

Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching - Bicycling - Fishing - Hiking - Horseback Riding - Hunting - Outdoor Photography - Camping

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

- Dogs must be leashed when not used for training or hunting. Special-use permits are required for field and retriever trials.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms, and wild greens may be taken for personal use. Cutting or removing other vegetation is prohibited.
- Unlicensed motor vehicles are prohibited.
- Vehicles are restricted to public roadways and parking lots unless otherwise allowed by area regulations.
- Bicycles and horses allowed on multi-use trails and 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>
- Primitive camping is allowed at the designated camping areas (see area map). Campers are limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Groups of more than 10 need a special-use permit. Generators are not allowed at the south camping area.
- No target shooting allowed.
- No littering. Waste containers may be used only for disposal of trash generated on area.
- No fireworks allowed.
- No open fires except in designated camping areas in the provided fire rings.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing and frogging are allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

- In lakes and ponds, fish may be taken only by pole and line and not more than 3 poles may be used by any person.
- In lakes and ponds, black bass between 12 and 15 inches must be released immediately after being caught.
- In lakes and ponds, daily limit is 4 catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue, and flathead); 6 black bass, 30 crappie; and all other fish, statewide limits, but not to exceed 20 in the aggregate.
- Up to 150 Gizzard Shad may be taken with dip net or throw net.

- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited.
- Salvage seining of non-game fish for personal use is permitted only with written authorization.
- Boats (including canoes, kayaks, paddleboards, and sailboats) may not be left unattended overnight. Houseboats, airboats, and personal watercraft are prohibited. Outboard motors in excess of 10 horsepower may be used on Bushwhacker Lake, however they must be operated at slow, no-wake speed.

Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual change. Please refer to the Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey Hunting booklets for current regulations.
- Portable tree stands are allowed between Sept. 1 and Jan. 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled with the full name and address, or conservation number of the owner and be removed before Feb. 1. Screw-in steps or other materials that would damage the tree are prohibited.
- Decoys and portable blinds are permitted but must be removed from the area daily. Decoys must be attended at all times. Blinds may be constructed on-site, but only from willows and non-woody vegetation.
- Furbearer trapping permitted by special-use permit.

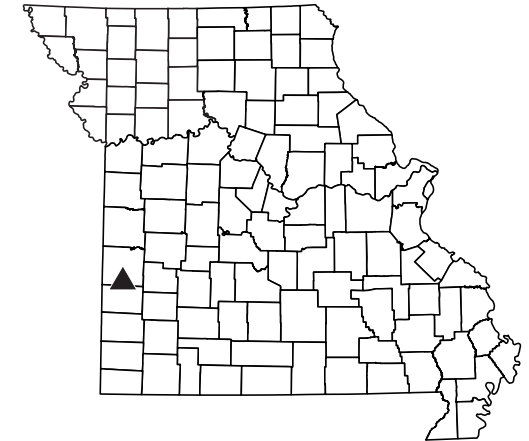
For local information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation
2630 N Mayfair
Springfield, MO 65803
(417) 895-6880

08/2022

(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.

Bushwhacker Lake CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION