

# CEDAR BLUFF

Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation and is managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP). The management area encompasses approximately 13,800 acres, to

include 10,800 acres of land and a 3,000-acre reservoir.

Funding for Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area operations comes primarily from the sales of hunting, fishing, and boating licenses, permits and registrations. An 11-percent federal

excise tax (Pittman-Robertson, Dingell-Johnson Acts) on hunting and fishing equipment is also used to fund wildlife management. No Kansas state general fund tax dollars are used for the operation or maintenance of Cedar Bluff.

## HUNTING

A variety of game can be found on Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area including pheasant, quail, small game, furbearers, deer, and turkey. That's why KDWP staff continually seek to implement strategies that enhance hunting experiences and opportunities for the public.

Special Hunts for both youth and adults seeking deer and waterfowl opportunities are available on the Area through a draw. These hunts are not designed to guarantee harvest but provide an opportunity to hunt an undisturbed area without competition. Special Hunts information is available at [ksoutdoors.gov](http://ksoutdoors.gov).

The majority of deer on Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area are whitetails but a few mule deer can occasionally be seen. Note: Only one Whitetail Antlerless-only permit may be used on the Area. Harvest rates are about 30 to 40 deer per year with a ratio of 1 buck to every 3.5 does.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is prevalent on and around Cedar Bluff. Hunters should debone harvested deer and should not transport the carcass, other than meat, from the area. Hunters should follow best practices for processing and testing, information on which can be found at [ksoutdoors.gov/CWD](http://ksoutdoors.gov/CWD) and in the *Kansas Hunting & Furharvesting Regulations Summary*.

Cedar Bluff's turkey population is stable, with fair to good hunting opportunities. Cedar Bluff is in the Unit 4 turkey management unit. There is a limited number of resident Unit 4 turkey permits available by draw only. Resident youth 15 and younger with a valid statewide permit may hunt in Unit 4, as well.

Pheasant and Bobwhite quail populations fluctuate with habitat and weather conditions and generally rate fair to good. Most hunting occurs during the first few weeks of the season. Late season upland hunts can be good generally with lower hunting pressure.

Trapping, running and predator calling furbearers is allowed on the Area. Furbearers include badger, raccoon, opossum, striped skunk, coyote, bobcat, beaver, muskrat, mink and weasel. All statewide furbearer regulations apply. Coyote hunting with night vision is not allowed on public lands.

Area habitat management practices include prescribed burning, warm and cool season food plots, cover crops, strip disking, timber and brush management, warm season grass plantings, water development, intermittent short term grazing, vegetation clearing during reservoir declines and chemical use for undesirable plant species.

The majority of the wildlife area is open to hunting and other approved activities. Portions of the wildlife area are closed seasonally to provide wildlife refuges and special hunting opportunities; Refuge boundaries can be found using the onX app, consulting the Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area brochure, the area office and online at [ksoutdoors.gov](http://ksoutdoors.gov).

## YOUTH and MENTOR AREAS

Approximately 1,000 acres on Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area have been designated for youth and mentor hunting. Youth hunters must be 17 years or younger and must be accompanied by a licensed mentor 18 years or older. The mentor may hunt; and only one mentor hunter per hunting youth is allowed.

Nearly 800 acres in the North Cove 1 area is open to youth/mentor hunting during any season with any legal equipment, and 200 acres east of the dam is open for archery/shotgun hunting only.

Hunters are required to Check-in/Check-out before and after each hunt through the "Go Outdoors Kansas" mobile app or online at [ksoutdoors.gov/checkin](http://ksoutdoors.gov/checkin).

## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

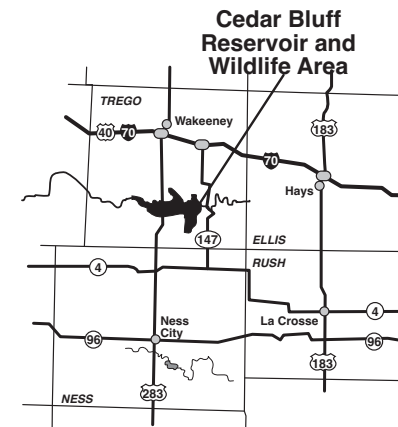
Water levels on the reservoir fluctuate often making boat ramp management difficult. Boat ramps are available at reservoir elevations above 2,100 feet. No-wake zones are buoyed and enforced near boat ramps and other designated areas. Life jackets, throw cushions and other safety equipment must be visible and accessible during boat operations. For more information on boating, visit [ksoutdoors.gov/Boating](http://ksoutdoors.gov/Boating).

Campers are encouraged to use the state park, where modern and primitive campsites and rental cabins are available year-round. Camping on the wildlife area is primitive and limited to four areas. At this time, the wildlife area has no fees associated with camping. Wildlife area camping is limited to 7 days per stay, at which time, persons must leave the area for 5 days before returning to camp on the wildlife area. All trash must be packed out.

A short interpretive trail and longer hike/bike trail is available on the south side of the reservoir, with the trail head near the Whitetail camping area of Cedar Bluff State Park.

Motorized vehicles may be operated only on open maintained roadways. Parking areas should be used and gates should not be blocked. E-Bikes, UTVs and ATVs are not allowed.

Information centers, with general information, are located around the wildlife area. For specific information, including laws and regulations, visit the area office or [ksoutdoors.gov](http://ksoutdoors.gov).



## 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

# Cedar Bluff

## Wildlife Area



Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area  
32001 Hwy 147  
Ellis, KS 67637

Area Office  
(785) 726-3212

Regional Office  
(785) 628-8614

[www.ksoutdoors.gov](http://www.ksoutdoors.gov)

