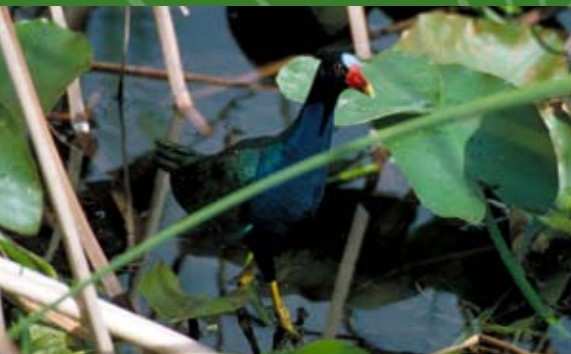


Twenty-two bird
watching sites in five
Alabama counties

Birding off the beaten path

Piney Woods Birding Trail



THE CONSERVATION FUND

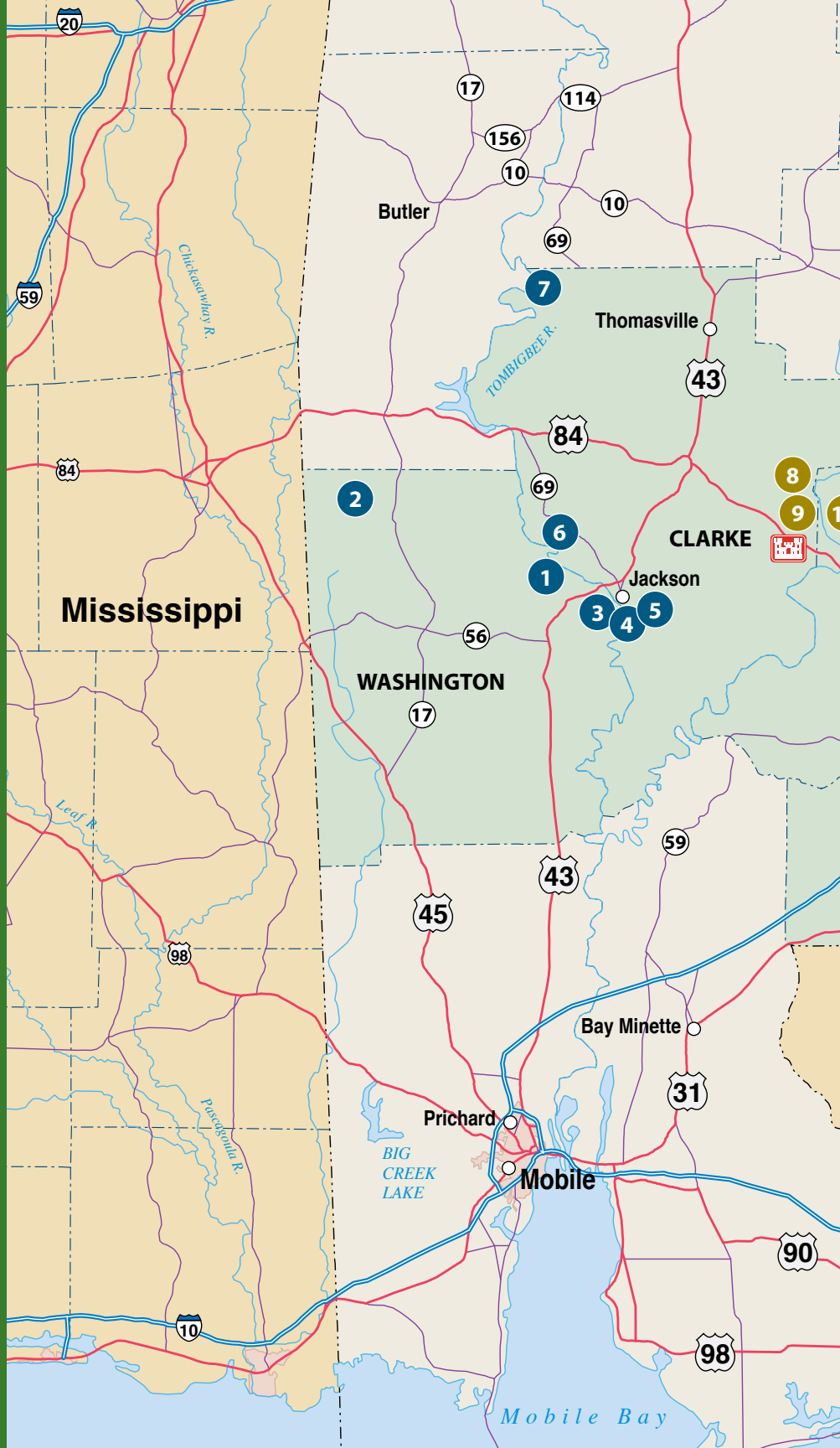
America's Partner in Conservation

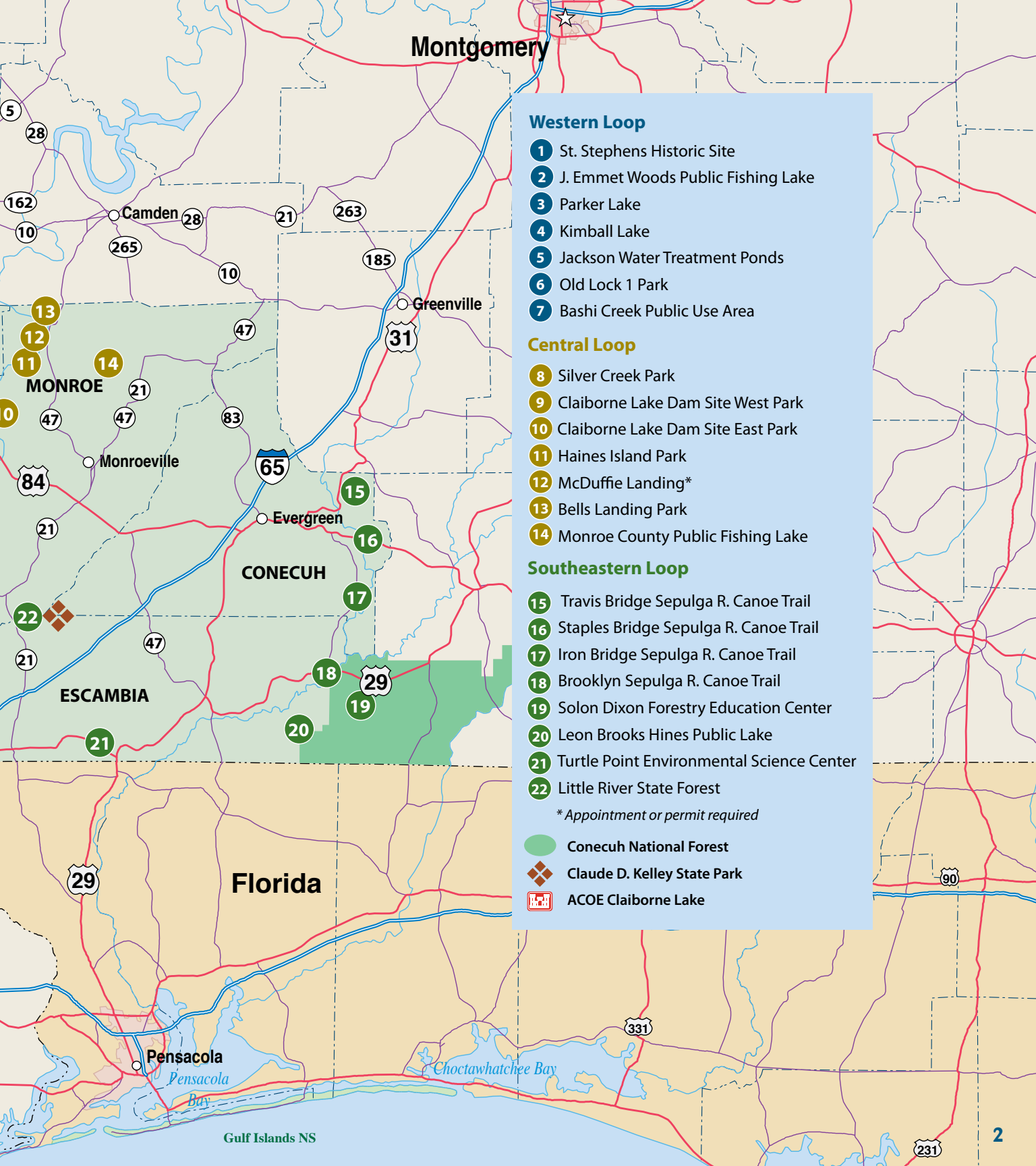
Funding provided by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

Visitor Guide



Why do so many birds make their home here?
Much of the answer lies in the region's varied habitats. Alabama has developed a State Wildlife Action Plan to protect these essential habitats, so that the state's remarkable wildlife will continue to grace this landscape.





Western Loop

- 1 St. Stephens Historic Site
- 2 J. Emmet Woods Public Fishing Lake
- 3 Parker Lake
- 4 Kimball Lake
- 5 Jackson Water Treatment Ponds
- 6 Old Lock 1 Park
- 7 Bashi Creek Public Use Area




Central Loop

- 8 Silver Creek Park
- 9 Claiborne Lake Dam Site West Park
- 10 Claiborne Lake Dam Site East Park
- 11 Haines Island Park
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- 13 Bells Landing Park
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Southeastern Loop

- 15 Travis Bridge Sepulga R. Canoe Trail
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- 17 Iron Bridge Sepulga R. Canoe Trail
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- 19 Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center
- 20 Leon Brooks Hines Public Lake
- 21 Turtle Point Environmental Science Center
- 22 Little River State Forest

** Appointment or permit required*

-  Conecuh National Forest
-  Claude D. Kelley State Park
-  ACOE Claiborne Lake



Information



Restrooms



Handicap Access



Food



Parking



Canoeing



Boat Ramp



Fishing



Hiking



Visitors Center



Picnic Area



Driving Route



Swimming



Beach Area



Campground



RV Hook-ups



Viewing Area



Horse Riding



Biking



Water

The symbols used here are those of the various signing (official and unofficial) used by the Forest Service in marking recreation and other accommodations throughout the national forests.

Photo credits: Great Egret/Steve Hillebrand, USFWS. Cover images: Left column, (top) Swallow-tailed Kite/Page Brown, Cornell Lab of Ornithology; (middle) Brown-headed Nuthatch/James Wedge/VIREO; (bottom) Purple Gallinule/Thomas Barnes, USFWS; (right) Barred Owl/Walt Burch. All plant line art: NRCS.

Heartfelt thanks to Don and Judy Self of Gallion, Alabama, for meticulously researching and documenting the sites in this guidebook.



Western Loop



Tourist Information

A

Washington County
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here

B

Clarke County
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here

Note: Icons correspond to
“local tourist info” sites shown
on map on pages 1 & 2.

The Western Loop of the Piney Woods Birding Trail (Sites 1-8) generally follows the winding course of the Tombigbee River, guiding you through a region of river-bottom hardwood forests and tupelo and bald cypress swamps. These river-bottom forests provide nesting habitat for swallow-tailed and Mississippi kites; northern parula, yellow-throated, prothonotary, Swainson's and Kentucky warblers; American redstart; and yellow-throated vireo.

Lakeshores, slow-moving streams, and wetlands along the Western Loop are home to such wading birds as the brilliantly colored purple gallinule and its only slightly less colorful cousin the common moorhen, as well as white ibis, yellow-crowned night-heron, little blue heron, green heron, great blue heron, and great egret. Bald eagles and ospreys frequent the Tombigbee River and the region's many lakes. As is the case in all three Piney Woods Birding Trail loops, you'll see the greatest variety and abundance of birds along the Western Loop during spring migration and breeding season, when trans-Gulf migrants substantially boost the local bird count.

Your journey along the Western Loop begins at St. Stephens Historic Site, which not only offers great birding, but is also one of Alabama's outstanding archeological sites. As you explore the forests, wetlands, and open waters of St. Stephens for birds, be sure to take time to explore the fascinating cultural history of this site, once Alabama's territorial capital.

From St. Stephens, the Western Loop will lead you to several bird-rich sites where water plays a dominant role in the habitat—from lakes and ponds to the Tombigbee River itself. You'll end this loop at Bashi Creek, where you can paddle several miles upstream from the creek's confluence with the Tombigbee and discover the birds of the surrounding sycamore-oak-cypress riparian habitat.



Photo credits: (left) Prothonotary Warbler/Nell Baldaccino, USFWS; (right) Green Heron/Eugene Hester, USFWS



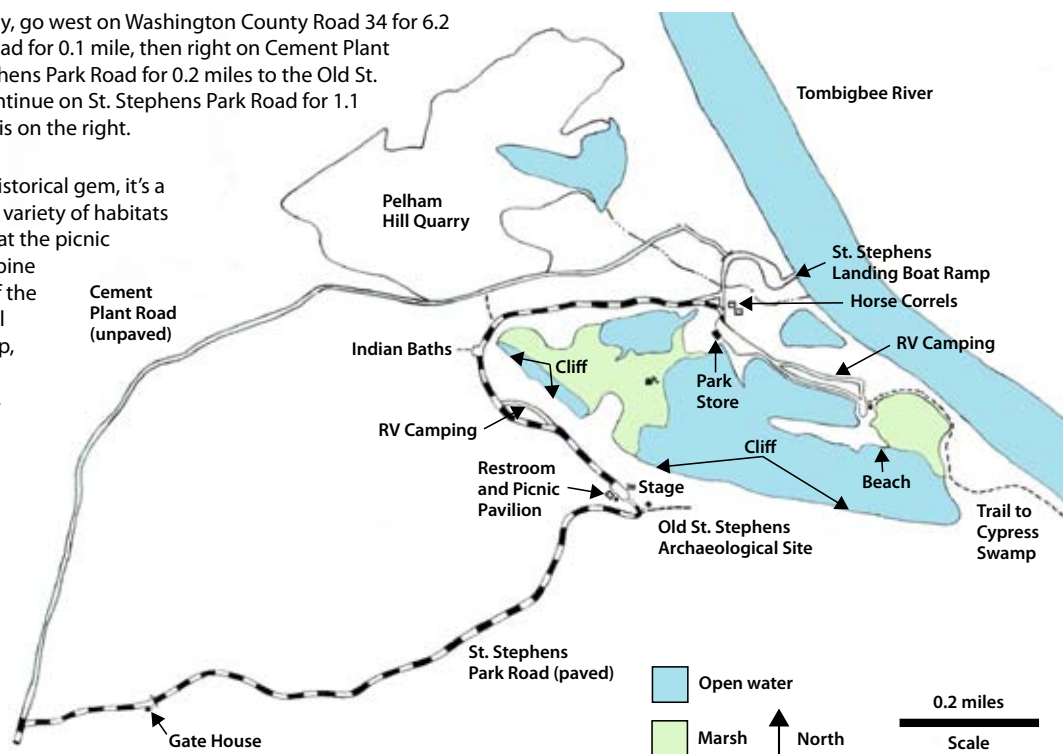
Marsh at the west end of the old limestone quarry, the main lake is in the background./Don Self

Site 1: Old St. Stephens Historical Park

Directions: From US Highway 43 at Leroy, go west on Washington County Road 34 for 6.2 miles. Turn right on St. Stephens Fork Road for 0.1 mile, then right on Cement Plant Road for 0.6 miles. Turn right on St. Stephens Park Road for 0.2 miles to the Old St. Stephens Historical Park gate house. Continue on St. Stephens Park Road for 1.1 miles. The entrance to the historical site is on the right.

Description: St. Stephens is not only a historical gem, it's a birding gem as well. The park contains a variety of habitats that draw a fantastic array of birds. Park at the picnic pavilion and explore the mixed loblolly pine and hardwood forest on the hills west of the old quarry and within the archaeological site. The extensive marsh, cypress swamp, and lake habitats at the quarry site draw many shorebirds, including least bittern, sora, and greater yellowlegs. Osprey, Mississippi kite, and red-shouldered hawk frequent the quarry lake. Northern parula, yellow-throated, pine, prothonotary, and hooded warblers all breed within the park. Spring and fall bring occasional flocks of American white pelicans.

Birding is just one of many recreational activities you can take part in here. In addition to exploring the park's historical legacy, visitors can camp, bike, picnic, hike, swim, fish, and boat.



Site 1 Access: modest access fee
GPS Coordinates: N 31° 33.068' / W 88° 03.058' (Gate house)
 N 31° 33.573' / W 88° 02.072' (Camp store)
Contact: St. Stephens State Historical Site
 2056 Old St. Stephens Rd., St. Stephens, AL 36569
Phone: 251-247-2622 (Camp Store)



5



Gopher Tortoise encountered about 200 yards from the gate house./Don Self



Little Blue Heron near the park store./Don Self



Bald Eagle/Phil Coleman, USFWS



Prothonotary Warbler/J&K Hollingsworth

Site 2: J. Emmet Woods Public Fishing Lake

Directions: From the intersection of St. Stephens Fork Road and Washington County Road 34, go west on Washington 34 for 19.3 miles to the traffic light at the intersection with Alabama Highway 17 in Millry. Turn left (south) on Alabama 17 and go 0.1 miles, then turn right (west) on Healing Springs Ave. (Monroe 34). Go 1.6 miles on Monroe 34, then turn left (south) on State Lake Road and go 0.8 miles to the lake entrance. Park in the parking area west of the lake store, or if water levels permit, cross the spillway and park at the west end of the dam.

Description: Much of this 84-acre lake is surrounded by second-growth forest intermixed with dense underbrush. The area around the lake concession and fishing piers is maintained as a picnic area with mature hardwoods and pines shading the lawn. The lake access road on the southeast side of the lake and well worn footpaths on the southwest side provide excellent access for birding. Anhingas, wading birds, ospreys, and bald eagles are regular visitors to the lake. Orchard orioles, purple martins and barn swallows nest in the picnic area. Watch for brown-headed nuthatches, hooded warblers, and eastern towhees in the pines and underbrush.

Site 3: Parker Lake

Directions: From the intersection of US Highway 43 (mile marker 59.6) and Alabama Highway 177 in Jackson, go 1.1 miles south on Alabama 177. Turn right onto the unpaved road after the Parker Lake RV Park sign. Go past the RV park and through the gate to the parking area at the boat ramp.

Description: Birding around the boat ramp can be productive, but exploring by canoe or kayak is a great way to more fully experience this site. Paddle slowly through the twilight of the dense tupelo and bald cypress forest that lines the margins of the lake in spring and summer for close-up views of blue-gray gnatcatchers, northern parulas, and prothonotary warblers. In the canopy, listen for great crested flycatchers, red-eyed vireos, yellow-throated warblers, and barred owls. Red-shouldered hawks and Mississippi and swallow-tailed kites soar above the lake and forage for insects and lizards in the tree tops. A variety of butterflies, dragonflies, turtles and alligators sun themselves on the roots and buttresses of the trees.

During winter, spring and early summer, you can canoe/kayak from Parker Lake to Kimbell Lake and other smaller lakes. In late summer and fall and during periods of drought, this may not be possible. Bring a compass or GPS if you plan to explore the more remote reaches of this site.

