DANIEL BOONE CONSERVATION AREA
Edge Wade, 2016
3,523 acres  Warren Co.  DeLorme 39, D-8/9
GPS:  38.7755762,-91.4021856
MDC owned; for information call 636-441-4554

Directions:  From Jonesburg (I-70 exit 183), take Rt. Y southwest for 5 miles, then continue southwest on Tower Rd. for 2 miles into the area.

This area has been designated by Audubon Missouri as an Important Bird Area (IBA).

The 923-acre Razor Hollow Natural Area is best accessed from the third parking area (first on the left) via Area Access Trail 1213.

ADA Information:  This is an area of rugged, ridge/valley terrain.  There are no ADA compliant facilities.  Birding from a vehicle along the roads and in parking and camping areas can be very productive, especially during passerine migration seasons.

When to Visit/Species to Expect:  Reported birding trips to Daniel Boone CA show a skew to early spring (particularly March).  This is because it was one of the sites at which Ruffed Grouse were re-introduced and monitored in an attempt to reestablish the species as a Missouri breeder.  Drumming Ruffed Grouse have not been reported here since late March 2005.

Spring migration records include Winter Wren, Gray and Swainson’s Thrush, and both kinglets, Tennessee, Orange-crowned, Magnolia, Chestnut-sided, and Blackpoll Warbler.

Breeding warblers include Louisiana Waterthrush, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Northern Parula, Worm-eating, Black-and White, Kentucky, Hooded, and Pine.

Among other breeders are Chuck-will’s-widow, Whip-poor-will, Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Wood-pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Yellow-breasted Chat, Eastern Towhee, Summer and Scarlet Tanager, Blue Grosbeak and Baltimore Oriole.

Features of interest to birders:  Although the MDC site description touts hikes through “deep valleys, woodlands, savannas, glades and rugged hills,” it should be noted that of 3,523 acres, only 5 acres are described as “glade”, only 10 as non-prairie grassland and 50 acres as “savanna”.  Four ponds total 4 acres; thus 3,451 acres are forest and woodland.  The “deep valleys…and rugged hills” is
certainly an accurate description. Tower Rd. bisects the area in a generally northeast/southwest direction, for the most part running along a ridge top.

The pine stands along Tower Rd. often harbor nesting Pine Warblers that may arrive on territory as early as March. If the first stand has no warblers, try the next one, as the warblers may not be in all of them.

Short walks from any of the parking areas may turn up a feeding flock, any of Missouri’s resident woodpeckers, and in summer a variety of species singing on territory.

At the 5th lot there is a picnic table with a small open area. Check it for woodpeckers and small passerines. A short two-track road leads to a garage building and beyond is a short trail that loops around a food plot.

At the fork, a right off Tower Road leads past a small pond very near the parking area at the split. At the end is a parking/horse staging/camping area offering an open area for viewing into trees and grass, with a pond nearby.

Staying left on Tower Road leads to three more lots (all on the left). There are two ponds on the right. Pond #1 can be seen from the road and examined more closely with a very short walk. A food plot behind the last lot offers a rare opportunity to bird a flat open area and the adjacent ecotone.

Toilets: None

Camping: In all parking lots, no amenities.

Hazards/Limitations: The area has rugged terrain. It is a popular hunting destination (especially deer and turkey seasons).

Nearby Birding Sites: Loutre Creek Access*, Danville CA*, Frank Reifsnider SF, Little Lost Creek CA, Graham Cave SP.

*Birders’ Guide available
DANIEL BOONE
CONSERVATION AREA

WARREN COUNTY
3520 ACRES

SCALE

LEGEND
Boundary
Gravel Road
Parking Lot
Fishing Pond
Wildlife Waterhole
Primitive Camping Area
Hike-Bike Area
Forest
Topography
Area Access Trail
Multi-Use Trail
Food Plot

VICINITY MAP

Conservation Commission of the State of Missouri © 10/12