state college area
CONNECTOR

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Agricultural Resources Technical Memorandum

for the

State College Area Connector Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MAY 19, 2021

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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Appendix B: Summary of Soil Capability Classes I-IV, Prime Farmland Soils and Farmland Soils of Statewide Importance

List of Acronyms

Act 43	Agricultural Security Area Law, Pennsylvania Act 1981-43, as amended
Act 100	Pennsylvania Act 1979-100
Act 247	Pennsylvania Act 1968-247, as amended (Municipalities Planning Code – MPC)
Act 319	Pennsylvania Act 1974-319
Act 515	Pennsylvania Act 1966-515ALCAB Agricultural Lands Condemnation Approval Board
ALPP	Agricultural Land Preservation Policy
ASA	Agricultural Security Area
CREP	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program
FAR	Farmland Assessment Report
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act
FRPP	Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program
GIS	Geographic Information System
I-80	Interstate 80
I-99	Interstate 99
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
PA	Pennsylvania or Pennsylvania Route
PACE	Purchased Agricultural Conservation Easement
PAL	Productive Agricultural Land
PASDA	Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access
PEL	Planning and Environmental Linkage

PennDOT	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
SCAC	State College Area Connector
U.S.	United States
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture

1.0 Introduction

The Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study for the State College Area Connector (SCAC) study is intended to identify, evaluate, and recommend transportation improvements in the PEL Study Area for project delivery. The PEL process allows early planning-level decisions to be carried forward into future transportation projects so that National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements are connected and planning analyses and decisions are not revisited. To ensure that the PEL Study results can be used in future NEPA projects, the PEL investigations will meet standards established by NEPA regulations and guidance as well as use consistent NEPA terms (e.g., purpose and need, alternatives, affected environment, environmental consequences, etc.). The PEL Study Area is approximately 70 square miles (approximately 44,800 acres), extends through the southern portion of Centre County, and includes all or parts of six municipalities: Centre Hall Borough and Potter, Spring, Harris, College, and Benner Townships (see Figure 1, Study Location). The study area includes key transportation routes that provide access to regional destinations and beyond via major transportation routes such as United States Route (U.S.) 322, Pennsylvania Route (PA) 144, PA 45, and Interstate 99 (I-99) which, in turn, provide access to nearby Interstate 80 (I-80). The initial data collection area is also shaped by the topography of the area. In general, the study area encompasses the southwestern portion of Penns Valley that extends between Nittany Mountain to the north and the Seven Mountains area of the Tussey Mountain range to the south. The limits of the study area will be refined as the process advances.

The purpose of this document is to identify agricultural resources within the PEL Study Area including: Productive Agricultural Land (PAL); prime agricultural land pursuant to 4 Pa Code Chapter 7, §7.301 et seq., Agricultural Land Preservation Policy (ALPP); and farmland soils pursuant to the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA), 7 USC §4201. Additionally, land enrolled in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) was identified. An attempt to identify individual agricultural operations and supporting businesses was also conducted using various secondary sources and limited field reconnaissance.

This information will be used to identify and assess impacts on agricultural resources associated with proposed transportation improvement alternatives that may be developed during the PEL process. Depending on future projects identified and carried forward in to the NEPA process, and resulting impacts on agricultural resources, a more detailed agricultural analysis would occur specific to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) *Agricultural Resources Evaluation Handbook*, Publication 324, March 2016.

The agricultural resource evaluation process of the above referenced agricultural resources is required according to Pennsylvania Act 100 of 1979 (PA Act 100), which established an independent administrative board with approval authority to condemn PAL for highway projects. The board is referenced as the Agricultural Lands Condemnation Approval Board (ALCAB). Additional detailed agricultural information to be gathered as part of a future NEPA project will be documented in a Farmland Assessment Report (FAR) pursuant to the following federal and state laws and policies:

- 7 U.S.C. §4201, Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) of 1981
- PA Act 1979-100, The Administrative Code of 1929
- PA Act 1981-43, Agricultural Security Law
- 4 Pa Code Chapter 7, §7.301 et seq., Agricultural Land Preservation Policy (ALPP); Executive Order No. 2003-2, March 20, 2003

2.0 Methods

Information collected within the PEL Study Area is based on secondary data, direct communication with county officials and organizations, and field reconnaissance.

