

# WILSON

Wilson Wildlife Area encompasses approximately 8,000 acres of wildlife land surrounding 9,000 acres of water nestled into the scenic Smoky Hills of northcentral Kansas.

## HUNTING

Public hunting is available on state and federally managed areas. For details on hunting the federal lands, contact the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, RR 1 Box 241, Sylvan Grove, KS 67481, or phone (785)658-2551.

**SPECIAL DISABILITY AREA:** A 240-acre area on the northeast portion of Cedar Creek is open to vehicle access for disabled persons through a special permit. Contact the Wilson Area Office for details.

**SMALL GAME:** Pheasant and quail opportunities are fair. Areas with a mixture of grassland, cropland, and weeds offer the best success. Hunting pressure is heavy on opening weekend in November. Hunting later in the season when there's snow on the ground and birds are bunched can be better.

## FISHING

**WILSON RESERVOIR:** The state's clearest and deepest lake offers excellent white bass and walleye fishing and is known for excellent striped bass and smallmouth bass fishing.

**WHITE BASS:** They spawn in the river above the Bunker Hill bridge during years of good flows, along the dam and rocky area. Summer finds the whites chasing shad, and fall fishing is generally slab spooning deeper structure.

**WALLEYE:** These fish spawn on the dam and rocky points in late March and early April and then move up on the flats in June and July. Late summer and fall slab spooning is most consistent over deep structure. There is a 15-inch length limit on walleye

## WATCHABLE WILDLIFE

The area offers good opportunities to view and photograph wildlife. Deer, pheasant, waterfowl and many

**BIG GAME:** Whitetail and a few mule deer provide archery and firearms hunting. Turkey numbers continue to grow after setbacks from flooding in 1990s.

**MIGRATORY BIRDS:** Fair numbers of mourning doves can be found. Ducks and geese use the lake during their migrations. While Wilson has not held large numbers of waterfowl in the past, improved numbers of Canada geese and mallards have occurred with the addition of a refuge.

**REFUGE:** A waterfowl refuge was established in 1996 to help increase waterfowl populations and improve hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities at Wilson.

**STRIPED BASS:** Ice fishing is often good in the Horseshoe Bend area, and by May the stripers are concentrated near the dam and often on the surface. Summer fishing requires deep water techniques with live bait or downrigger trolling. By fall, they often move shallow again or are caught slab spooning.

**SMALLMOUTH BASS:** Rocky shorelines are their best habitat with a few fish over four pounds. There is a 15-inch minimum on smallmouth.

**LARGEMOUTH BASS:** Brush, rocks, and feeder creeks are their hangouts. Numbers are good with a variety of sizes. There is a 15-inch minimum on largemouth.

other kinds of wildlife can be seen.

## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

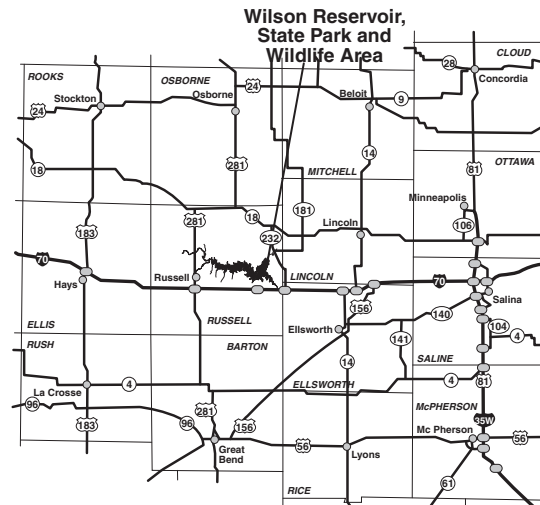
**FURBEARERS:** Numerous furbearers inhabit the wildlife area (coyotes abundant). Trapping and running is allowed in areas open to public hunting. Check regulations for seasons and other important information.

**BOAT ACCESS:** Nine boat ramps around the lake provide access to waterfowl areas. The wildlife area has two ramps, one at Cedar Creek and the other at Elm Creek.

**CAMPING:** The Corps of Engineers & Wilson State Park offers modern camping facilities, and campers are encouraged to use these areas. Camping is not allowed on the wildlife area.

**HIKING:** Hiking is permitted throughout the area, and developed trails are located in the park.

**HORSEBACK RIDING:** Horse riding is only permitted on established roads. Special rides may be approved by submitting a special event application.

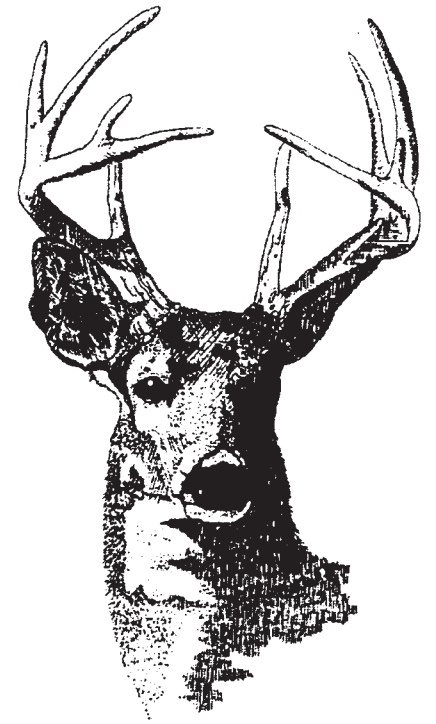


General Area Map

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs described herein is available to all individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, and military or veteran status. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to Office of the Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, 1020 S Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66612-1327. 07/12

# Wilson

## Wildlife Area

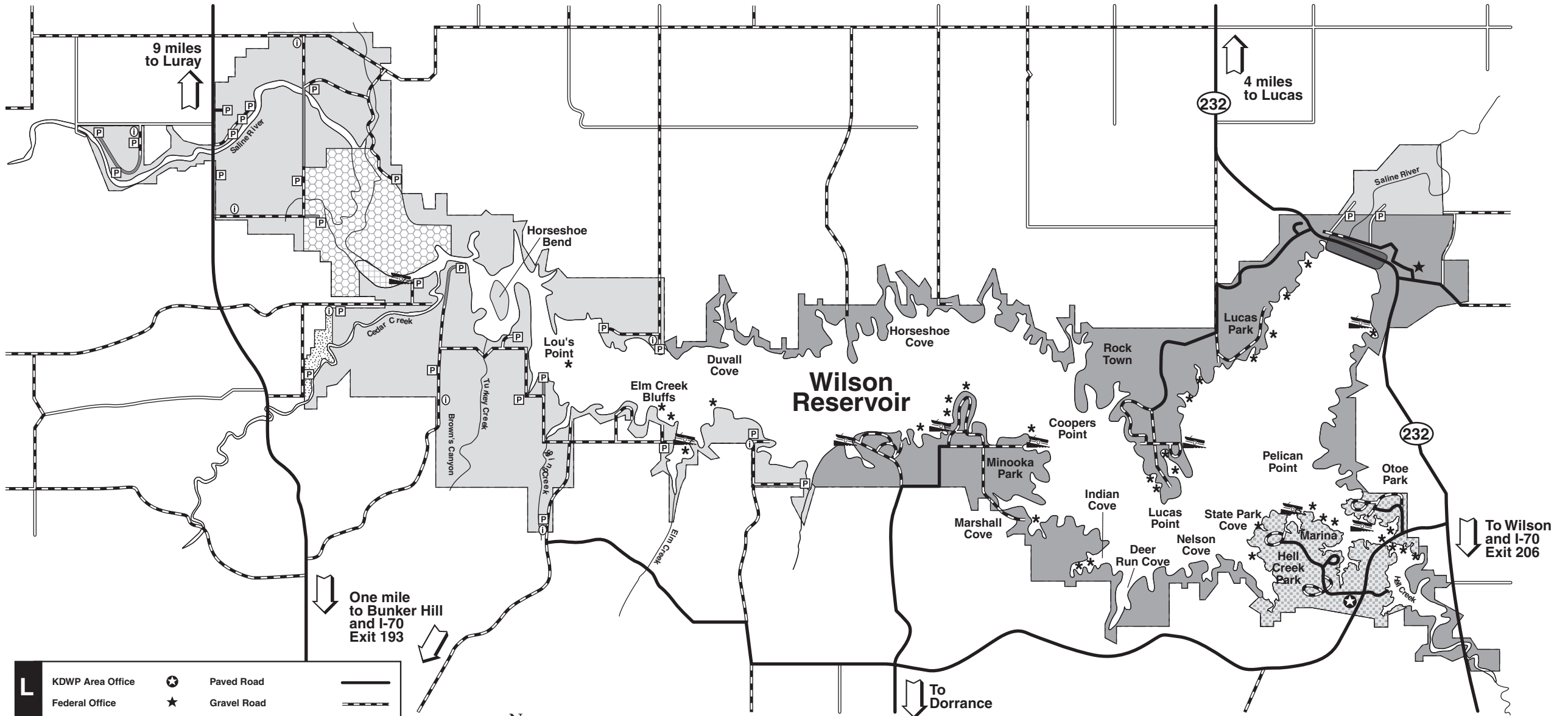


Wilson Wildlife Area  
#3 State Park Rd.  
Sylvan Grove, KS 67481



(Area Office)  
(785) 658-2465  
(Regional Office)  
(316) 683-8069

www.ksoutdoors.com



<b>LEGEND</b>	KDWP Area Office	⊙	Paved Road	—	
	Federal Office	★	Gravel Road	- - -	
	Parking Area	P	Improved Earth Road	— — —	
	Information Center	ⓘ	Seasonal Gravel Road (Closed Oct. 1 - Feb. 1)	- · - · -	
	Boat Ramp	⚓	Property Line	- · - · -	
	Dam	▬	State Wildlife Area	▭	
	Brushpiles	*	Federally Managed Area (Refer to narrative for hunting)	▭	
	State Park Area	▨	Refuge (Closed to all activities Oct. 1 - Mar. 1)	▭	
	Special Disability Area	▨	Restricted Use Area (Closed to all activities Nov. 1 - Mar. 1)	▭	

# WILSON WILDLIFE AREA