Black Rock Nature Preserve

County: Warren  Size: 32 acres
Ownership: NICHES Land Trust, Inc.

Location and Access
Parking and trails. From Lafayette take South River Road/Division Road west across US 231 and follow that for 8.3 miles to the Ravines Golf Course at S 875 W and take a left. Follow S 875 W passed Ross Hills Park and curve right onto W 50 S. Take the next left onto 925 W and follow that passed Ross Camp and curve right onto W 75 S. Take the next left onto S 950 W and follow that for 3 miles. As you approach the property you will ascend a steep hill where you will begin to see the exposed sandstone bedrock which gives the property its name. The parking lot is at the top of the hill to your left. There are trails through the preserve.

Description: This nature preserve protects examples of high quality natural communities that include open oak woodlands, sandstone barrens, sandstone bedrock exposures and sandstone cliff communities. It is located within the Entrenched Valley Section of the Central Till Plain Natural Region. This Nature Preserve consists of topography that is characterized by the Black Rock geologic feature, a sandstone promontory that soars to one hundred and ten feet above the Wabash River. This highly unusual landform anomaly with steep-sided shale ravines, sandstone cliffs, and seep springs provide varied and uncommon habitats. In 1811, Tecumseh’s warriors were stationed here to await General Harrison’s troops before the Battle of Tippecanoe. In 1838, the Potowatomi Trail of Death camped near this location.

Further Information:
NICHES Land Trust, Inc. 1782 N 400 E, Lafayette, IN 47905. (765) 423-1605
Division of Nature Preserves Central Regional Ecologist, Andrew Reuter: AReuter@dnr.in.gov

USGS Quad map: Westpoint
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