

NORTON

Norton Wildlife Area comprises Sebelius Reservoir and adjacent lands. The wildlife area has 1,300 water acres and 6,500 land acres and 2,181 water acres when full.

The area provides great hunting,

fishing, and boating. Walk-in access is nearly unlimited. Seasonal and permanent roads provides good vehicular access. The only fees required are licenses for fishing, hunting, and boating, which support management of the

area. More services and information are available at Prairie Dog State Park, where the area wildlife manager and other staff can help. Kiosks around the property also contain more detailed information.

HUNTING

Hunters will find the area enjoyable, particularly at less crowded times. A few quality special draw hunts for waterfowl and deer are available by on-line application. A small area has been designated for handicapped hunters. A special permit is available for off-road vehicle use in this area and may be obtained by contacting the area office.

Spring turkey hunters find plenty of competition, while fall hunting pressure is light.

White-tailed and mule deer are present. Hunting pressure is heaviest during the firearms deer season. Archery pressure is heaviest during the rut in early November.

When local weather cooperates, the area produces good pheasant populations that hold up over the course of the season. Quail are present and provide limited hunting opportunity. Cottontail rabbits are common and receive much less hunting pressure.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

This area attracts waterfowl in good numbers, so management takes a high priority for these species. To provide a secure resting and holding area, the middle portion of the reservoir is designated as a waterfowl refuge and is closed to all activities from Nov. 1 through Jan. 31. Duck hunting can be good on the

lake depending on pressure, water levels, and weather. Except for special hunts, most goose hunting takes place on private land feed fields. Hunting pressure is generally too great for feeding patterns to become established on the public lands and provide consistent successful goose hunting.

HUNTING FOR YOUNG SPORTSMEN

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks offers various opportunities for young people to actively participate in outdoor activities through the PASS IT ON program. Special youth seasons give young hunters the first opportunity to hunt many species such as deer, turkey, upland birds, and waterfowl. Although

pressure is usually high for most season openers, the youth seasons have received very light pressure, allowing excellent chances to introduce young people into hunting. In addition, special youth hunts are offered for waterfowl and deer.

FISHING

Primary sport fish include saugeye, wipers, large-mouth bass, crappie, and channel catfish. Spotted bass, walleye, flathead catfish, and bluegill are also present. Wipers provide a touch of excitement throughout the season. The saugeye (a walleye/sauger hybrid) is doing quite well, and Keith Sebelius Reservoir currently

holds the state record at 9.81 pounds. Seasonal roads are established to provide improved access for anglers and improved hunting. Special creel and length limits may be in effect for some fish species. Check the Kansas Fishing Regulations Summary and all posted notices before fishing.

CAMPING

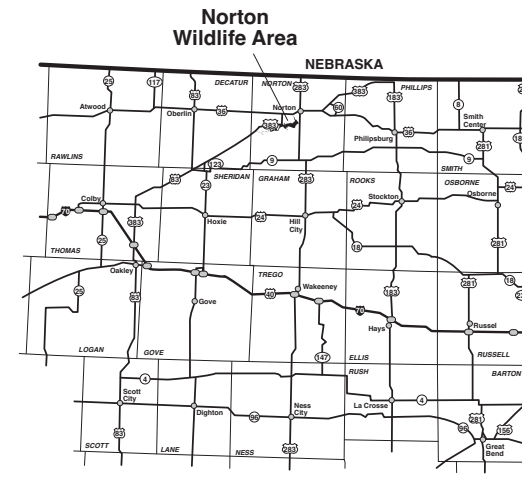
Primitive camping is only allowed on a very limited basis in conjunction with hunting and fishing activities. Camping is only allowed in the six designated areas listed on the map. Do your part to keep the area enjoyable. There is a “no trash” policy on the wildlife area, so please pack your trash home with you. Prairie Dog State Park offers modern and primitive camping sites and reservable cabins year-round.

BOAT ACCESS

Two two-lane boat ramps located in the state park offer access at all water elevations. The wildlife area has two high-water ramps and one low-water ramp. These ramps may or may not be usable due to fluctuating water levels.

SPECIAL NOTE

Opportunities abound to view and photograph mule and whitetail deer, turkey, and pheasant. During the winter, enjoy bald eagles, waterfowl, and occasionally a glimpse of an osprey. The wildlife area is open to trapping. To top it off, a prairie dog town is located in the park.



General Area Map

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Norton

Wildlife Area



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Area Office
(785) 877-2953

Regional Office
(785) 628-8614

www.ksoutdoors.gov

