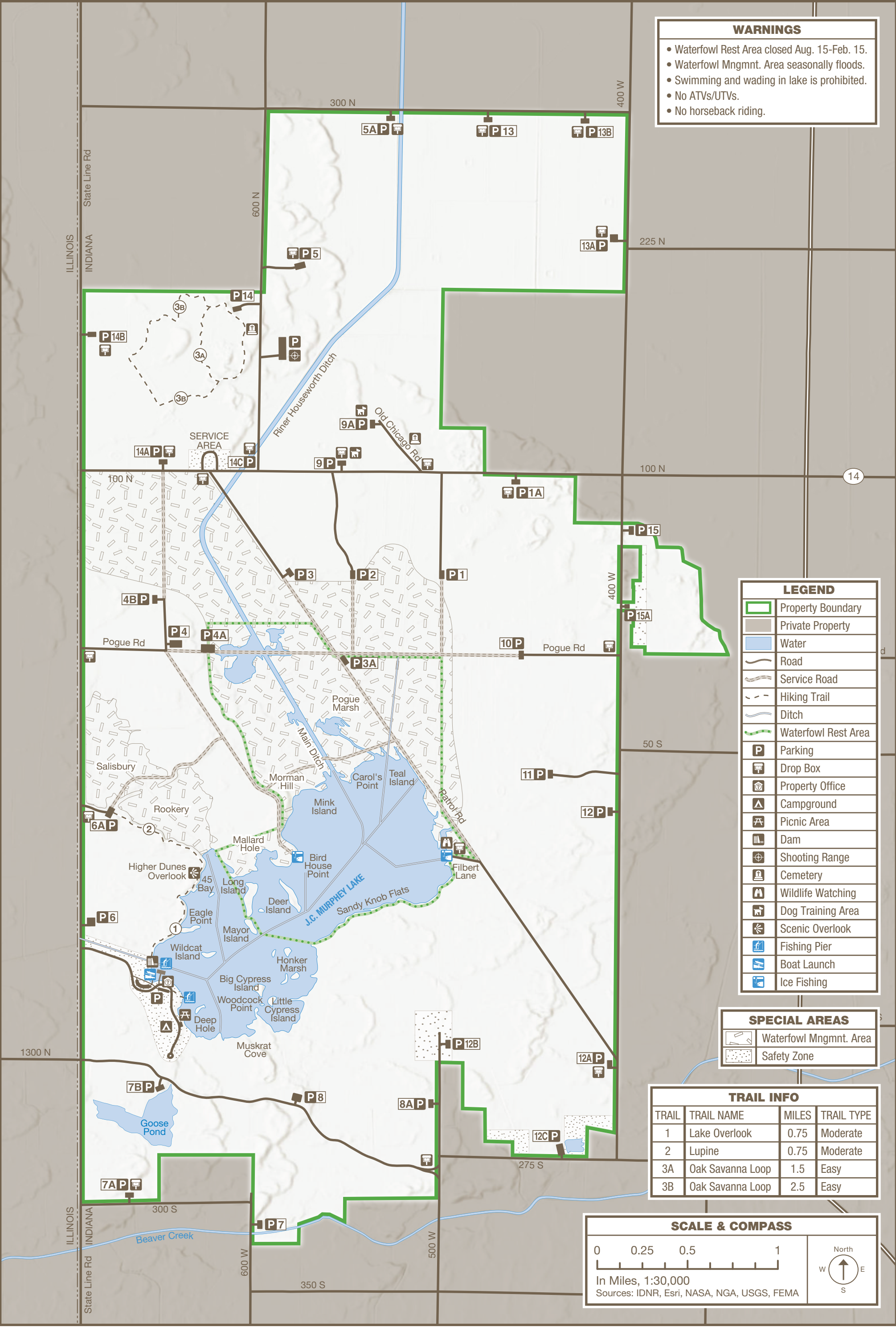


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Indiana Department
of Natural Resources



OUR STORY

Willow Slough Fish & Wildlife Area provides quality outdoor recreational opportunities and a wide array of habitat types for countless plant and animal species. At the center of the property is the J.C. Murphey Lake and wetland complex. The lake comprises more than 1,200 acres and draws in thousands of waterfowl each year. Renovation on the lake was completed in 2024. The lake also provides quality fishing opportunities. Rolling dunes, oak savanna, marshes, flooded crop land and forest surround the lake.

Willow Slough began with the purchase of 7,800 acres in 1949 and is 10,175 acres today. J.C. Murphey Lake was completed in 1951. Parts of Willow Slough were formerly grazed, hayed, and cultivated. A railroad once ran through the property, and portions of an old station can be found in the area.

The property provides diverse habitat and ample opportunities for everyone to enjoy the outdoors.

HELPFUL LINKS

Stay up to date on hunting and fishing information.

