

A BIRDERS' GUIDE TO MISSOURI PUBLIC LANDS

MARSHALL JUNCTION CONSERVATION AREA-UPDATED 12/16/08

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774 acres Saline and Pettis Co. DeLorme 36, B-2

Directions: From I-70 exit #78 (Marshall Junction), go south on US 65 for 2 miles, then west (right) on Rt. CC for 3 miles, then north (right) on county road RB into the area.

When to Visit/Species to Expect: Good birding may be had here anytime because of the variety of habitats and easy accessibility, but spring migration is a particularly good time to explore this area. Residents and migrants seen here include a wide suite of warblers, Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes, and birds of creek bottom and upland habitats.

Features of interest to birders: A gravel road traverses the area, with low water crossings of a couple of creeks. This provides roadside birding opportunities in varied habitat. The west end of the area is open, upland habitat. The road along the eastern edge of the area leads to the Blackwater River. There are 5 parking areas. Slightly more than 500 acres are woodland; about 160 acres in old fields; 100 acres in cropland. There is one small (quarter acre) pond along the main road.

Toilets: None

Camping: Special use permit, only.

Hazards/Limitations: No designated, maintained trails. Unmanned shooting range near the east end (good birding there when no shooters present). The Blackwater River rises "fast and furious;" much of the lower areas may be flooded in the spring.

Nearby Birding Sites: Blue Lick CA, Bothwell Lodge SHS and Trail