



Rudolf Bennitt

CONSERVATION AREA

For local information, contact:
Missouri Department of Conservation
Central Regional Office
3500 E Gans Rd
Columbia, MO 65201
(573) 815-7900

Visit us at:
www.mdc.mo.gov



Hunting and Trapping

- Only portable stands are allowed from Sept. 1 through Jan. 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled or on durable material with the full name and address or Conservation number of the owner and be removed from the area by Feb. 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Trapping allowed only with special use permit. Contact area manager.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.
- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey summaries for current regulations.
- NOTE: This conservation area lies in portions of three (3) counties. Regulations may differ in each county.

7/2016

(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.) 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.



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

About this Area

Rudolf Bennett Conservation Area is 19 miles north of Columbia on Highway 63; then 5 miles west on Route F; then 2.75 miles north on Route T, and then a 1/2-mile west on County Road 2930.

Rudolf Bennett Conservation Area contains 3,515 acres at the junction of Boone, Howard, and Randolph counties. It is named for Dr. Rudolf Bennett, a zoology professor who was instrumental in getting the Conservation Department formed in the 1930's. The original tract was purchased from 10 sellers in the mid-1960's, the largest former landowner being the Catholic Church of Moberly. Through forest management, the Department is trying to improve tree growth, quality, and diversity. Rudolf Bennett Lake (48 acres) was built in 1999 by the Department of Conservation in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA) as part of the Moniteau Creek Watershed Conservation Plan. The lake provides a good fishery for bass, catfish, bluegill, crappie, and redear sunfish. Lake facilities include a disabled-accessible boat ramp, a fishing dock, and restroom. Watering ponds have been built and crop fields are planted under contract with local farmers to provide food for wildlife. Hikers, bikers, and equestrians may enjoy the Moniteau Trail.

Recreational Opportunities

Bird watching – Bicycling – Fishing – Hiking – Horseback Riding – Hunting – Outdoor Photography – Wildlife Viewing

Rules and Regulations

Conservation Areas are closed from 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. except for authorized camping, fishing, and hunting activities.

- Area has trails open to equestrians, hikers, and

bicyclists. Groups of 10 or more must obtain a special use permit. Major renovation to the trails and camping began in 2006. Horses and bicycles must stay on designated trails. Wagons only allowed on sections of trail designated on map.

- Camping along roads and in parking lots is only allowed during firearms deer season. Walk-in and backpack camping is permitted. Twenty seven(27) numbered sites are available for both equestrian and general camping throughout the area (Horses are prohibited at sites 25-27). No reservations taken for campsites. Hitching posts, lantern posts and fire rings provided. No other amenities are provided. Seasonal closures and restrictions may apply.
- Equestrian users: hitching directly to trees not allowed. Use of hitching posts is preferred. Horses may be hitched to a rope tied between two trees.
- Unstaffed target range. Shooting hours one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset. Only paper targets attached to provided target holders may be used. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on all ranges and associated parking lots. Hunting permit is required to train dogs in pursuit of wildlife.
- Pets and hunting dogs are permitted but must be on a leash or confined at all times. Hunting dogs may be used off the leash and unconfined for hunting and training purposes.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, edible wild greens and mushrooms may be taken only for personal consumption.
- Special hunting provisions provided for the mobility impaired. Contact area manager or regional office for further information.
- During all portions of the firearms deer season and spring turkey season, the trails are closed to ALL other uses except deer and turkey hunting.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing and frogging are permitted under statewide regulations; except that:

- In lakes and ponds, daily limits are catfish in the aggregate (channel catfish, blue catfish, flathead catfish), four (4); black bass, six (6); crappie, thirty (30); and all other fish, statewide limits, but not to exceed twenty (20) in the aggregate; black bass more than twelve inches (12") but less than fifteen inches (15") total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- Boats, including sailboats, may be used on lakes and ponds designated as open to boats. Boats may not be left unattended overnight. Only electric motors are permitted on lakes and ponds of less than 70 acres.
- 48 acre Bennett Lake has disabled accessible boat docks, a privy and boat ramp.