Old St. Stephens

Old St. Stephens is one of the most important historical and archaeological sites in Alabama. Though it's now a ghost town, St. Stephens buzzed with activity from the 1790s to the 1820s. In 1811, the General Assembly of the Mississippi Territory officially established the town of St. Stephens. When Alabama Territory was created in 1817, St. Stephens was its capital. By 1819, the town's population reached an estimated several thousand, with over 500 homes and 20 storefronts. But when Alabama became a state and the capital was moved to Cahawba, business in St. Stephens began to decline. Many residents moved two miles west to New St. Stephens, a prominent crossroads served by a railway station. By the Civil War, Old St. Stephens had all but disappeared, its buildings in ruin.

For information contact the Old St. Stephens Historical Commission, (251) 246-6790, or visit www.oldststephens.com. GPS: N 31° 32.391' / W 88° 03.262' (Visitors Center and Museum)

Don Self



Site 2 Access: Free; open Feb through Nov, sunrise to sunset, closed Monday
GPS Coordinates: N 31°37.335' / W 88° 20.707'
Contact: ADCNR: J. Emmet Woods Public Fishing Lake, 809 State Lake Rd., Millry, AL 36558
Phone: 251-846-2512

Site 3 Access: Free, open 6 a.m. to dusk
GPS Coordinates: N 31° 30.675' / W 87° 55.164' (Boat ramp)
Contact: City of Jackson Parks and Recreation
 PO Box 1096, Jackson, AL 36545
Phone: 251-246-2461



Buddy's Corner

Vinegar Bend, Alabama

Buddy Givens has built a set of storefronts on his land that recreate elements of a historic Alabama village. Stores include an apothecary and ice cream parlor, sewing shop, game room, and a printing room with four unique printing presses and newspaper artifacts. In the old Vinegar Bend train depot, you'll find an interpretive display on turpentine, including a model of a turpentine operation built by Buddy's father when he was 84 and had only one arm. Buddy also maintains an extensive collection of model cars from the '40s, '50s, and '60s. Buddy leads tours by appointment only and enjoys speaking with groups. Don't miss this fascinating tour, in which every item has a story that Buddy's more than willing to tell. To arrange a tour, contact A. V. "Buddy" Givens at (251) 454-8947.

Credit

Photo of Buddy's Corner



Kimbell Lake is surrounded by tupelo and bald cypress swamp/Don Self

Site 4: Kimbell Lake

Directions: From Parker Lake, return to Alabama Highway 177, turn right (south) and go 0.6 miles. Turn right onto the unpaved road after the Kimbell Lake RV Park sign, go 100 feet and turn right into the RV park. Access to Kimbell Lake is at the back of the RV park.

Description: Bird the hardwoods within the RV park and the understory around its margins for yellow-billed cuckoos, downy woodpeckers and great crested flycatchers. Then canoe Kimbell Lake and the tupelo and bald cypress swamps that surround it (This site offers the best examples of this swamp habitat of any on the birding trail. Large stumps testify to the size of the virgin forest.). In spring and early summer, multiple pairs of red-bellied and pileated woodpeckers fill the air with a cacophony of calls and drumming. Listen, too, for northern parulas, prothonotary warblers and common yellowthroats, as well as the distinctive two-syllable "Na-ha" call of the fish crow. Great egrets and great blue and little blue herons stalk the swamps.

During winter, spring, and early summer, you can canoe/kayak from Kimbell Lake to Parker Lake and to other smaller unnamed lakes located southeast of Kimbell Lake. In late summer and fall and during periods of drought, this may not be possible. Bring a compass or GPS when you explore the more remote reaches of this site.



American Bittern/Gary Zahm, USFWS

Site 5: Jackson Water Treatment Ponds

Directions: From the intersection of US Highway 43 (mile marker 59.6) and Alabama Highway 177 in Jackson, go 1.8 miles south on Alabama 177 to its intersection with Clarke County Road 15 (Depot Road). Turn right (south) onto Clarke 15 and go 1.5 miles to the intersection with Clarke County Road 2 (Gainestown Road). Turn left (east) on Clarke 2 and go 0.2 miles. The water treatment ponds and unpaved parking area are on the left (north) side of the road.

