

MARION

Marion Reservoir is located in the Cottonwood River Valley of central Kansas, between Hillsboro and Marion. The reservoir was constructed in

1968 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as a flood control structure. The dam impounds 6,160 surface acres at conservation pool. The wildlife

area, managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP), consists of 4,300 acres of land at the upper end of the reservoir.

FACILITIES

Boat launching facilities are available at all of the USACE parks and public use areas (Cottonwood Point, Hillsboro, French Creek, and Marion Coves). KDWP has a river access boat launching site at the Broken Bridge

area near the upper end of the reservoir and a launching site in Durham Cove. There is no marina on the reservoir, but bait and supplies are available at several bait shops near the lake.

FISHING

Marion Reservoir offers excellent fishing for wiper, wall-eye, white bass, and channel catfish. Other species include crappie, largemouth bass, bluegill, flathead catfish, bullhead catfish, and several species of rough fish.

The lake averages about 14 feet in depth and is characterized by a shallow sloping shoreline, open water, and relatively little variation in basin bottom. Water clarity is usually adequate for good fishing. When water is being released from the reservoir, good fishing occurs below the dam in the outlet channel. For up-to-date fishing information contact

the local KDWP office.

Around March and April, walleye are caught along the face of the dam. Most are taken on jigs or minnow-type lures, often within a few feet of the shore.

The white bass spawning migration usually occurs in mid-April. Fish are caught in the Cottonwood River and sandy beaches upstream from the mouth of French Creek Cove. Most good catches of crappie occur in the spring as the fish move toward the shoreline to spawn. Crappie are usually associated with rocky or brushy shoreline.

HUNTING

Marion Wildlife Area supports large populations of waterfowl, dove, deer and turkey. Also popular at Marion are pheasant, quail, rabbit, and squirrel. During opening weekends, the wildlife area receives intense hunting pressure. Hunters, later in the season, often find good bird populations and less competition from other hunters.

Waterfowl numbers tend to build during the fall, and good mallard hunting is common in November and December. Management of the refuge has been geared primarily to attract and hold geese. As management practices become established on the refuge, Marion should have excellent goose hunting opportunities.

OTHER OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Marion Wildlife Area is managed primarily for hunting, but most of the area is open year-round for activities such as hiking and bird watching.

The refuge is closed to all activities from Oct. 1 to March 1 and is closed to hunting at all times. The refuge is clearly marked with standard red and white "Stop-Refuge Area-No Hunting" signs.

Approximately 3,800 acres are open for public use, as well as another 100 acres managed by the USACE for

public hunting. An additional 500-acre waterfowl refuge has also been established. This refuge allows waterfowl to feed and roost without disturbance. This helps keep migratory birds on the area, providing more hunting and viewing opportunities.

The public hunting portion of the area is marked with "Public Hunting" signs around the boundary. Entrances are also marked with "Wildlife Area" entrance signs.

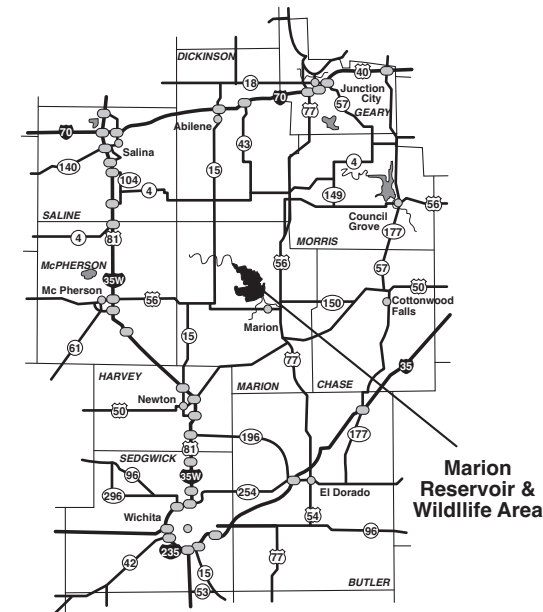
THINGS TO REMEMBER

Zebra mussels have been discovered in Marion Reservoir. Boaters and anglers are asked to take necessary precautions to prevent contaminating other bodies of water.

Vehicle access is limited to established maintained roads. Parking areas are provided. OFF-ROAD VEHICLE USE IS PROHIBITED.

Individuals using the wildlife area must take their trash out with them. A NO TRASH POLICY is in effect for this area, so trash barrels are not provided.

Special length and creel limits may be in effect for some fish species. Check the Kansas Fishing Regulations Summary and all posted notices before fishing. Consult information signs posted on the area for all regulations that apply on Marion Wildlife Area.

