | Red blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking, mountain biking

In the southwestern part of the park, this multi-use trail connects Buck and Maconaquah trails.

Frances Slocum Trail: 0.7 mile
Easiest hiking | Loop trail | Yellow blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking
Trailhead amenities: modern restrooms, picnic tables

Near the education center, this short loop climbs a hill up to the famous rock formation. Explore the rock shelter where the park's namesake, Frances Slocum, and her Lenape captors may have taken shelter.

Hilltop Loop Trail: 0.7 mile
More difficult hiking | Loop trail | Red blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking, mountain biking

This scenic loop trail starts and ends at the Green Road trailhead, traveling through woods and an open field. For a longer hike, connect to Maconaquah Trail or Upper Deer Trail.

Lakeshore Trail: 1.4 miles
Easiest hiking | Out-and-back trail | Yellow blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking
Trailhead amenities: modern restrooms, benches

Take a peaceful walk along the water's edge on the Lakeshore Trail. This trail begins at the parking near Turtle Pond or in the Big Pines Picnic Area.

Larch Tree Trail: 2.0 miles
More difficult hiking | Loop trail | Yellow blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking, snowmobiling

Enjoy hiking through a lush forest featuring larch and red pine trees. This loop trail begins and ends on Campground Road near Turtle Pond.

Maconaquah Trail: 2.5 miles
Most difficult hiking | Loop trail | Red blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking, mountain biking

This popular mountain biking trail starts and ends at the Carverton Road or Green Road trailheads. The loop connects to many of the trails in the mountain biking area.

Upper Deer Trail: 0.6 mile
More difficult hiking | Connector trail | Red blazes
Recreations permitted: hiking, mountain biking

This trail connects Deer Trail to Hilltop Loop through a mixed hardwood hillside on the western side of the lake.

- Park Office
- Blue Symbols Mean ADA Accessible
- Emergency Phone
- Environmental Education Center
- Restrooms - Modern
- Shower House/Restrooms
- Picnicking
- Picnic Pavilion
- Food Concession
- Amphitheater
- Camping
- Sanitary Dump Station
- Organized Group Tenting
- Swimming Pool
- Lifeguard Station
- Playground
- Sledding Area
- Fishing Pier
- Boat Rental
- Boat Launch
- Boat Mooring
- Mountain Biking
- Snowmobiling
- Gate
- Bridge
- Road - Paved
- Trail - Paved
- Trail - Hiking
- Trail - Multi-use: Hiking & as designated
- Parking - ADA-Accessible
- Parking - Paved
- Parking - Unpaved
- State Park - No Hunting
- State Park - Hunting
- State Park - Archery Hunting
- State Park Boundary
- Wetlands
- CONTOURS ARE ON 50 FT. INTERVALS