

ROOKS

The area is located three miles southwest of Stockton, off highway 183. The lake covers 67 acres and is surrounded by 246 acres of wildlife area composed primarily of timber and native grass.

A small earthen embankment retains Boxelder Creek and forms Rooks State Fishing Lake. The lake is surrounded by stately cotton-

woods, bur oaks, green ash and elm trees that provide ample shade for fishing, camping, picnicking or just enjoying the scenery at the lake.

The lake dates back to 1937, when it was built by the Works Progress Administration and the State Forestry, Fish, and Game Commission. The lake currently goes dry every 5-8 years due to irregular inflows.

Food plots, utilizing both legume based crop rotations and sustainable agriculture practices, are planted to provide additional wildlife food and cover. Crops planted include tall sorghum, alfalfa and milo. A permittee compensates the state with goods and services that are utilized to enhance the area.

FISHING

The fishery is managed to facilitate the fluctuating lake level. Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass and redear sunfish are stocked each time the lake fills. The fish then grow fast in the nutrient rich water providing good fishing opportunities for the remainder of each lake life span.

BOATING

Motorized boats are allowed on the lake for fishing activities only. The lake is small, so a no wake speed is recommended. A concrete boat ramp and floating dock are located in the northeast corner of the lake. Be aware of flooded vegetation due to water level fluctuation.

CAMPING

Camping is allowed in the four designated camping areas along the east shoreline of the lake. Pit toilets are centrally located on two of the areas and tables are provided at the various sites.

PICNICKING

Picnic tables are located on the east side of the lake. One group shelter is available near a vault toilet.

WILDLIFE

diversity of both game and non-game species can be found, but due to the small size of the area, their numbers are relatively low.

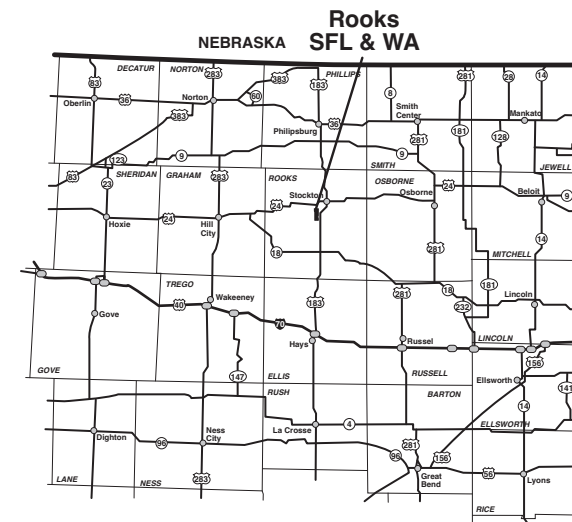
Consequently, hunting opportunities are limited since wildlife is either quickly harvested or driven off the area. Some sporadic good hunts are possible as wildlife moves on and off the area.

Both whitetail and mule deer are present, but populations are low. A few turkeys can also be found on the area along the riparian zone. Upland game birds present on the area include pheasant and quail.

Other wildlife that utilize the area include coyotes, badgers, mink, rodents, raptors, song birds, waterfowl, and shore birds as well as a variety of amphibians and reptiles native to the region.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- An information shelter is located near the boat ramp providing current information and regulations.
- A no trash policy is in effect, so please pack home everything you pack in.
- Vehicles are only allowed on maintained roads and parking lots.
- Hunting by shotgun and archery only.



General Area Map

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Rooks

State Fishing Lake & Wildlife Area



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