Area Highlights

This 2,044-acre area, which was purchased in 1988, takes its name from an old Indian trail running across the southeast portion of the area. Under the Indian Removal Act of 1830, the Cherokee were removed from their native lands in the southeastern United States and forcibly moved to Oklahoma. Peter Hilderbrand's detachment of 1,766 Cherokees separated from other groups in Crawford County and traveled through the White River Trace Area in March 1839. They later rejoined the main trail at Marshfield. The White River Trace later became a major route for settlers traveling west. Nearby Mt. Hermon Cemetery began with graves of these early travelers. White River Trace is about 80% open ground consisting mainly of native warm-season grasses and early successful plant types. Management of the area has produced quality upland wildlife habitat, especially for bobwhite quail and other grassland bird species, such as grasshopper sparrows and dickcissels. This type of habitat is uncommon on the Salem plateau and the area provides a large beef cattle operation, resulting in little plant diversity, primary fescue, and relatively poor wildlife habitat. White River Trace was 1 of 3 sites chosen in 1990 as an experimental planting site for the federally-endangered running buffalo clover. This native clover, once widespread throughout the eastern United States, had not been found in Missouri since 1907.

Driving Directions

(From Highway 72 in Salem) Take H Highway west approximately 9 miles to Dent County Road 253. Headquarters is approximately 1.3 miles south on Dent County Road 253.

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Nearby Department Areas

Indian Trail Conservation Area Shawnee Mac Lakes Conservation Area Montauk Fish Hatchery R.F. Clement Memorial Forest and Wildlife Area

Recreational Opportunities

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

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

- No fireworks.
- Hiking is permitted on interior service roads.
- Primitive camping is permitted on spots designated on the area map.
- Motor vehicles are allowed on public roadways and in parking areas only.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal use. Cutting of other vegetation is prohibited. Digging of roots is prohibited on all Conservation areas.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed when not used for training or hunting.
- Target shooting is not allowed.
- Horseback riding allowed on roads open to vehicular traffic.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing and frogging is permitted under statewide regulations with the following exceptions.

- Daily limit is six black bass and four channel catfish and 30 crappie. Total number of all other fish may not exceed 20.
- All black bass between 12 and 15 inches must be released immediately after being caught.
- Fish may be taken only by pole and line and not more than three poles may be used by any person.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited.
- Boats (with electric motors only), including sailboats, may be used on lakes and ponds designated as open to boats. Boats may not be left unattended overnight.



Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

- Quail may be taken from November 1 through December 15 by holders of a valid Daily Quail Hunting Permit.
- Deer hunting is permitted during statewide season dates by archery method only.
- Portable tree stands may be used between September 1 and January 31. Stands must be identified with the name and address, or conservation number, of the user. Screw-in steps or other materials that would damage the tree are prohibited.
- Trapping of furbearers is allowed only with a special-use permit.

For local information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation Rolla Office 12655 State Route Y Rolla, MO 65402 (573) 368-2225

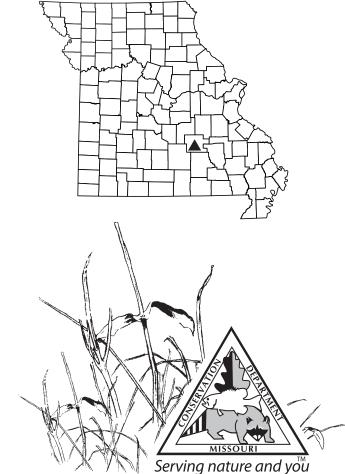
or

Missouri Deparment of Conservation Ozark Regional Office P.O. Box 138 551 Joe Jones Blvd. West Plains, MO 65775 (417)256-7161

Additional information is posted on bulletin boards in parking areas and area offices. Information is also available on-line at www.missouriconservation.org

White River Trace

CONSERVATION AREA



10/2008

(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 (TTV), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.