

Area Highlights

West Alton tract and Dresser Island are 2,309 acres combined. They are located in St. Charles County along Highway 94 near the town of West Alton. These tracts are mostly forest along with old fields and wetlands. The Upper Mississippi Conservation Area, rich in wildlife and habitat diversity, stretches from the Melvin Price Lock and Dam at Alton, Illinois, to LaGrange, Missouri. It is composed of 87 tracts of federal lands totaling more than 11,000 acres and managed under a cooperative agreement between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Many people visit the riverine area to enjoy the outdoors, hunt, fish and hike.

Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching – Fishing – Hiking – Hunting
Outdoor Photography – Wildlife Viewing

Conservation Areas are closed from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. except for authorized fishing and hunting activities.

- No fireworks.
- No camping.
- No horseback riding.
- No open fires.
- Dogs must be leashed when not used for training or hunting.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal use. Cutting or removing other vegetation is prohibited.
- Motor vehicles are allowed on public roadways and in parking areas.
- ATVs are prohibited.
- Target shooting is prohibited.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing is permitted under statewide regulations in the Mississippi River. The following special regulations also apply:

- Bullfrogs and green frogs may not be taken with firearms.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited.
- There are no Conservation Department restrictions on boats and motors used on the waters of the Mississippi River.

Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

- Deer hunting is permitted under statewide seasons and limits except: only archery methods may be used on Dresser Island. Deer hunting with firearms is prohibited on Dresser Island.

- Only portable tree stands are allowed and only from September 1 through January 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled on a durable material with the full name and address, or Conservation Number, of the owner and be removed from the area before February 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Waterfowl hunting on the Upper Mississippi Conservation Area is by one of two designations: Open or Restricted. Dresser Island and the river pool portion of West Alton are designated as restricted sites. Waterfowl blind sites are designated and issued through a system of registration and drawing conducted every two years (even-numbered years).
- Blind sites must be constructed within 10 yards of stakes posted by the Department.
- Blinds or blind sites may not be locked, transferred, rented or sold.
- Boats may not be left at blind sites overnight.
- Blind sites that are unoccupied at 30 minutes before legal shooting time may be used by the first hunter to arrive.
- Firearms firing single projectiles are prohibited on Dresser Island except that furbearers treed with the aid of dogs may be taken with a twenty-two (.22) or smaller caliber rimfire firearm.
- Furbearer trapping is permitted by special-use permit.

For local information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation
St. Louis Regional Office
2360 Highway D
St. Charles, MO 63304
(636) 441-4554

Additional area information is posted on bulletin boards located in parking areas.

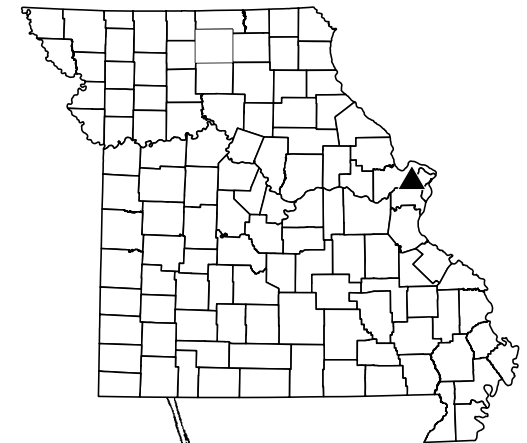
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(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are in Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. A free printed copy of the Wildlife Code, which lists most area regulations, is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 11 in its entirety is available at www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp.) Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, religion, national origin, sex, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, veteran status, or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, 573-751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to Chief, Public Civil Rights, Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Upper Mississippi

Dresser Island &
West Alton –
Pool 26

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION