

Hunting in Southeast Missouri

There are numerous conservation areas to enjoy nature and hunting in Southeast Missouri. The Sikeston area is considered the crown jewel for dove and waterfowl hunting in the state of Missouri. Dove hunting in particular is extremely popular in the sand ridges that occur in south Scott County, attracting birds due to the high prevalence of natural food sources, harvested crop fields, and sandy substrate that doves use for grit that aids in digesting food. Sand Prairie Conservation Area, Ten Mile Pond Conservation Area, Crowley's Ridge Conservation Area, and Otter Slough Conservation Area all offer exceptional public hunting opportunities within 30 minutes of Sikeston. For more locations to hunt in Southeast Missouri go to www.mdc.mo.gov.

Ten Mile Pond Conservation Area 3,775 acres for fishing, hunting, and bird watching (bald eagles); boat ramp; handicap accessible; Hwy. 80, Mississippi County. This area was once a lowland hardwood forest intermingled with cypress sloughs. Most of the area flooded seasonally and was an important habitat for wintering waterfowl, furbearers, eagles, and other wildlife species. Hunting—deer, dove, and rabbit. (573) 649-2770



Crowleys Ridge Conservation Area 1,878 acres surrounded by the lowlands of the Missouri Bootheel. The area also features two small lakes and several small ponds stocked annually with channel catfish. Hunting— quail, squirrel, deer, dove, rabbit, and turkey. (573) 290-5730

Sand Prairie Conservation Area 200-acres in Scott County near Benton, Missouri. This area is managed for natural communities including sand prairie, sand savanna, and sandy swale ephemeral wetlands. Management on the area is intended to promote species that historically occupied native sand prairies on the Blodgett Terrace. Hunting—dove, quail, and rabbit. (573) 290-5730

Seven Islands Conservation Area 1,375 acres for fishing in two lakes; Other activities include; bird watching, camping, fishing and hunting (archery & muzzle loading only); Boat ramp/parking lot; Route A, Mississippi County. Hunting—turkey, deer, rabbit, and squirrel. (573) 290-5730

General Watkins Conservation Area 1,107 acres located on Highway 61, in Scott County. Area includes trails, 9 fishable lakes/ponds, bird watching, hunting, camping and picnic areas; Hunting—quail, deer, rabbit, squirrel, and turkey. (573) 290-5730

Otter Slough Conservation Area 2,200 acres of native wetlands with 350 acres of fishing in four lakes; bird watching – song birds, eagles, migratory waterfowl and shore birds; hunting – deer (archery only), dove, waterfowl and rabbit; canoeing; primitive camping; handicap accessible; County Road 675, Stoddard County (573) 290-5730

Donaldson Point Conservation Area 5,785 forested acres with 60 acres of ponds. Activities include fishing, hunting (deer, rabbit, squirrel, turkey, and waterfowl); bird watching (bald eagle, giant crane, Mississippi Kites, interior least terns, and Swainson's warbler); canoeing; primitive camping; Mississippi River access, dirt boat ramp; not open to the public when Mississippi River water level is at or above 34' (New Madrid gage). New Madrid County Road 405 (573) 290-5730 .

Duck Creek Conservation Area 6,318 acres located nine miles north of Puxico on Highway 51 in Stoddard, Bollinger and Wayne counties. This conservation area contains 1,500 acres of open marsh, 2,700 acres of bottomland forest which includes, 1,200 acres of managed green-tree reservoirs and a 1,800 acre lake. Hunting—squirrel, rabbit, turkey, duck, dove, and deer.



For more information and amenities contact Kathy Medley, Director, Sikeston Convention & Visitors Bureau (888) 309-6591, kathy.medley@sikeston.net

For information on hunting contact Corporal Andrew Mothershead, MDC Conservation Agent for Scott County, at (573) 380-2578 or www.mdc.mo.gov