J.C. Murphey Lake is a man-made lake located at Willow Slough FWA in western Newton County, Indiana. The lake was originally constructed in 1951 with the intent of providing quality habitat for migrating waterfowl, shorebirds, and other wetland dependent species. The lake was also to provide recreational activities to the sportsman of Indiana such as waterfowl hunting, wetland trapping, and fishing.

J.C. Murphey Lake is approximately 1,000 acres in size and has an average depth of 3 feet. Maximum depths reach approximately 8 feet in a few small sections of the original ditch network on the lake bed.
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 Department of Natural Resources.

All fishermen using J.C. Murphey Lake must launch their boat at the headquarters area.

Bank fishing on the lake is restricted to the two earthen fishing piers located near the headquarters area and the bank between them.

Electric trolling motors only. Gas motors can be on the boat, but are not allowed to be used.

Each person in a boat must have a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device.

Each boat on the lake before sunrise or after dark must have a workable flashlight aboard.

The minimum size for largemouth bass is 18 inches.

The minimum size for northern pike is 24 inches.

Panfish bag limit is 25. (Aggregate bag of bluegill, redear, crappie, warmouth and other panfish species)

All other state fish and boating regulations apply on this property.

Swimming and wading are prohibited.

Ice fishermen are not required to check in before fishing.

Ice fishermen are allowed access to the lake from the headquarters area. When conditions allow, Morman Hill and Filbert Lane will be opened to provide additional ice fishing access.

It is the responsibility of fishermen to check on ice conditions as ice conditions are constantly changing.

Violation of any law, rule or regulation governing this property may be cause for forfeiting your hunting, fishing, and visiting privileges on this area.

The Division of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources, will not be held be responsible for any damage caused by theft, storm, or vandalism; nor be held responsible for any accidents or deaths occurring from the use of these facilities.

For Information Please Contact Willow Slough FWA
(219) 285-2704

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Morocco, IN 47963

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