HUNTING

WHERE: on.IN.gov/where2hunt
LEARN: on.IN.gov/learn2hunt
GUIDE: on.IN.gov/huntingguide

FISHING

WHERE: on.IN.gov/where2fish
LEARN: on.IN.gov/learn2fish
GUIDE: on.IN.gov/fishingguide

LICENSES

PURCHASE: on.IN.gov/inhuntfish

RECREATION

LOCATIONS: on.IN.gov/recfinder

ACTIVITIES & FACILITIES

- Look for these icons on the map.

ACCESSIBLE: Accessible hunting and fishing areas available. Ask for details.

BOAT LAUNCH: Boats, canoes, kayaks and paddleboats may be launched. Personal flotation device must be in possession. Launching permit not required. No outboard motors allowed. Maximum of 24-volt electric allowed.

CAMPING: Primitive sites open all year, first-come, first-served. No reservations. Open campfires only allowed in designated areas.

FISHING: Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, redear, and crappie are common. Fishing only at designated piers and south of picnic area. Pond anglers must park in designated lots. Only bank fishing is allowed during waterfowl season. A state fishing license, which may be purchased at the headquarters, is required.

GATHERING: Nuts, berries and spring/fall mushrooms may be gathered.

HIKING: Easy to rugged hiking trails available.

HUNTING: Deer, quail, rabbit, squirrel,dove, woodcock, waterfowl and wild turkey are common. Waterfowl hunts by daily drawing at 4:30 a.m. local. Advance registration turkey hunting. All hunting seasons and bag limits apply. Obtain a One-Day Access Permit. Hunting license required.

ICE FISHING: Access to the back of the lake is afforded only after ice build-up at Morman Hill and Filbert Lane.

PICNIC AREA: Available in designated area near campground on first-come, first-served basis.

SHOOTING RANGE: Fee. Accessible. Pistol, shotgun, rifle, and archery range open to the public. Visit website or call 219-285-2060.

TRAPPING: By permit only. Ask for details.

WILDLIFE WATCHING: Deer, wild turkey, waterfowl, hawks, owls, osprey, bald eagles and a wide variety of songbirds are common.

RULES & REGULATIONS

In addition to state fish and 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 and other restricted areas are marked with appropriate signs. PLEASE READ AND OBEY ALL SIGNS.

VIOLATIONS: Violation of any law, rule or regulation governing this property may cause forfeiture of hunting, fishing or visiting privileges.

RESPONSIBILITY: The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife will not be held responsible for any accidents or deaths occurring from use of these facilities.

TRAFFIC: Traffic on public roads through the area is governed by state and county laws. Service roads and trails are restricted to walking except by authorized vehicles. No motorized vehicles or horses are permitted beyond county roads.

COLLECTION PERMIT: Collection permits are required from the property manager or DNR to collect anything except nuts, berries, and mushrooms.

CHECK-IN STATION

- You must self check-in for the following activities:
 - Boating or canoeing
 - Gathering
 - Dog training
 - Hiking
 - Wildlife watching
 - Hunting
 - Night hunting (by permit only)

ONE-DAY ACCESS PERMIT

- A permit from the property office is required to enter the waterfowl resting area Aug. 15-Feb. 15 unless otherwise posted at headquarters.
- All hunters are required to sign in and obtain a one-day access permit before entering the field. The one-day permit card must be in possession of the hunter and must be completed and returned to a drop box or property office.

NOT PERMITTED: Swimming is prohibited. No removal of plants, animals, rocks or fossils.

FIREARMS: Unloaded firearms, bows/arrows, and air guns may be possessed, but not used, and must be stored or carried in a case, or locked within a vehicle while in camp and picnic areas (except validly licensed handguns).

FISHING: 18-inch minimum size for largemouth bass for all waters and a total panfish limit of 25 in aggregate. All other size/bag limits apply.



FUNDING FOR FISH & 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 (sometimes referred 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 in part is based on the number of fishing and hunting license buyers.

DNR PROPERTIES NEARBY

- Find more DNR properties at on.IN.gov/recfinder.

STOUTSBURG SAVANNA

hiking, plant identification, wildlife watching

LASALLE FWA

boat launch, dog training area, fishing, ice fishing, hunting, trapping, wildlife watching



Please carry out all trash you produce to help keep the property clean and beautiful for all to enjoy!



Your purchase of hunting and fishing equipment and motorboat fuels supports Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration and boating access facilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

WRITE: Indiana DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife
402 W. Washington Street, W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204

CALL: 317-232-4200
ONLINE: on.IN.gov/DNR

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DNR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

WILLOW SLOUGH

FISH & WILDLIFE AREA

Willow Slough FWA

Mailing: 6312 W. 100 N.

Physical: 1803 S. 700 W.

Morocco, IN 47963

(219) 285-2074

on.IN.gov/WillowSloughFWA

willowsloughfwa@dnr.IN.gov

on.IN.gov/wildlife