

Milford Lake Fish and Wildlife Resources



Volunteer Efforts abound at Milford Lake, making significant contributions to the area.

Ducks Unlimited — donated 50% of the funds to purchase a marsh pump and for the placement of water level control structures.

Tri-River Chapter of the North American Wild Turkey Federation — donated labor and 100% funding for turkey habitat restoration work in the School Creek drainage.

Flint Hills Chapter of Quail Unlimited — donated funding for quail habitat restoration in the upper Republican River drainage.

Geary Co. Fish & Game Association — actively promotes the wise use of natural resources through education.

Milford Lake Association — donates labor and materials for fish habitat construction and placement.

For More Information Contact:

Milford Lake Information Center
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
4020 W. K-57 Hwy.
Junction City, KS 66441-8997
(785) 238-5714

Milford State Park
Kansas Dept. of Wildlife & Parks
8811 State Park Road
Milford, KS 66514
(785) 238-3014

Milford Lake Area Wildlife Manager
Kansas Dept. of Wildlife & Parks
Box 301
Wakefield, KS 67487
(785) 461-5402

Geary Co. Convention & Visitors Bureau
P.O. Box 1846
425 N. Washington
Junction City, KS 66441
(785) 238-2885
1-800-528-2489



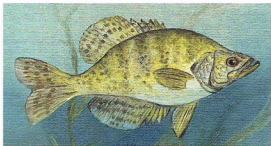
FISHERIES

Catfish

Channels and flatheads are abundant throughout the lake, with the upper end always producing the largest catches. Recently blues have been stocked and, given time, will grow to very large sizes and also provide great table fare.

Crappie

The best time for crappie fishing is spring and late fall using jigs or minnows. Brushpile fish attractors have been added recently, with many of them marked with buoys.



White Bass

Often traveling in large schools, white bass are abundant. They can be caught in open water with jigs, spoons and trolling baits.

Wipers

Wipers, a hybrid cross between striped bass and white bass, are steadily increasing in both numbers and size. The current limit on wipers is two per day and fishermen are cautioned to use care in identifying wipers from white bass.

Black Bass

Both largemouth and smallmouth bass are plentiful. Smallmouth are typically located in larger numbers in the lower half of the lake where there is better water clarity, usually associated with a rocky bank or point. Largemouth tend to stay back in the protected coves near brushy cover.

Walleye

Few types of fish can match walleye filets. Walleye fishing is best during May and June when they actively feed on the mud flats and can be caught by drifting a jig and nightcrawler along the bottom. The flats along Farnum and School Creeks traditionally provide the best walleye fishing.



WILDLIFE VIEWING OPPORTUNITIES

Bald Eagle

The bald eagle is a popular wintertime visitor to Kansas. Eagles begin arriving in November and usually stay until April depending on the weather. Watch for them down on the ice feeding on frozen fish, soaring above the lake, or sitting in the tall trees along the lake shore and the outlet channel.

Elk

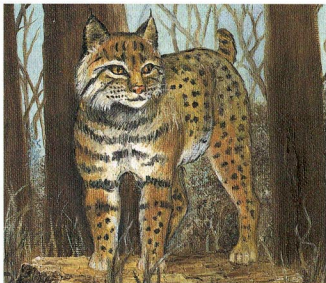
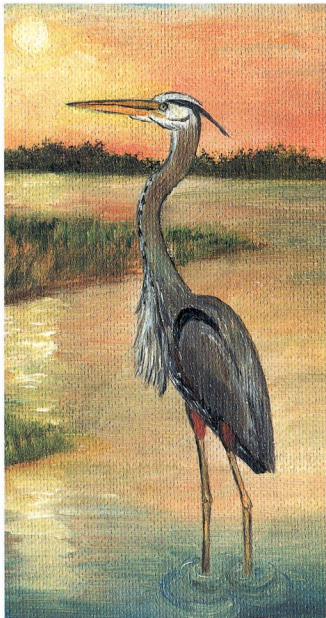
Elk, once a native Kansas species, have been reintroduced on the Fort Riley Reservation. Beginning in 1986 and with five supplemental stockings, Fort Riley now has the largest free ranging herd in Kansas. In the spring during the early evening hours watch for them feeding on wheat fields around the Timber Creek area and along Highways 82 and 77.

Pelican

Pelicans migrate through the area twice a year. Although a few become summertime residents, the large migrations occur in the early spring and fall. Watch for them flying in formation or soaring in groups. As they turn away from the sun they almost disappear. Then watch for the brilliant white flash as they turn back into the sun.

Great Blue Heron

The great blue heron is a common sight, stalking its next meal from the shallow waters. On occasion a lone American egret can be spotted, mixed in with the blues. Look for the great blue heron rookery along Rush Creek just off of US Highway 77. The large birds usually return to this nesting area during the final weeks of winter. The smaller green heron may be spotted in the wetland areas located at the northern end of the lake.



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Wildlife management at Milford Lake provides more than 23,000 acres of public hunting grounds.

Waterfowl Refuge

The refuge area is closed to all activities except for a fishing access trail located on the lower refuge.

Deer Hunting

Deer can be found anywhere on the wildlife area, but the best hunting will be found in association with the heavier timbered areas.

Geese

A goose restoration flock has been started on the upper end. Populations are returning on an annual basis with nesting evident.

Turkey

Stocking of turkey took place in 1982, featuring an Eastern/Rio Grande cross. Turkey can now be found throughout the area, especially on the creek drainages.

Wetlands










The upper end also features four separate wetland areas totalling 700 plus acres that are managed for shorebirds and waterfowl.

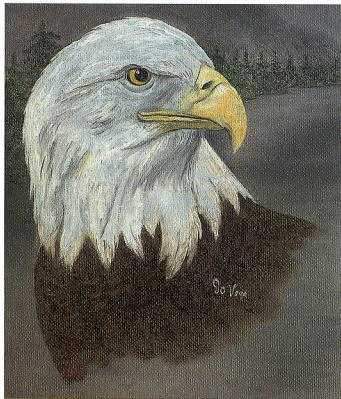
Pheasant and Quail

Pheasant and quail can generally be found throughout. This region is a transitional zone between traditional pheasant and quail habitat, offering a mixed bag of opportunities.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks publishes a Threatened and Endangered Species list. From this list there are eight species of birds, one fish, one mammal, and one insect that are "known to" or "likely to" occur here in the Milford Lake area. Some of these species may only "visit" Geary, Clay, Dickinson, and Riley Counties, passing through on their annual migrations.

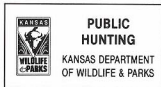
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|--|---|
|  Bald Eagle |  American Burying Beetle |
|  Eskimo Curlew |  Eastern Spotted Skunk |
|  Peregrine Falcon |  Sturgeon Chub |
|  White-Faced Ibis | |
|  Least Tern | |
|  Snowy Plover | |
|  Piping Plover | |
|  Whooping Crane | |



RULES & REGULATIONS

Check the following:

- KANSAS FISHING REGULATIONS SUMMARY
- KANSAS HUNTING & FURHARVESTING REGULATIONS SUMMARY
- CORPS OF ENGINEERS — RULES & REGULATIONS
- KDW&P's INFORMATION CENTERS for posted regulations



**AND REMEMBER . . .
PLEASE DON'T LITTER**

Original wildlife artwork
provided by Mrs. Jo Vega,
Milford, Kansas.
