

HERMAN COVEY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA - BELCHERTOWN
(Formerly Swift River Wildlife Management Area)

SIZE: 1,474 acres in two large parcels of mixed terrain, varying approximately 300 feet in elevation, and including steep ledges, gently sloping hills and relatively flat lands along the Swift River.

U.S.G.S. Quads: Windsor Dam, Ludlow

VEGETATION: Open fields and brushy fields surrounded by tracts of mature hardwoods and softwoods. There are numerous patches and hedgerows of autumn olive, multiflora rose and staghorn sumac.

WATER: The Swift River runs through the area, providing excellent trout fishing. The area also contains a small brook on which there are several man-made and/or beaver ponds offering additional trout fishing opportunities.

WILDLIFE: Stocked pheasant, woodcock, ruffed grouse, cottontail rabbit, gray squirrel, raccoon, whitetail deer, beaver and waterfowl. The area is also rich in nongame wildlife species. Bluebirds, tree swallows and other cavity nesters are common due to the availability of beaver-flooded dead timber and artificial nesting boxes. Bald eagles are frequently sighted soaring over the area.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: Note that a "hunter orange" hat is required wear for hunters during the pheasant season. Also note that portions of the Swift River are designated Catch & Release and Fly Fishing Only on a permanent or seasonal basis. See "Abstracts of the Fish & Wildlife Laws" for details.