

# St. Francis

Revised: May 2004

# Walk-In Turkey Hunting Area

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

Southern Region National Forests

Arkansas

The **St. Francis Walk-In Turkey Hunting Area,** located in Lee and Phillips Counties, can be accessed by Forest Service Roads 97003-a, b; 97005-c, a, g, e; 1924, 97007-b, d, e; 1906-a; 97008-g; 97011a; 97010-a; 1907; 97012-d; 97013-b, c; 1926; 97014-a; 1927; 1900-f, k, q; 97018-c, d; 97019-b, a; and 1922-a, b, c on the St. Francis Ranger District.

## **Hunting Information**

This unique bottomland region located in the Mississippi River Valley is known for magnificent scenery, rough terrain and good turkey hunting opportunities. Walk-in turkey hunting 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

The forest has predominantly large, mature bottomland hardwood with some pine and dense understory vegetation. The area is generally flat, with some steep slopes near drainage areas and lies along Crowley's Ridge. Drainage areas are common and prone to flood during periods of heavy rainfall. Two large lakes and three major rivers flow through the area. Access is by walking in on closed roads or foot trails that lead into the heart of the hunting area.

There are numerous wildlife openings that are maintained year round to provide diverse and healthy wildlife habitats. Several developed and dispersed recreation areas provide camping opportunities.

# **Private Land**

Some land along the borders of the St. Francis Walk-in Turkey Hunting Area is privately owned. Hunters are asked to respect private land boundaries shown on Forest Service maps.

### **Road Closures**

All interior roads leading into the walk-in turkey area are closed permanently in this region. Restricting vehicle traffic protects turkeys during the critical nesting and brood rearing seasons.

# **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**

Unlike the other walk-in turkey hunting areas in the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests, this particular hunting area is unique because the areas are scattered along the length of the Forest, not all in one section. For a more detailed map of this area, please send \$6.00 for the St. Francis National Forest Visitor Map, plus \$1.50 shipping and handling to: St. Francis Ranger District, 2675 Hwy 44, Marianna, AR 72360, 870-295-5278. This map is also the topographical map for the region. For a complete list of road closures, please contact the District.

### **State Regulations**

Hunting is permitted anywhere on the 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 the website: www.afgc.com.

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