



**Woodcock Dam's access improvement was provided by representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the National Wild Turkey Federation's Wheelin' Sportsmen program and local volunteers.**

construction of an accessible parking lot and a 520-foot access road leading to the property.

The property is owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is managed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. The Wheelin' Sportsmen program and local volunteers joined the PGC and Corps to enhance the parking and access area to give all hunters an opportunity to enjoy prime hunting and wildlife watching in Crawford County.

Wheelin' Sportsmen helped provide more than 230 tons of gravel and stone to improve wheelchair access to the property, while the PGC funded use of a bulldozer to distribute the gravel, as well as manpower to add signs for the parking lot and access route. Glenn Sharpe, a local disabled hunter and Wheelin' Sportsmen member, provided valuable input and advice.

"I was glad to help out and offer my perspective on how we could make access to this property easier," said Sharpe. "I appreciate everyone on this team doing something to help people with disabilities."

Shayne Hoachlander, land management group supervisor for the PGC, thanked local volunteers, the Corps of Engineers and the NWTF for their support, including the Northwest Thunderin' Toms in Meadville.

"Now everyone who wants to enjoy this beautiful property, including

hunters and wildlife watchers, will have the ability," said Hoachlander.

### [HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS]

## New York restoration

During the last five years, volunteers from the NWTF's 62 New York chapters have raised and spent more than \$490,000 through Hunting Heritage fundraising banquets. The money has helped fund habitat enhancement projects, outreach and education programs and research within the state.

Now, the New York State Chapter has put together a road map of how it will spend its dollars to help further wildlife conservation.

"The state chapter's board of

directors has embraced the plan and is looking forward to doing more great things for wildlife than ever," said Doug Little, NWTF's New York regional biologist. "Our volunteers believe it is important to look toward the future of North America's greatest game bird and are excited about having a plan in place to help secure the future of the wild turkey in New York."

The plan details a wildlife habitat restoration project in Allegany and Cattaraugus counties that will improve critical wild turkey habitat.

One of the projects the state chapter is helping fund, in conjunction with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, will restore brood habitat for wild turkeys in a 9-acre opening that is currently a stand of saplings.

The project, which will take place on Hanging Bog Wildlife Management Area in Allegany County, will require a contractor to shred the saplings with a hydro-ax, a large machine with front-mounted cutting devices and large lugged tires. The chapter will provide at least \$7,500 for the project, and New York DEC will contribute about \$15,000 to remove stumps, treat the soil and reseed the area.

"The state chapter also identified creating winter food sources as an objective because they understand wild turkeys need standing food sources to survive tough winters," Little



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