

Location: Slippery Rock Township and Worth Township, Butler County

Size: 243 acres

Dates acquired: 1979-2015

Notable features: Mature forest, Wolf Creek floodplain and streambank, spring wildflowers, vernal pools, old fields

Recreational activities (see inside for details): Hiking, wildlife watching, hunting, fishing

Directions: From the Slippery Rock exit off I-79, go east on Rt. 108 to Slippery Rock. At the light in town, turn left on Rt. 258. Go one block, turn left on W. Water St., and follow it for approx. 2 miles (W. Water St. becomes Miller Rd.) until it crosses a bridge over Wolf Creek. Cross the bridge and turn left into a small parking area at the head of a dirt lane. Walk back across the bridge, and the trailhead is on the left. **Please use caution and watch for traffic along the road.**

Please note: The parking area is located on the Miller Woods tract, owned and managed by Slippery Rock University.

The southern parcel of the Natural Area is accessible only from the creek.

Description: Wolf Creek Narrows Natural Area is particularly known for its spectacular display of spring wildflowers. An active floodplain, mature northern hardwood forest, and scenic cliffs make this property one of WPC's most popular.



WOLF CREEK NARROWS NATURAL AREA



For more information about Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, please contact:

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
800 Waterfront Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

toll-free: 1-866-564-6972
fax: 412-231-1414
waterlandlife.org
info@paconserve.org

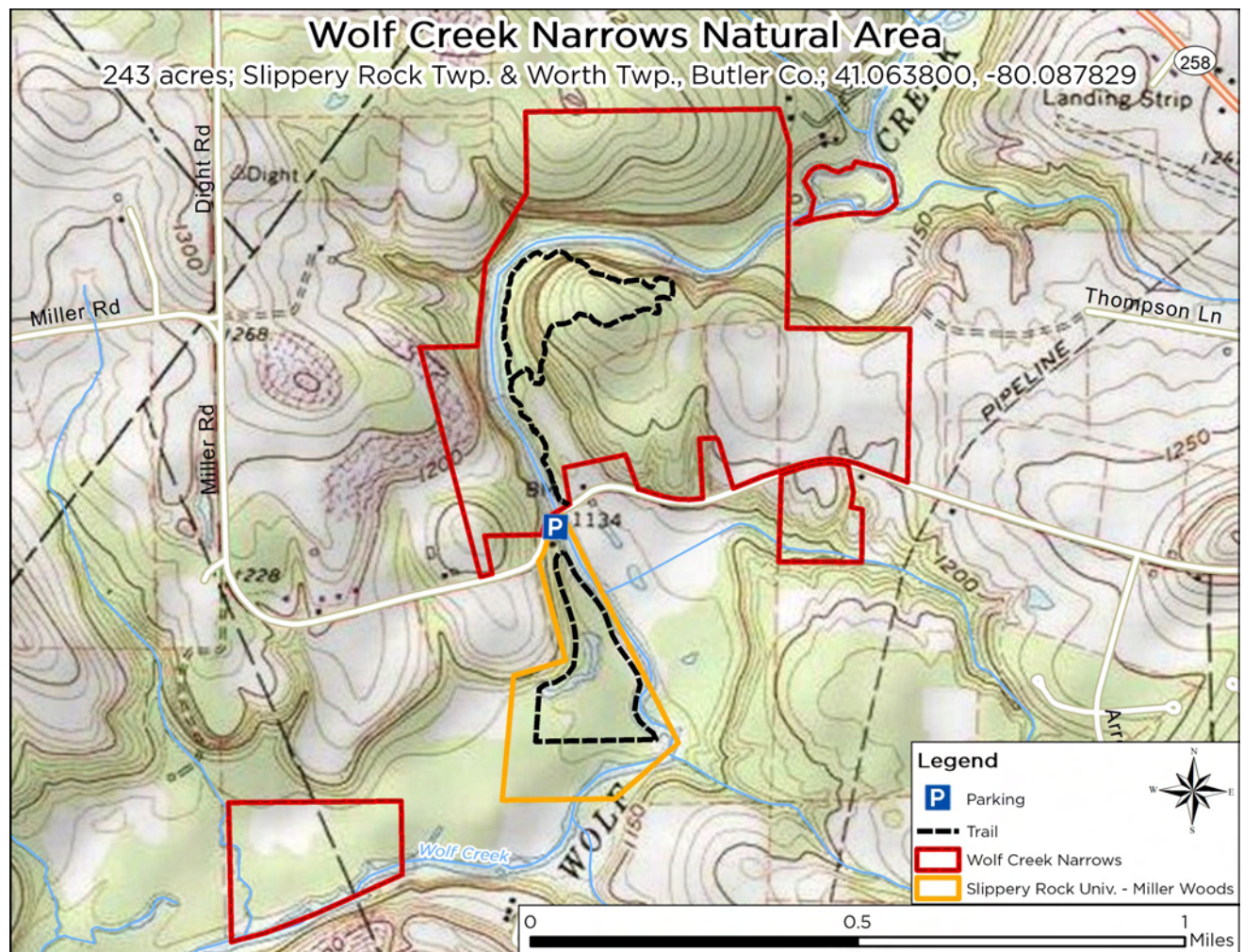




Recreational activities: From the trail-head and kiosk, a **1.5-mile loop footpath** begins by leading upstream over level terrain to the point where the creek is pinched between rocky bluffs. The trail then climbs steeply along the sloping **shoulder of the gorge's eastern flank, meanders** through an upland deciduous forest, and then descends back to Wolf Creek just upstream from the starting point. The trail is **moderately-difficult**, but suitable for families with children.

The mixture of riparian and upland communities provides habitat for a variety of **wildlife**. Birds include belted kingfisher, Louisiana waterthrush, wood thrush, and the occasional osprey or bald eagle. Small, isolated pools of water provide breeding habitat for amphibians. Abundant logs on the forest floor offer cover for salamanders and snakes.

Hunting and fishing are permitted in accordance with state regulations. Please exercise caution and wear blaze orange during hunting season.



It is believed that the steep, narrow gorge of Wolf Creek Narrows originally formed when the ceiling of an ice-age cave eroded and collapsed due to runoff from the melting glacier. The site now consists of a high-quality stream meandering through towering 50-foot cliffs. These natural processes, including annual flooding and ice-scouring, as well as limited human activities, have resulted in diverse natural communities.

When visiting Wolf Creek Narrows, please remember:

- Only foot-traffic is permitted.
- Camping and campfires are prohibited.
- If you carry it in, carry it out.
- Dogs must be on a leash or otherwise kept under control at all times.
- Collecting (animals, plants, rocks, etc.) without permission is prohibited.