

## Hunting and Trapping

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

- Waterfowl may be taken on the entire area, by holders of a valid daily hunting tag, according to statewide regulation, except during the regular north zone duck season. During the regular north zone duck season, all waterfowl hunting is restricted to the waterfowl hunting zone, and all waterfowl hunters must possess a daily hunting tag that is issued each day during the daily drawing at the area headquarters. These daily tags must be filled out accurately and returned to the area drop boxes immediately after the conclusion of the day's hunt. During the regular north zone duck season, all waterfowl hunting is prohibited after 1 p.m. each day.
- Reservations for disabled-accessible blind will be issued through an online pre-season drawing in early September. See the MDC web-site to apply.
- Waterfowl hunting is closed on December 25th.
- Use or possession of lead shot is prohibited.
- Only temporary blinds may be used and must be removed after each day's hunt. Only willows and non-woody vegetation may be cut to construct blinds.
- The waterfowl hunting zone is closed to all uses except waterfowl hunting and fishing on the Missouri River from Oct. 15 through the end of the north zone duck season.
- The waterfowl refuge is closed to all uses from Oct. 15 through March 1.
- Hunting of other wildlife is permitted in designated areas under statewide and area regulations.
- Deer may be taken by archery methods only.

Deer hunting is permitted on the area under the following regulations:

- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Refer to Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey booklets for current regulations.
- Other uses are permitted in designated areas throughout the year, except that non-hunters

are prohibited from the waterfowl hunting zone during the waterfowl season, unless they are members of and remain with a hunting party authorized to use the waterfowl hunting zone.

- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.
- Only portable tree stands are allowed from Sept. 1 through Jan. 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled on a durable material with the full name and address, or Conservation Number, of the user and be removed from the area by Feb. 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any other materials or methods that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Trapping of furbearers is permitted only as specifically authorized by special use permit.

## Welcome

Missouri is a state rich in history, folklore and natural resources. The Conservation Department encourages you to visit, use and enjoy this area and other Department areas.

Land surrounding Bob Brown Conservation Area belongs to private landowners. The boundaries adjoining private property are clearly marked. Please respect landowners' rights with these simple courtesies: obtain permission before going on private property, pick up all litter, be careful with fire, do not damage property, practice safe hunting.

## Nearby Department Areas:

Nodaway Valley CA

573/658-2332

or

St. Joseph Regional Office

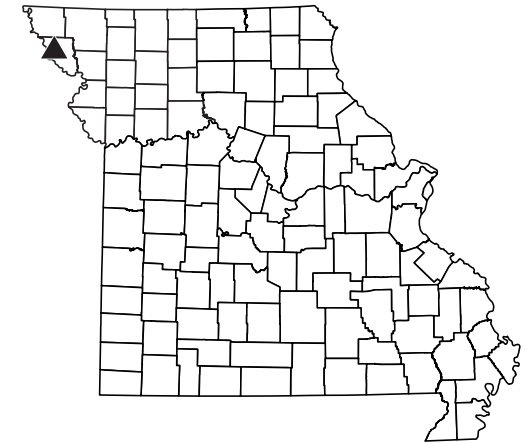
816/271-3100

2/2026

(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](http://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.

# Bob Brown

## CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

# Bob Brown Conservation Area

## About This Area

Bob Brown Conservation Area in Holt County, 2.5 miles west of Forest City, off state Highway 111.

The area, named for the late Robert A. Brown, a St. Joseph conservationist, consists of 3,307 acres of bottomland and is bounded by the Missouri River for 3.5 miles.

The rich bottomland soils support mixed lowland hardwood forest, and also are planted with cool- and warm-season grasses and agricultural crops. A major portion of the land is restored Missouri River wetlands, which provide habitat for migrating waterfowl as well as resident species.

The area is primarily managed to provide wetland habitat. The area's proximity to Loess Bluff National Wildlife Refuge (5 miles) provides excellent opportunities to observe bald eagles, shorebirds and migratory waterfowl.

Wildlife viewing is encouraged. Public use is allowed throughout the year, but non-hunters are prohibited from the waterfowl shooting area during waterfowl hunting season, unless they are members of a hunting party authorized to use the area and remain with the group.

Peak time for viewing waterfowl occurs in mid-November and mid-March. Pedestrians will find good wildlife viewing from the levee roads and trails. Mid-March to early April usually offers an excellent opportunity to view waterfowl in their breeding plumage.

## Things to Do

- **Hunting.** The area features excellent hunting for waterfowl and pheasants and good hunting for deer, quail and dove.
- **Fishing.** The wing dikes along the adjacent Missouri River offer good fishing opportunities for catfish, carp and buffalo.
- **Primitive camping** is permitted only in areas identified on area map. Camping is limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Total camping days on all department lands are limited to thirty (30) days within one (1) calendar year. Groups of 10 campers or more must obtain a special use permit.
- **Hiking.** Walk the banks of the Missouri River or the field access roads, when waterfowl season is not open.
- **Nature study and wildlife viewing.** Bird watching is best during early fall and late winter, outside of the waterfowl season.
- **Outdoor photography.**
- **Frogging.** The area offers good frogging when water is plentiful.

## Rules and Regulations

Area hours: Open daily from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m. Camping, hunting, fishing, dog training and launching and landing boats are permitted at any time when authorized.

- No littering.
- No fireworks.
- No open fires.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only.
- Motor vehicles are allowed only on graveled public roadways and parking areas unless otherwise posted.
- Camping is permitted only in designated areas and is limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Groups of 10 campers or more must obtain a special use permit.
- Bicycles and horses allowed on public roadways. Bicycles allowed on designated service roads.

Seasonal restrictions apply. See Hunting and Trapping section. Service roads can be located at <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places.s>.

- No target shooting allowed.

## Fishing and Boating

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

- On impounded waters, daily limits are six black bass and four catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue and flathead catfish) and 30 crappie. All other fish are not to exceed 20 in the aggregate. All black bass between 12 and 15 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught. Pole and line methods only, not to exceed 3 poles per person.
- 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 permitted on 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.
- Boats may not be stored or left unattended overnight.
- Outboard motors in excess of 10 horsepower must be operated at slow, no-wake speed.