

Salt Fork

Walk-In Turkey Hunting Area

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests • Boston Mountain Ranger District

Southern Region National Forests Arkansas Revised: May 2004

Salt Fork Walk-In Turkey Hunting Area, located in Franklin County, is located north of the 1-40 Mulberry exit. It can be accessed on Forest Service Roads 1519, 1510, 1003, and 1509. The area encompasses 8,950 acres. For more information contact the Boston Mountain Ranger District at (479) 667-2191.

Hunting Information

The Ozark mountain region is known for magnificent scenery, rough terrain and good turkey hunting opportunities. Walk-in turkey areas are the result of hunters requesting opportunities to hunt on public lands managed by the USDA Forest Service in a place free of disturbance from motor vehicles.

Land

This portion of the Ozark National Forest is characterized by steep rugged terrain with a predominantly oak/hickory overstory. Small stands of shortleaf pine are found along ridge tops in the area. Access into the interior part of the hunting area is limited, but closed forest roads provide ideal foot paths. The distance around this 8,950 acre hunting area is impressive, as is its steep terrain and breathtaking beauty. **This particular area is not recommended for the casual hiker.**

There are several maintained wildlife openings and ponds scattered throughout the area which provide for the seasonal food and water needs for abundant wildlife. Spirits Creek and Salt Fork Creek run north-south through the area and provide water most of the year.

Private Land

Some land along the borders of the Salt Fork Walk-in Turkey Area is privately owned, and hunters are asked to be particularly mindful of public land boundaries. All Forest Service maps show boundary lines.

Road Closures

All interior roads leading into the walk-in turkey area are closed at the boundary from April 1 to May 31 of every year. Restricting vehicle traffic protects turkeys during the critical nesting and brood rearing seasons. To obtain a complete list of road closures, please contact the Ranger District.

Codes of Federal Regulations

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 261.54 and 261.56, forest roads in this area may be closed upon official order, seasonally or permanently. Road closures prohibit the use of vehicles on designated roads. Violation of the prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both.

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 261.50(e), federal, state or local law enforcement, firefighting or rescue officers acting in an official capacity are exempt from this order.

Maps

For a more detailed topographic map of this area, please send \$6.00 per each map, requesting the Bidville USGS Quad map plus a \$1.50 handling charge to: Boston Mountain Ranger District, PO Box 76, 1803 North 18th Street, Ozark, AR 72949, (479) 667-2191. For additional information, contact the Boston Mountain Ranger District at the address or phone number listed above.

State Regulations

Hunting is permitted anywhere on the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests except within developed recreation sites, areas closed by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission or otherwise posted areas. All state hunting and fishing regulations, fees, and seasons apply on national forest land. For more information, contact the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, No. 2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205, 1-800-364-4263 or at <u>www.afgc.com</u>.

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