Other Recreational Opportunities

Wildlife Viewing

Mississippi’s Wildlife Management Areas have a diverse array of wildlife species and provides ample opportunity for viewing anything from Black-necked Stilts on Howard Miller WMA to alligators and swallow-tailed kites on Ward Bayou and Pascagoula WMAs.

Hiking

Many of our WMAs provide nature trails suitable for hiking or taking a relaxing walk in nature. The outdoor enthusiast that wants to enjoy their time in the outdoors won’t be disappointed.

Biking

Biking has become a popular sport for the outdoorsmen and outdoorswomen. Several of our WMAs, Choctaw WMA for instance, offer biking trails for the serious bikers.

Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks
Regional Offices:

North Region
272 CR 995
Tupelo, MS 38804
(662) 840-5172

Central Region
506 Highway 43 South
Canton, MS 39046
(601) 859-3421

South Region
1201 N Clark Avenue
Magnolia, MS 39652
(601) 783-2911

Mississippi’s Wildlife Management Areas (WMA)

1. Bienville WMA*
2. Black Prairie WMA
3. Calhoun County WMA
4. Canal Section WMA
5. Carmentown WMA
6. Caney Creek WMA*
7. Caiston Creek WMA*
8. Charles Ray Nix WMA
9. Charlie Capps WMA
10. Chickasaw WMA*
11. Chickasawhay WMA*
12. Choctaw WMA*
13. Copiah County WMA
14. Divide Section WMA
15. Graham Lake WMA
16. Heil Creek WMA
17. Howard Miller WMA
18. Indianola WMA
19. John Bell Williams WMA
20. John W. Starr Memorial Forest WMA
21. Lake George WMA
22. Leaf River WMA*
23. Leroy Percy WMA
24. Little Biloxi WMA*
25. Mahannah WMA
26. Malmaison WMA
27. Marion County WMA
28. Mason Creek WMA*
29. Muscadine Farms WMA
30. Natchez Waya WMA
31. Natchez State Park WMA
32. Okatibbee WMA
33. O’Keefe WMA
34. Old River WMA
35. Pascagoula River WMA
36. Pearl River WMA
37. Red Creek WMA
38. Sandy Creek WMA*
39. Sardis Waterfowl WMA
40. Sheppard WMA
41. Sky Lake WMA
42. Stonewall WMA
43. Sunflower WMA*
44. Tallahala WMA*
45. Theodore A. Mars, Jr. Memorial Wildlife Refuge
46. Trim Cave WMA
47. Tusculumia WMA
48. Twin Oaks WMA
49. Upper Sardis WMA*
50. Ward Bayou WMA
51. Wolf River WMA
52. Yockanookany WMA

* Properties owned by the U.S. Forest Service.
Wildlife Management Areas
One does not have to own land or even have access to private land for outdoor recreation. The Mississippi Wildlife Management Area (WMA) system is expansive and diverse. It includes 52 areas encompassing over 665,000 acres. Mississippi WMAs offer great opportunities for family and friends to enjoy outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping, bird watching, hiking, and wildlife viewing.

What do you need?
All persons using a WMA, except those exempt from purchasing an annual hunting or fishing license, must carry on their person an annual statewide Wildlife Management Area User Permit. This permit is required in addition to the daily visitor use permit and any required license and may be purchased wherever licenses are sold. Users are also exempt on lands owned by the U.S. Forest Service unless they are hunting, fishing, or trapping. If you are not sure who owns the land, you can visit our website at www.mdwfp.com or give us a call at 601-432-2199.

Hunting Opportunities
WMAs offer opportunities to hunt a variety of wildlife species. While deer hunting is the leading use, there are many other resident and migratory game species available to pursue. Wild turkey, squirrel, rabbit, quail, raccoon, opossum, fox, and bobcat are among the resident species traditionally hunted on WMAs. Ducks, geese, and doves are the most commonly hunted migratory species, but several other migratory game birds may be taken too.

Fishing Opportunities
Many WMAs have great opportunities for fishing. There are several areas with fishing hot spots within the WMA boundary. Areas like Ward Bayou and Marion County WMAs are prime examples of WMAs with excellent fishing spots.

Youth Hunting Opportunities
Youth are the key to continuing our hunting heritage as well as promoting wildlife conservation in years to come. It is important to provide youth the opportunity to be outdoors and have positive hunting experiences. Many WMAs offer special youth hunting opportunities. Most WMAs provide special or additional hunts for youth to pursue wild turkey, white-tailed deer, squirrels, dove, and waterfowl.