

## About This Area

Crowleys Ridge Conservation Area is in Stoddard County, 10 miles east of Puxico. Surrounded by the lowlands of the Missouri Bootheel, this 1,788-acre area sits on the elevated land formation known as Crowleys Ridge. This ridge, named after an early settler, begins southwest of Cape Girardeau and extends about 200 miles to Helena, Arkansas. Comprised of alluvial river deposits, Crowleys Ridge is a peninsula of rolling hills rising 250 feet above the lowlands. The area is managed to sustain diverse natural upland habitats. Burning, discing, timber stand improvement and farming are used to create early successional habitats to benefit small game, especially quail. Crowleys Ridge Conservation Area was acquired in part through the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

## Things to Do

- Hunting. The area is managed for early successional wildlife, especially quail. However, good numbers of large game are also present.
- Fishing. Several ponds on the area have been stocked with bass, bluegill and channel catfish.
- Hiking. Numerous service roads provide easy walking access to all portions of the area.
- Nature study and wildlife viewing. The diverse natural communities provide excellent opportunities to view upland species.
- Outdoor photography.
- Frogging. Numerous small ponds provide good frogging.

## Rules and Regulations

*Area hours: Open daily from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m.*

- No fireworks.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting. Field and retriever trials are prohibited.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to county roads and parking areas.
- Horseback riding is prohibited.
- Camping is permitted in designated area only.
- Bicycles are allowed only on service roads.
- No target shooting allowed.
- Swimming is not allowed.

## Fishing and Boating

*Fishing is permitted under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply:*

- Only poles or rods with attached lines may be used and not more than three poles or rods may be used by one person.
- Daily limits include 6 black bass, 4 catfish (channel, blue and flathead combined) and 30 crappie. All other species combined not to exceed 20.
- Black bass between 12 and 15 inches must be released unharmed immediately after being caught from impoundments.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles is prohibited on all impounded waters and their discharge channels.
- Boats may be used for fishing and wildlife related activities only and may not be stored or left unattended overnight.

## Hunting and Trapping

*Area is open to hunting under statewide regulations.*

*The following special regulations also apply.*

- All small game hunters must obtain an area daily hunting permit at one of the parking lots. Deer and turkey hunters do not need to complete a daily hunting permit.
- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to Spring Turkey and Fall Deer and Turkey summaries for current regulations.
- Only portable tree stands may be placed or used and only between Sept. 15 and Jan. 31. Each stand must be identified with the name and address, or conservation number, of the user and must be removed from the area by Feb. 1. Use of nails or other materials that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Trapping of furbearers is permitted only as specifically authorized by special use permit.

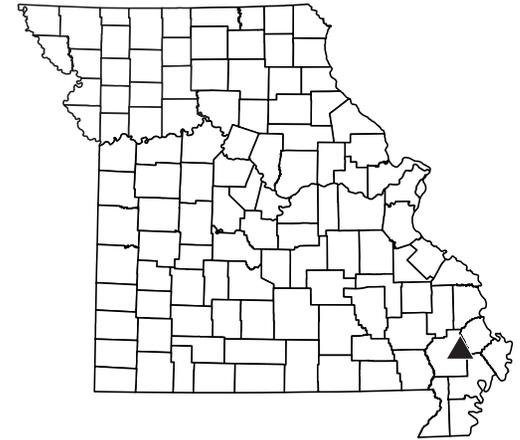
For local information, contact:  
Missouri Department of Conservation  
2206 W. St. Joseph  
Perryville, MO 63775-1518  
(573) 547-4537

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(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are in Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. A free printed copy of the Wildlife Code, which lists most area regulations, is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 11 in its entirety is available at [www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp](http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp).) Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

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## CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION