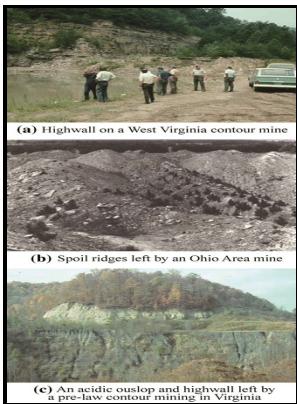


Strip mined lands as fish and wildlife habitat

-- How to Restore a Million Acres of Strip



Description: -

- Strip mined lands as fish and wildlife habitat
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Notes: 13

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Mined Land Wildlife Area

After the coal is stripped, mine companies are legally required to do some restoration, which usually involves replacing the exploded soil and rock—rubble—covering it with a layer of topsoil, and seeding it with anything that will hold the ground together. Elk have proven a powerful draw for Central Appalachian communities, especially since the effort engages hunters, who have historically proven to be a powerful group when it comes to funding conservation efforts.

Mined Land Wildlife Area

Native grassland, woody shrubs, oak-hickory forests, and wetlands within the area provide diverse habitat for a variety of animals, including raccoons, muskrats, bobcats, beavers, mink, fox, migrating ducks and geese, deer, turkey, and coyotes.

Land Restoration Efforts Are Creating Wildlife Habitats — Domtar

The plan includes guidelines for growing the elk population before opening it to hunting. We want the Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining to be forced, once again, to meet its legal requirement under the Endangered Species Act to consult with Fish and Wildlife to assess potential impacts of mining actions on endangered species.

Public Lands and Waters

Originally leased as a Public Fishing Area in 1982, Chinook FWA opened in 1997 and consisted of 2,141 acres of surface mine land near Vigo County in western Clay County. A few hundred yards away were the culprits: Rocky Mountain elk, lurking at the interface between scrubby woods and sparse grassland.

Mining

Other communities have turned their land into sites for solar energy farms, outdoor recreation hubs, industrial parks, and more. He clearly believes in the restorative power of the elk.

How to Restore a Million Acres of Strip

Most of the 750 acres of water open to public fishing are located in Morgan County. Kentucky has seen its elk population in the 16-county region grow from 1,541 introduced animals to more than 10,000. While making this claim, of course, hardrock mining companies routinely pay royalties to mine on private and state lands, and they even pay to sellers of federal-land mining claims.

How to Restore a Million Acres of Strip

Approximately 80 acres of the property is water mostly strip pits. Call the office at 765-653-0453 for details.

Land Restoration Efforts Are Creating Wildlife Habitats — Domtar

But the Center's active opposition to destructive mining practices goes back much further than 2008.

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