Secondary sources include the: South Central Centre County Transportation Study-Agricultural Resources Memo (Route 322/144/45 Corridor Data Refresh Project, Lotus, July 31, 2018); aerial imagery from the Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA); Centre County Open Data; and the Centre County Geographic Information System (GIS) database. Other online sources such as the Chesapeake Conservancy, Centre County Farmland Preservation, and USDA Census of

Agriculture websites were consulted and reviewed. These secondary data sources provided information regarding parcel ownership and property addresses, as well as agricultural resources within the State, county, and the PEL Study Area.

The Centre County Agricultural Land Preservation Coordinator was contacted to identify county purchased and private non-profit agricultural easements within the study area. The Centre County Farm Service Agency was contacted regarding properties enrolled in the CREP. In addition, the following non-profit organizations were contacted: Centre County Farmland Trust, the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy, Clearwater Conservancy, and the American Farmland Trust – Mid Atlantic. These organizations were contacted to obtain information about agricultural conservation easement ownership.

Additional outreach was completed with the Plain Sect Community, including an in-field meeting on October 16, 2020, with the Bishop of the West Penns Valley Church District to distribute public meeting information and obtain contact information for nearby Church Districts. As such, phone conversations were completed with representatives of the West Brush Valley Church District, the West Nittany Valley Church District, and the Little Nittany Valley Church District. This outreach to multiple Church Districts was intended to identify the extent of the Plain Sect Community and their farm operations within the study area and to receive feedback on special transportation issues the community may have and that could affect the development of proposed transportation improvements.

The Centre County Farm Service Agency – Natural Resource CREP was contacted on August 11, 2020. The Farm Service Agency indicated the CREP data could not be provided due to privacy concerns. Windshield survey reconnaissance conducted on August 5, 2020, was used to preliminarily identify select CREP-enrolled properties, primarily riparian buffer protected properties. CREP-enrolled properties typically do not exceed a 25-year use restriction.

Field reconnaissance was conducted on August 5, 2020 to verify the presence of agricultural resources and to identify the types of farming operations within the PEL Study Area.

Updated Centre County parcel information was also collected on January 21, 2021, from Centre County GIS database, which contained current ownership information and property addresses. Coordination was completed with Diana Griffith (Centre County Agricultural Land Preservation Coordinator) on January 27, 2021. Ms. Griffith could not confirm the exact date of the preserved farmland data available on the Centre County website, but it was believed to be accurate through January 2021. Data collected from the Agricultural Land Preservation Coordinator of Centre County included county purchased easements as well as private and non-profit easements. County purchased agricultural preservation easements includes the deed restriction for the agricultural land to be preserved and the landowner receives payment for the easement. In comparison, the use of agricultural conservation easements is the voluntary placement of property into a deed restriction to preserve the land, but the landowner is not compensated. The deed restriction is permanent and can only be overturned by a court of law or an eminent domain proceeding.

3.0 Results

Centre County is known for its rich agricultural resources and is the home of the Centre County Grange Fair, located in Centre Hall, within the PEL Study Area. Within Centre County, 1,023 farms exist with a total of 149,858 acres in farmland according to the USDA 2017 Census of Agriculture. The average farm size is 146 acres for Centre County, while the average farm size for Pennsylvania is 137 acres (USDA 2017).

Within the PEL Study Area, there are 16,502 acres of PAL. Approximately 75 agricultural operations have been identified within the PEL Study Area. Prime Agricultural Land exists through the PEL Study Area with the exception of the portion intersected by Nittany Mountain. Preserved farmland has been identified on 3,002 acres, while 14,529 acres are enrolled in Agricultural Security Areas (ASA). Prime Farmland soils and Farmland Soils of Statewide Importance total 25,781 acres within the PEL Study Area.