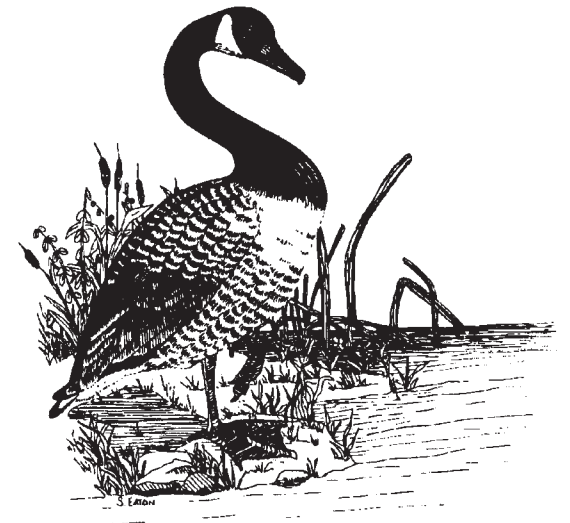


General Area Map

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, sex (gender), sexual orientation, age, disability, genetic information, or protected veteran's status, in employment, access to programs, or other KDWP benefits or services. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any employment, access to programs, or other KDWP benefit or service, please submit a complaint to: Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Office of the Secretary, 1020 S Kansas Ave. Topeka, KS 66612-1327 (785) 296-2281. 10/25

Marion

Reservoir & Wildlife Area



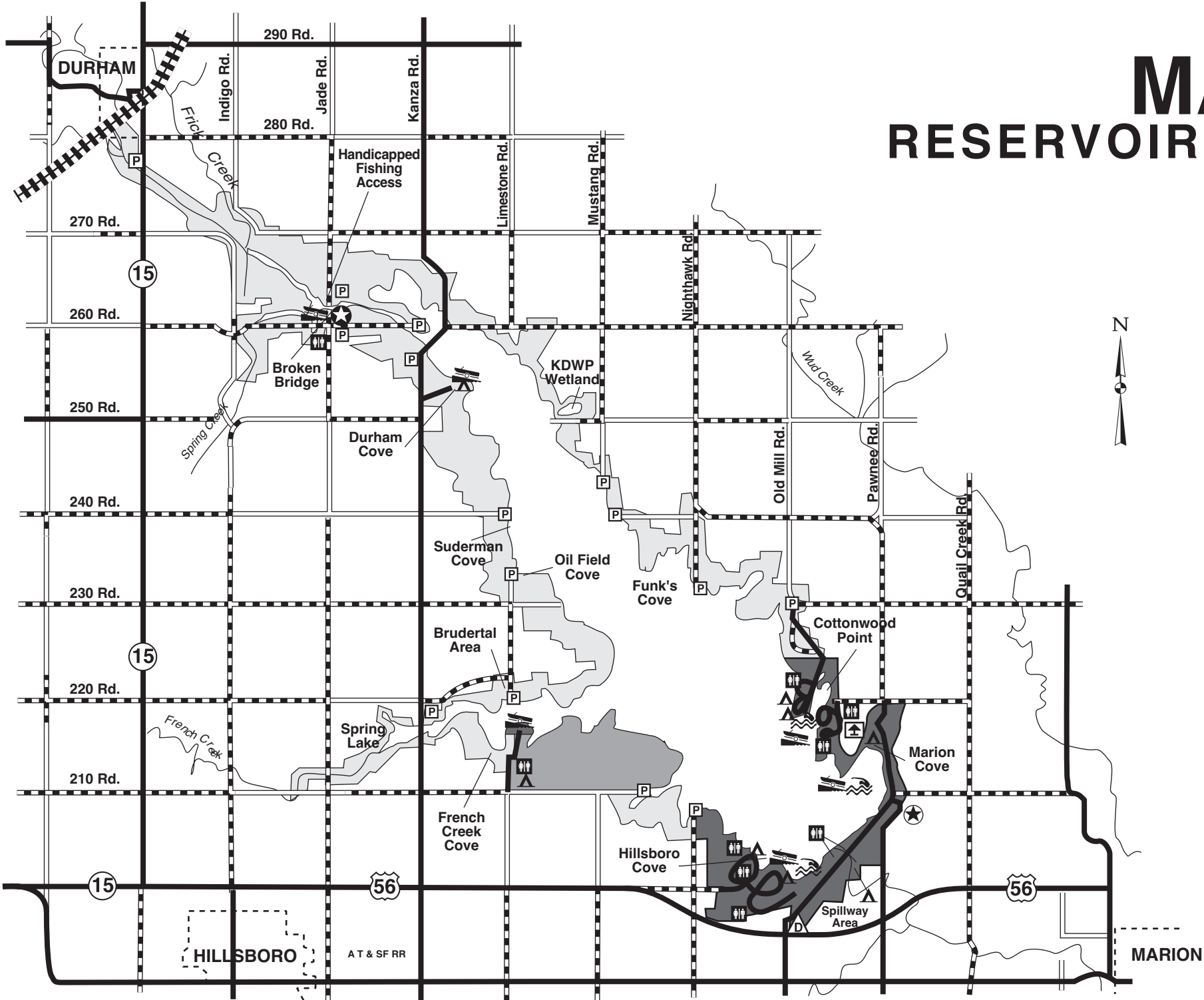
Marion Wildlife Area
2613 N Jade
Hillsboro, KS 67063

Area Office
(620) 732-3946

Regional Office
(316) 683-8069

www.ksoutdoors.gov

MARION RESERVOIR & WILDLIFE AREA



LEGEND

Office KDWP	★
Office USACE	★
Public Use Area Hunting Allowed	□
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Area	■
Refuge Area No Hunting	■
Paved Road	—
Gravel Road	- - -
Unimproved Road	—
Railroad	
Town or City	- - -
Parking Area	P
Camping Area	A
Boat Ramp	⚓
Swimming Area	🌊
Picnic Shelter	⛶
Vault Toilet	🚻
Trailer Dump Station	D