

Pony Express

CONSERVATION AREA

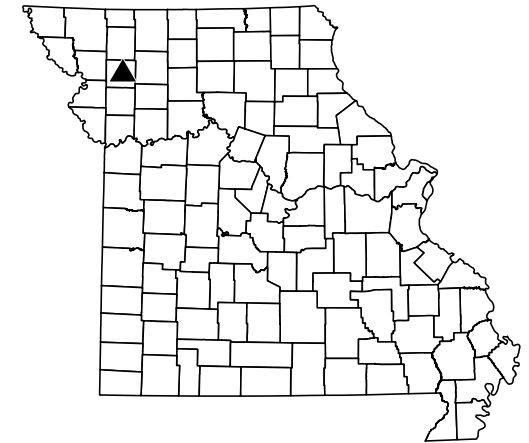
Hunting and Trapping:

Area is open to hunting under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply.

- Only portable tree stands may be placed or used and only between Sept. 1 and Jan. 31. Each stand must be identified with the name and address and/or conservation number of the user and must be removed from the area by Feb. 1. Use of nails or other materials that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Deer hunting is permitted under statewide seasons and limits except: only archery and muzzleloading methods may be used and no antlerless tags may be used.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.
- Dove hunters during the month of September must possess a valid area daily hunting tag while hunting and must accurately report their harvest upon completing their hunting trip. Daily hunting tags are available at the headquarters.
- Use or possession of lead shot is prohibited for hunting doves at Pony Express CA.
- Waterfowl seasons and limits fall under the North Zone seasons and limits designated in the current Missouri Migratory Bird Digest, published by the Conservation Department.
- Waterfowl hunting is prohibited after 1 p.m.
- Possession or use of shells loaded with other than non-toxic shot is prohibited while hunting waterfowl.
- Decoys and portable blinds are permitted but must be removed from the area daily. Blinds may be constructed on-site, but only from willows and non-woody vegetation.
- Trapping furbearers is permitted only as specifically authorized by special use permit.
- No firearms shall be discharged within areas designated as No Shooting Zones.

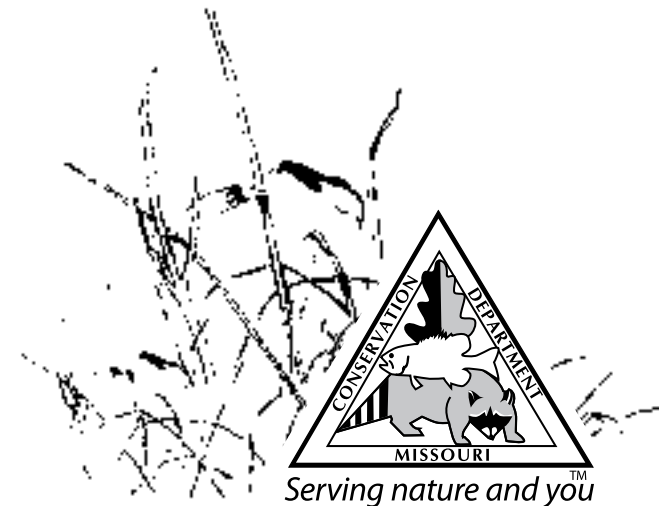
Nearby Department Areas:
Bonanza Conservation Area
Elam Bend Conservation Area
Gallatin Conservation Area
Holmes Bend Access
King Lake Conservation Area
Pigeon Hill Conservation Area
For local information, contact:
Pony Express Conservation Area
7163 SW State Route RA
Osborn, MO 64474
816/381-8458

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



11/2025

(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, national origin, sex, age 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 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Recreational Opportunities:

Bird Watching - Bicycling - Fishing - Hiking
- Hunting - Outdoor Photography - Wildlife Viewing

Conservation Areas are closed from 10:00 pm to 4:00 am except for authorized camping, fishing and hunting activities.

- No littering. Waste containers located at camping areas may be used only for disposal of trash generated on area.
- No fireworks.
- Fires are permitted only in designated camping areas.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting. Special use permits are required for field and retriever trials.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited except nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to graveled roadways and parking areas.
- Horseback riding is permitted only in conjunction with the field trial events when authorized.
- Camping is permitted only in primitive camping designated areas and is limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30 day period. Groups of 10 or more must obtain a special use permit.
- Bicycles allowed on designated service roads except during all portions of the firearm deer and spring turkey seasons.
- Multi-use trails and service roads (if any) can be located at <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places>
- No target shooting allowed.
- Swimming, scuba diving, water skiing, sailboarding, skateboarding, caving and rappelling are not allowed.

Fishing and Boating:

Fishing is permitted under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply.

- On lakes and ponds, fish may be taken only by pole and line and not more than three poles and lines may be used by any one person. Carp, buffalo and suckers may be taken by a gig,

longbow or crossbow during statewide seasons. Other restrictions applying to specific ponds, lakes and stream segments may be posted.



- Daily limits are six black bass, four catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue and flathead) and 30 crappie. All other fish fall under statewide limits, but are not to exceed 20 in the aggregate.
- All black bass less than 15 inches in total length and all muskellunge less than 36 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- Bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken during the statewide season only by hand, handnet, atlatl, gig, bow, snagging, snaring, grabbing, pole and line, a twenty-two (.22) caliber or smaller rimfire rifle or pistol, pellet gun, or crossbow, only on waters and within dates and hours those waters are open to fishing or hunting.

- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited on all impounded waters and their discharge channels.
- Salvage seining of non-game fish for personal use is permitted only with written permission of the Conservation Department.

- Boaters are responsible for providing safety equipment needed to comply with Missouri State boating laws. Navigation lights are required between sunset and sunrise. An approved flotation device is required for each person in a boat. Consult the Missouri Boating Laws and Responsibilities Manual for details.
- Electric motors only are allowed on Buffalo Bill Lake and all other area impoundments.
- Outboard motors in excess of 10 horsepower must be operated at a slow, no-wake speed on Pony Express Lake.