The results of the agricultural analysis further detail the PAL within the PEL Study Area, along with ALPP and FPPA Resources. An initial identification of farm operations was completed based on landowner information from the county property parcel database and review of 2019 aerial mapping. This preliminary assessment will be confirmed as part of the farm operation interview coordination efforts completed for future NEPA projects in order to identify all potentially affected farm operations and the extent of the individual operations, including land an individual operation may lease from other property owners. Additional research was completed for CRP and CREP properties given that highly erodible cropland area is considered PAL according to PennDOT Pub 324. Properties enrolled in CREP associated with riparian planting were preliminarily identified through limited windshield reconnaissance; however, properties that are enrolled in CREP for only protective grass plantings were not identified. Future detailed studies will identify CREP enrollment through coordination with individual property owners, as needed.

3.1 Productive Agricultural Land (PAL)

According to PennDOT Publication 324, March 2016, PAL is defined as "any land used for production, for commercial purposes, of crops, livestock, and livestock products. Agricultural production includes the processing of retail marketing of such crops, livestock, or livestock products if more than 50 percent of such processed or merchandised products are produced by the farm operator." PAL was identified within Penns Valley (located in the central portion of the PEL Study Area) and Nittany Valley (located in the northern portion of the PEL Study Area). A total of 16,502 acres of PAL have been identified within the PEL Study Area and represents 37% of the total study area (44,800 acres, see Figure 2). The PAL in the two valleys are physically divided by Nittany Mountain which runs from a southwest to northeast direction. Based on field observations, primary crops include corn, soybeans, wheat, hay, produce, and Christmas trees. In addition to crops, cattle and horse livestock operations also exist within the PEL Study Area. Figure 2 also includes the "farmland access" routes identified in previous studies completed by McCormick Taylor in 2004 for the South Central Centre County Transportation Study. The "farmland access" routes document the abundant informal access that the farm operations use to gain direct route access without travelling on the local or state route.

3.2 Prime Agricultural Land

Under ALPP, Prime Agricultural Land is defined as that which "includes land currently in active agricultural use (not including the growing of timber) which has been devoted to active agricultural use for the preceding three years and falls into one of the five prioritized categories:"

- Preserved Farmland;
- ASAs;
- Preferential Tax Assessment (Clean and Green);
- Agricultural Zoning per municipal zoning ordinances; and
- Soil Capability Classes I-IV as mapped by the USDA.

The majority of the agricultural land within the PEL Study Area qualifies as prime agricultural land, in accordance with 4 PA Code Chapter 7 § 7.301 et seq. ALPP (see Table 1).

Table 1: Summary of Prime Agricultural Land

Resource Classification	Acres within PEL Study Area	Percent Acreage within PEL Study Area*
PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND		
Preserved Farmland	3,002	7%
Agricultural Security Area	14,529	32%
Preferential Tax Assessment (Clean and Green)	13,999	31%
Agricultural Zoning	16,480	37%
Soil Capability Classes I-IV	28,575	64%
*Percent of Total Acres within Entire PEL Study Area is representative for each resource classification based solely on the total of 44,800 existing acres or approximate 70 square-mile area.		

3.2.1 Preserved Farmland

Preserved farmland is defined as farmland restricted to agricultural use by deed restrictions or agricultural conservation easements. The Centre County Agricultural Land Preservation Coordinator confirmed there are 55 agricultural conservation easements, totaling 8,205 acres,

within the entire county (as of January 27, 2021). Within the PEL Study Area, Preserved farmland totals 3,002 acres or 7% of total acres (Table 1 and Figure 3). This total includes Purchased Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) with development rights purchased by Centre County and Agricultural Conservation Easements with development rights obtained by the Centre County Farmland Trust and the Clearwater Conservancy. Deed restrictions apply to all the referenced agricultural conservation easements.

Table 2 identifies the Agricultural Conservation Easements by type. The majority of the agricultural conservation easements are within PACE (1,688 acres). Out of this total, it should be noted 658 acres are enrolled in the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), which is a voluntary program through the NRCS where federal funds support the agricultural conservation easement program. One deed restriction that applies to this program is a two-percent limitation on impervious surfaces. The Clearwater Conservancy has enrolled the second highest acres of agricultural conservation easements with 1,045 acres and the Centre County Farmland Trust contains 269 acres in agricultural conservation easements as seen in Table 2.

Table 2: Agricultural Conservation Easements by Type

Resource Classification	Acres within PEL Study Area	Percent Acreage within PEL Study Area*
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS		
Purchased Agricultural Conservation Easements	1,688**	4%
Clearwater Conservancy	1,045	2%
Centre County Farmland Trust	269	1%
TOTAL PRESERVED FARMLAND	3002	7%

*Percent of Total Acres within entire PEL Study Area is representative for each resource classification based solely on the total of 44,800 existing acres or approximate 70 square-mile area.
**Includes 658 acres enrolled in the USDS NRCS Farm and Ranch Protection Program

3.2.2 Agricultural Security Areas

The Agricultural Security Area Law - Pennsylvania Act 1981-43 (Act 43) enables landowners to propose the creation of ASAs to municipal governments. An ASA must contain a minimum of 250 acres of viable agricultural land, which may be comprised of noncontiguous tracts that are at least 10 acres in size or a farm parcel less than 10 acres that has an anticipated yearly gross income from agricultural production of at least $2,000.

Benner, Spring, College, Potter, and Harris Townships contain ASAs totaling 14,529 acres, or 32% of the study area (see Table 1 and Figure 3). There are no ASAs in Centre Hall Borough. Enrollment in an ASA allows properties to qualify for consideration as preserved farmland. Approximately 21% of the ASAs contains agricultural conservation easements.

3.2.3 Preferential Tax Assessment (Clean and Green)

The Clean and Green classification allows for land to be enrolled in a preferential tax assessment as either “agricultural use” (Act 319) or “farmland” (Act 515). As such, land is taxed according to use rather than market value. Property owners must apply to be enrolled in these programs to reduce taxes, and this specifically includes agricultural land uses. Once enrolled, the property owner must commit to maintaining the land use for a certain time period. A land use change will result in the owner paying back taxes, plus an interest fee over the committed time period. A total of 13,999 acres (or 31% of total acres within the PEL Study Area) are enrolled in Clean and Green (see Table 1 and Figure 3). There is no parcel identified within the Act 515 classification, as Centre County only assesses the preferential tax assessment based on Act 319.

3.2.4 Agricultural Zoning

Agricultural zoning is designated by municipalities and delineates the area of agriculturally valuable soils and existing farmland. This requires municipalities to designate the specific land pursuant to Act 247 of 1968, as amended, within the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. A total of 16,480 acres (or 37% of total acres within the PEL Study Area) are zoned as agricultural

within College, Harris, Potter, Spring Townships and Centre Hall Borough (see Table 1 and Figure 4).

3.2.5 Soil Capability Classes I-IV

Soil Capability Classes I-IV are soils consisting of unique farmland or designated within one of the four classes which is mapped by the USDA. According to the USDA's range of classifications, Class I soils have few limitations for cultivation and Class IV soils in comparison have severe limitations for cultivation. A total of 28,575 acres (or 64% of total acres within the PEL Study Area) contain Soil Capability Classes I-IV (see Table 1 and Figure 4). Appendix B provides a summary of the various soils and their characteristics within the Soil Capability Classes I-IV.

3.3 Farmland Protection Policy Act

The federal FPPA of 1981 (7 U.S.C. § 4201) was developed to protect the irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural use by various federal programs. The FPPA specifically protects prime and unique farmland soils in addition to farmland soil of statewide or local importance, as mapped by the USDA NRCS. The FPPA does not require agricultural lands to be in active agricultural use to be protected under the FPPA. There are 13,684 acres (or 31% of total acres within the PEL Study Area) of prime farmland soils, and 12,097 acres (or 27% of total acres within the PEL Study Area) of farmland soils of statewide importance (see Table 3, Figure 5 and Appendix B).

