

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Bird Watching — Wildlife Viewing — Fishing

Hiking — Hunting — Outdoor Photography

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

• **All public use is prohibited except fishing and waterfowl hunting by boat only, when the Mississippi River water level is at or above 30 feet on the New Madrid Gauge.**

- No littering, digging, fireworks, target shooting, open fires, swimming, scuba diving, water skiing, or speed boating.
- Motor vehicles and horseback riding are allowed on graveled roadways, and in parking areas.
- Do not park in front of or block gates.
- Dogs must be leashed or confined when not used for training or hunting.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms, and wild greens may be taken for personal use. The taking of wild greens is prohibited on locations designated as Natural Areas. Destroying, cutting, or removing other vegetation is prohibited.
- Camping is permitted in designated areas and is limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period, with a total of 30 days within a calendar year. Groups of 10 or more need a special use permit.
- Bicycles allowed on designated service roads year-round. Service roads can be located at <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places>.
- Feeding and baiting of wildlife is prohibited.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.
- Guiding for pay is prohibited on department areas.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing and frogging are allowed under statewide regulations.

The following special regulations also apply:

- Fish may be taken only by pole and line and not more than 3 poles may be used by any person fishing in lakes (waters outside of the Mississippi River channel), and not more than 2 unlabeled poles may be used by any person when fishing the Mississippi River.
- LAKES: Statewide daily and possession limits shall apply for all species, except that: in lakes and ponds, daily limits are 4 catfish in the aggregate (channel catfish, blue catfish, flathead catfish), 6 black bass, 30 crappie; all other fish, statewide limits, but not to exceed 20 in the aggregate.
- LAKES: All black bass between 12 and 15 inches must be released immediately after being caught.
- MISSISSIPPI RIVER: When fishing the Mississippi River from Seven Island, fishermen are restricted to Mississippi River fishing regulations
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited in lakes and ponds.

- Salvage seining of non-game fish for personal use is permitted only with written authorization.
- Boats may be used only for fishing and wildlife activities and may not be left unattended overnight.

Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

- Only non-toxic shot, as defined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, may be possessed and used while hunting, with the exception of firearms shooting single projectiles.
- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to Spring Turkey and Fall Deer and Turkey summaries for current regulations.
- Deer hunting is permitted under statewide seasons and methods except: only archery and muzzleloading methods may be used.
- 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, 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
- Waterfowl may be hunted under statewide regulations.
- 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.
- Furbearer trapping is permitted by special use permit.

For local information contact:
Missouri Department of Conservation
372 US Highway 61
New Madrid, MO 63869
(573) 748-5134

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

7/2025

(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.

Seven Island

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION