J.E. Roush Lake Fish & Wildlife Area is dedicated to providing quality hunting and fishing opportunities while maintaining 7,347 acres of land, a 900-acre lake and 350 acres of impoundments.

HISTORY
Roush Lake was constructed in 1967 and is one of the three Upper Wabash Valley lakes. Roush Lake operates primarily as a unit with Mississinewa and Salamonie lakes to control floodwaters along the Wabash River Basin and secondarily with other lakes downstream in reduction of lower Wabash and Ohio River floods.

The lake provides benefits to nearly 60,000 acres of agricultural lands as well as general recreation activities associated with hunting and fishing. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers partners with Indiana Department of Natural Resources under a lease agreement. The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife operates and maintains the recreation facilities and wildlife areas at the lake. Roush Lake was operated by DNR Division of Reservoirs until 1998, and then by the DNR Division of State Parks & Reservoirs until 2010.

The property is a long narrow band along the Wabash River approximately 15 miles long, located in Huntington and Wells counties. The public access site (boat ramp) and campground are located off U.S. 224, two miles east of Huntington and six miles west of I-69. The main office is 2.5 miles southeast of Huntington, off S.R. 5. Hunting areas and fishing ponds are located throughout the property.

RULES AND REGULATIONS
In addition to state fish & wildlife laws, this property is governed by posted regulations affecting the public use of lands and facilities owned, leased or licensed by the DNR.

POSTED AREAS
Safety zones, refuges, waterfowl-resting and other restricted areas are marked with appropriate signs.

CAMPING
The campground has 41 electric sites and 20 primitive sites. All campsites have fire rings and picnic tables. Camping is open all year on a first-come, first-served basis. The maximum stay is 14 days. Waterfountains and pit toilets are available in the campground.

• Camping, picnicking, and open campfires are allowed in the campground only.

• Picnicking is allowed at the Kil-So-Quah boat ramp area.

• Unloaded firearms, unstrung bows and arrows, and air guns may be possessed, but not used in the camping and picnic areas.

• Swimming is not allowed.

WILDLIFE WATCHING
J.E. Roush Lake FWA is a long narrow property along the floodplain of the Wabash River. It provides excellent wildlife watching throughout the year and the spring is great for waterfowl.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
• Wetland trapping is available through drawing only. Contact property staff for details.

• Dog training is available in Area 22 only.

• Hunting areas accessible to persons with disabilities are available. Ask for details at office.

NEIGHBORING LAND
Salamonie Lake, managed by the DNR Parks & Reservoirs, is located within 15 miles. Phone (260) 468-2125.

Traffic
Traffic on public roads through J.E. Roush Lake FWA is governed by state and county laws. All other roads are limited to foot traffic only.

FISHING
• J.E. Roush Lake FWA has 15 miles of river and 200 acres of impoundments open to fishing.

• Check-in is required for fishing.

• Primary species in the main lake include channel catfish, crappie, white bass, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and rough fish in the main lake. Walleye are below the dam in the river. Impoundment species include largemouth bass, bluegill and redear sunfish.

• Motorized boats are allowed on Roush Lake only. Please use concrete boat ramp located off U.S. 224 at Kil-So-Quah Recreation Area. No swimming allowed at ramp. Non-motorized boats and electric motors are allowed on both Roush Lake and its impoundments. No ramps provided on impoundments.

• Shoreline fishing is available at boat ramp and around the main lake and impoundments.

• There is a 14-inch size limit for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass.

• On Rock Creek, smallmouth bass fishing is catch-and-release only.

• See Fishing Regulations for details, fishing.IN.gov

HUNTING
• Hunting for furbearers, deer, rabbit, squirrel, waterfowl, dove, pheasant and wild turkey is common at J.E. Roush Lake FWA.

• Daily check-in is required. All hunting seasons and bag limits apply.

• Special hunts include those for mourning dove and turkey, and put-take pheasant hunts.

• Area 22 is dedicated to dog training.

• Please respect private land owner’s property adjacent to our state land.

TRAPPING
Trapping is allocated by in-person drawing the first Saturday of October.

DAM
Type: Concrete rolled-earth-fill
Maximum height: 91 feet
Length: 6,500 feet
Drainage area above dam: 707 square miles
UNLOADING:
Range address: 1002 E Division Road, Huntington, IN 46750
Phone Number: (260) 468-2416

FUNDING FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE
The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife sells hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses. All revenue is used for managing fish and wildlife resources in Indiana. No license money goes into the state general fund.

The Division also receives money from the federal Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration programs (some referenced to as Dingell-Johnson and Pittman-Robertson funds). The funds are derived from excise taxes levied on sporting arms and ammunition, bows and arrows, fishing equipment and motor boat fuel. The funds are then returned to state fish and wildlife agencies using a formula that is part is based on the number of fishing and hunting license buyers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Division of Fish & Wildlife
WRITE: DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife
402 W. Washington Street, W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204
CALL: (317) 232-4200
ONLINE: dnr.IN.gov

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WRITE: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
735 N. Warren Rd.
Huntington, IN 46750
CALL: 260-356-8648
Chicago District, Public Affairs Office
WRITE: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
231 S. LaSalle St., Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60604
CALL: 312-846-5330

517 N. Warren Road | Huntington, IN 46750
(260) 468-2165 | wildlife.IN.gov

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Online Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing Licenses

Your purchase of hunting and fishing licenses helps support wildlife and sport fish restoration and stocking access facilities.