Table 3: Summary of FPPA Soils

Resource Classification	Acres within PEL Study Area	Percent Acreage within PEL Study Area*
FARMLAND PROTECTION POLICY ACT SOILS		
Prime Farmland Soils	13,684	31%
Farmland Soils of Statewide Importance	12,097	27%
*Percent of Total Acres within Entire PEL Study Area is representative for each resource classification based solely on the total of 44,800 existing acres or approximate 70 square-mile area.		

3.4 Productive Agricultural Operations and Businesses

Productive agricultural operations exist throughout the PEL Study Area. Information gathered from the August 5, 2020, field reconnaissance, along with aerial map analysis and review of Centre County tax parcel GIS data, were used to preliminarily identify various agricultural operations and agricultural related support businesses. This information will be used in the future to facilitate the identification of individual farm operations and to assess the number of potential operations that could be affected by proposed alternatives during the PEL alternatives analysis. The PEL Study Area contains the following farm operations and businesses known to date:

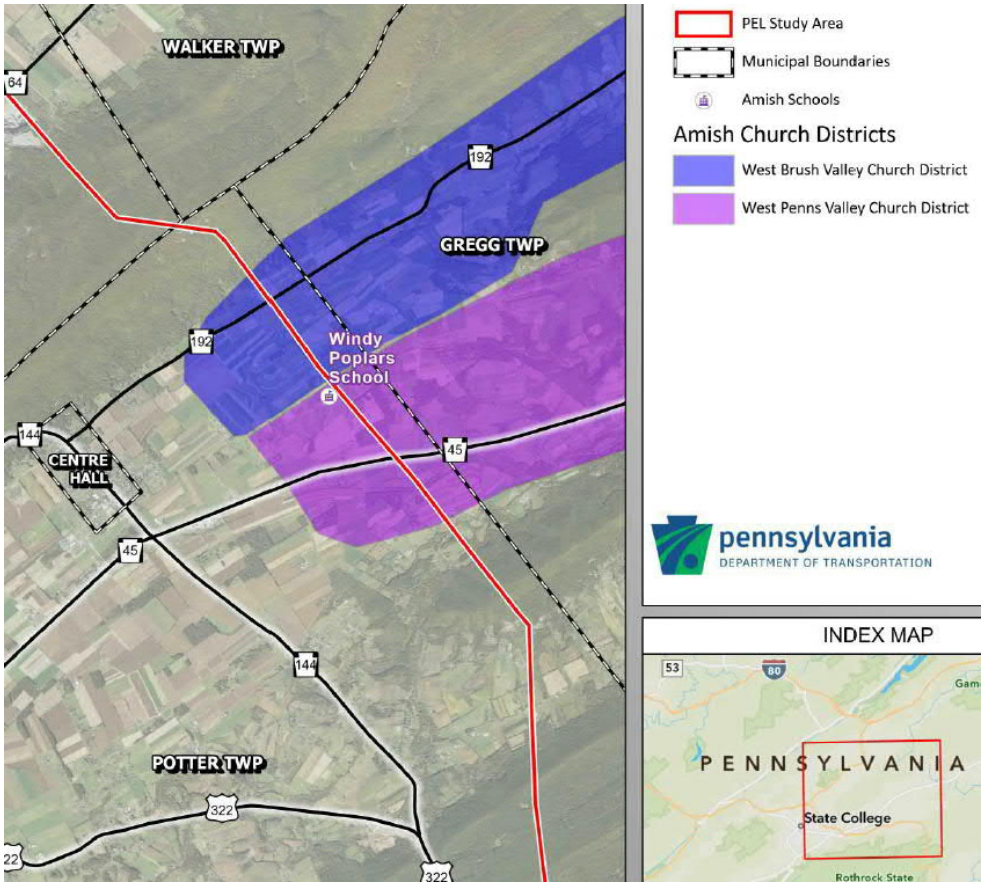
- Arboretum and Sculpture Garden
- Dairy operations;
- Equestrian operations;
- Beef cattle operations;
- Greenhouses;
- Christmas tree operations;
- Egg producers;
- A winery;
- Nurseries;
- Centre Hall Farm Store
- The Centre County Grange Fair Grounds; and
- Various Organic Farm operations

Unique to the study area is the 264-acre Centre County Grange Fair Grounds, located within Centre Hall Borough, where an annual 9-day event, the Centre County Grange Encampment and Fair, has been held since 1874. This facility serves as a long-standing symbol of the agricultural history of the area. The annual fair involves approximately 1000 tent campers and 1,500 recreational campers in attendance. Livestock competitions, equine events, tractor pulling, along with amusement rides and nearly 7,000 exhibitors can be found at the Grange Fair.

3.5 Plain Sect Productive Agricultural Operations

Plain sect communities only include Amish communities within the eastern regions of West Penns Valley and West Brush Valley and within Nittany Valley, as suggested by the presence of Amish schools (PA Department of Education online School Directory, https://www.education.pa.gov/Pages/Education-Directory-and-Maps.aspx, 2021) and as illustrated on maps provided in the Amish Church Directory, Volume II Maps, 1996. The Windy Poplars School has been identified in the study area, just east of Centre Hall. Amish people on bicycles and horse and buggies were also observed traveling in the PEL Study Area during field reconnaissance. Graphic 1 illustrates that the western portions of two Amish Church Districts, the West Penns Valley Church District and the West Brush Valley Church District, extend into the PEL Study Area. While Old Order Mennonites also exist in Centre County, based on the location of a single Mennonite Meeting House further east in Brush Valley along PA 192, well outside the PEL Study Area, no Old Order Mennonite community has been identified within the PEL Study Area at this time.

Graphic 1: Plain Sect Productive Agricultural Operations



The western most Plain Sect communities are located east of Luse Road and T-437, within Potter Township, according to the West Penns Valley Church District Bishop. Plain Sect communities exist eastward of this location along PA 45 and within Penns Valley. West Penns Valley Church District is the southernmost Church District within the PEL Study Area. The West Brush Valley Church District is the only other Church District with a Plain Sect community within the eastern portion of the PEL Study Area and is located east of T-426 and paralleling PA 192.

4.0 Summary

The agricultural analysis details the abundant agricultural resources present within the study area. Agricultural resources within the PEL Study Area have been identified to include PAL, ALPP and

FPPA protected resources as seen in Table 4. These agricultural resources are located within the approximate 75 agricultural operations and related business identified to date in the PEL Study Area. The West Penns Valley and West Brush Valley Amish Church District communities exist east of PA 144 and will require additional outreach during the transportation planning process. Additional research and coordination within the PEL Study Area, including the identification and characterization of individual farm operators, will be necessary to comply with PA Act 100 and other state laws and policies for those proposed transportation improvement projects that may evolve from the PEL study and be developed further during the NEPA process.

Table 4: Summary of Agricultural Resources

Resource Classification	Acres within PEL Study Area	Percent Acreage within PEL Study Area*
Productive Agricultural Lands	16,502	37%
PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND		
Preserved Farmland	3,002	7%
Agricultural Security Area	14,529	32%
Preferential Tax Assessment (Clean and Green)	13,999	31%
Agricultural Zoning	16,480	37%
Soil Capability Classes I-IV	28,575	64%
FARMLAND PROTECTION POLICY ACT SOILS		
Prime Farmland Soils	13,684	31%
Farmland Soils of Statewide Importance	12,097	27%

*Percent of Total Acres within Entire PEL Study Area is representative for each resource classification based solely on the total of 44,800 existing acres or approximate 70 square-mile area.

5.0 Preparers

Mindy Bower, Senior NEPA Project Manager, Skelly and Loy, Inc., *A Terracon Company*

Eric Bruggeman, Senior NEPA Scientist, Skelly and Loy, Inc., *A Terracon Company*

Doug Meneely, GIS Analyst, Skelly and Loy, Inc., *A Terracon Company*

Brad Reese, Senior GIS Analyst, Skelly and Loy, Inc., *A Terracon Company*

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BELLEFONTE

WALKER TWP

SPRING TWP

GREGG TWP

PATTON TWP

BENNER TWP

CENTRE HALL

COLLEGE TWP

STATE COLLEGE

POTTER TWP

HARRIS TWP

0 3,000 6,000 9,000 Feet

LEGEND

PEL Study Area

Municipal Boundaries

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May 2021

State College Area Connector PEL Study

STUDY LOCATION

CENTRE HALL BOROUGH, BENNER, COLLEGE, HARRIS, POTTER, AND SPRING TOWNSHIPS
CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Figure 1	1 Inch = 6,000 Feet

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BELLEFONTE

WALKER TWP

SPRING TWP

Nittany Valley

Nittany Mountain

GREGG TWP

CENTRE HALL

BENNER TWP

Penns Valley

PATTON TWP

COLLEGE TWP

STATE COLLEGE

POTTER TWP

HARRIS TWP

0 3,000 6,000 9,000 Feet

LEGEND

- PEL Study Area
- Municipal Boundaries
- Farmland Access (2004)
- CREP Enrolled Properties
- Productive Agricultural Land

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PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURAL LAND

CENTRE HALL BOROUGH, BENNER, COLLEGE, HARRIS, POTTER, AND SPRING TOWNSHIPS
CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Figure 2	1 Inch = 6,000 Feet

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BELLEFONTE

WALKER TWP

SPRING TWP

Nittany Valley

Nittany Mountain

GREGG TWP

PATTON TWP

BENNER TWP

CENTRE HALL

Penns Valley

COLLEGE TWP

STATE COLLEGE

HARRIS TWP

POTTER TWP

550 99 64 192 144 150 26 45 322

0 3,000 6,000 9,000 Feet

LEGEND

- PEL Study Area
- Municipal Boundaries
- Purchased Agricultural Conservation Easements
- Agricultural Conservation Easements
- Agricultural Security Areas
- Act 319 Clean and Green

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PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND

MAP 1

CENTRE HALL BOROUGH, BENNER, COLLEGE, HARRIS, POTTER, AND SPRING TOWNSHIPS
CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Figure 3	1 Inch = 6,000 Feet

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BELLEFONTE

WALKER TWP

SPRING TWP

Nittany Valley

Nittany Mountain

GREGG TWP

PATTON TWP

BENNER TWP

CENTRE HALL

Penns Valley

COLLEGE TWP

STATE COLLEGE

POTTER TWP

HARRIS TWP

0 3,000 6,000 9,000 Feet

LEGEND

- PEL Study Area
- Municipal Boundaries
- Agricultural Zoning

Soil Capability Classes

- I
- II
- III
- IV

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State College Area Connector PEL Study

PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND MAP 2

CENTRE HALL BOROUGH, BENNER, COLLEGE, HARRIS, POTTER, AND SPRING TOWNSHIPS
CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Figure 4	1 Inch = 6,000 Feet

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BELLEFONTE

WALKER TWP

SPRING TWP

Nittany Valley

Nittany Mountain

GREGG TWP

PATTON TWP

BENNER TWP

CENTRE HALL

Penns Valley

COLLEGE TWP

STATE COLLEGE

POTTER TWP

HARRIS TWP

550 99 64 192 150 144 26 45 322

0 3,000 6,000 9,000 Feet

LEGEND

- PEL Study Area
- Municipal Boundaries
- Prime Farmland Soils
- Farmland Soils of Statewide Importance

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FPPA SOILS

CENTRE HALL BOROUGH, BENNER, COLLEGE, HARRIS, POTTER, AND SPRING TOWNSHIPS
CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Figure 5	1 Inch = 6,000 Feet

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A:
REFERENCES

Appendix A: REFERENCES

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GIS Data Sources

Layer Name	Figure	Source	Date
CREP Enrolled Properties	Figure 2 - Productive Agricultural Land	S&L Created	2021
Farmland Access	Figure 2 - Productive Agricultural Land	MTGIS	2004
Productive Agriculture Land	Figure 2 - Productive Agricultural Land	MTGIS Script/JMT then Updated by S&L	2017 -> 2021
Preserved Farmland	Figure 3 - Prime Agricultural Land	Derived from ASA data from Centre County Open Data	2021
Agricultural Conservation Easements	Figure 3 - Prime Agricultural Land	Derived from ASA data from Centre County Open Data	2021
Act 319 Clean and Green	Figure 3 - Prime Agricultural Land	Derived from ASA data from Centre County Open Data	2021
Agricultural Security Areas	Figure 3 - Prime Agricultural Land	Derived from ASA data from Centre County Open Data	2021
Agricultural Zoning	Figure 4 - Prime Agricultural Land Map 2	Centre County Open Data/MTGIS	3/18/2020
Soil Capability Classes	Figure 4 - Prime Agricultural Land Map 2	SSURGO - Web Soil Viewer	2021
Prime Farmland Soils	Figure 5 - FPPA Soils	MTGIS Script/JMT	2017
Farmland Soils of Statewide Importance	Figure 5 - FPPA Soils	MTGIS Script/JMT	2017

APPENDIX B:
SUMMARY OF SOIL CAPABILITY CLASSES I-IV, PRIME FARMLAND SOILS AND FARMLAND SOILS OF STATEWIDE IMPORTANCE

APPENDIX B

SUMMARY OF SOIL CAPABILITY CLASSES I-IV, PRIME FARMLAND SOILS AND FARMLAND SOILS OF STATEWIDE IMPORTANCE

Soil Symbol	Soil Name	Prime Farmland Soils and Farmland Soils of Statewide Importance	Drainage Class	Soil Capability Class I-IV
AbB	Albrights silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Moderately well drained	2
AlB	Allegheny silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
At	Atkins silt loam	Farmland of statewide importance	Poorly drained	3
BkB	Berks channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	2
BkC	Berks channery silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
BkC	Berks channery silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
BuB	Buchanan channery loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Moderately well drained	2
BuC	Buchanan channery loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Moderately well drained	3
Ch	Chagrin soils	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	1
CkA	Clarksburg silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Moderately well drained	2
CkB	Clarksburg silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Moderately well drained	2
Du	Dunning silty clay loam	Farmland of statewide importance	Very poorly drained	4
EdB	Edom silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
EdC	Edom silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
ErB	Ernest channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Moderately well drained	2
ErC	Ernest channery silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Moderately well drained	2
HaA	Hagerstown silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	1
HaB	Hagerstown silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
HaC	Hagerstown silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
HcB	Hagerstown silty clay loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
HcC	Hagerstown silty clay loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
HhC	Hazleton channery sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3

Soil Symbol	Soil Name	Prime Farmland Soils and Farmland Soils of Statewide Importance	Drainage Class	Soil Capability Class I-IV
HuA	Hublersburg silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	1
HuB	Hublersburg silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
HuC	Hublersburg silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
LaB	Laidig channery loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
LaC	Laidig channery loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
Lx	Lindside soils	All areas are prime farmland	Moderately well drained	2
MeB	Meckesville silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
Mm	Melvin silt loam	Farmland of statewide importance	Poorly drained	3
MnB	Millheim silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
MnC	Millheim silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
MoB	Monongahela silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Moderately well drained	2
MrB	Morrison sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
MuA	Murrill channery silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	1
MuB	Murrill channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
MuC	Murrill channery silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
No	Nolin silt loam, local alluvium, 0 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	1
OhB	Opequon-Hagerstown complex, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
OhC	Opequon-Hagerstown complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	4
Ph	Philo loam	All areas are prime farmland	Moderately well drained	2
Ty	Tyler silt loam	Farmland of statewide importance	Somewhat poorly drained	3
UmB	Ungers channery loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	Well drained	2
UmC	Ungers channery loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Well drained	3
WhC	Wharton silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	Moderately well drained	3