Description: The ponds are surrounded by a tall chain link fence, so a spotting scope is useful, though not a necessity. Purple gallinules, snowy and great egrets, little blue herons and wood ducks are regulars along the dikes separating the ponds. Watch the willows in the western pond for yellow-crowned night herons. Black Terns and swallow-tailed Kites may be present in late summer, and American bitterns are winter residents. During migration, all of the eastern species of swallows may visit these ponds. You'll find a description of this site in *A Birder's Guide to Alabama* (Porter, 2001, page 65).

Site 4 Access: Free, open 6 a.m. to dusk
GPS Coordinates: N 31°30.334' / W 87° 54.777'
Contact: City of Jackson Parks and Recreation
PO Box 1096, Jackson, AL 36545
Phone: 251-246-2461



Site 5 Access: Free
GPS Coordinates: N 31° 29.406' / W 87° 52.785'
Contact: None
Phone: None





Old upper lock entrance structures/Don Self

Site 6: Old Lock 1 Park

Directions: From intersection of US Highway 43 and Alabama Highway 69 at Jackson, go north on Alabama 69 for 8.4 miles (mile marker 9.1). Turn left (west) on Old Lock 1 Road and drive 3.5 miles to the park entrance. Park in the parking area by the pavilion and restrooms.

Description: The park facilities are located in an old pecan orchard, but most of the park's acreage falls within an old river meander north of the old lock and dam structures (The old meander core is open to hunting during hunting seasons.). White-eyed, red-eyed, and yellow-throated vireos, Carolina wrens, northern cardinals, indigo buntings, and orchard orioles nest in the area around the facilities. Yellow-billed cuckoos, American redstarts, prothonotary warblers, and northern parulas seem to prefer the river margin. Winter brings bald eagles, house wrens, and orange-crowned warblers. Ospreys and Caspian terns frequently fish the waters below the dam during migration.

While you can do great birding on land, try paddling the area behind the old dam. During low water, canoes and kayaks may not be able to access this area from the boat ramp, but you can launch from the stairway on the east (upstream) side of the old lock structure. The main channel of the Tombigbee is accessible year-round from the boat ramp, on which you can paddle 1.2 mile downriver to St. Stephens State Historical Park (PWB Site 1).



Bashi Creek looking east from the boat ramp/Don Self

Site 7: Bashi Creek Public Use Area

Directions: From intersection of Old Lock 1 Road and Alabama Highway 69, turn left (north) and go 34.1 miles to Morvin. Turn left at mile marker 43.2 on Clarke County Road 20 (Campbell Landing Road) and go 5.1 miles to the park entrance. Continue 0.4 miles on the paved road to the parking area by the public boat ramp. The unpaved road to the right just inside the entrance leads to the restroom.

Description: Canoe or kayak east up Bashi Creek in spring and summer to immerse yourself in the sycamore/oak/cypress riparian forest that lines both sides of the creek for several miles upstream from its confluence with the Tombigbee. Watch the banks for spotted sandpipers, herons, and egrets, and the hardwoods for eastern kingbirds, red-eyed vireos, blue-gray gnatcatchers, and orchard orioles. The understory contains northern parulas, prothonotary warblers, American redstarts, yellow-breasted chats, and indigo buntings. Swallow-tailed kites, Mississippi kites, and red-shouldered hawks are among the raptors frequently seen in summer. Alligators are common in quiet backwaters. The short-grass areas around the parking area and boat ramp often yield winter sparrows and pipits. Along the south bank of Bashi Creek, watch for large, round boulders formed from a fossil-rich marine sandstone—the Bashi Marl member of the Hatchetigbee Formation.

Site 6 Access: Free; open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
GPS Coordinates: N 31° 34.363' / W 88° 01.913'
Contact: US Army Corps of Engineers
 384 Resource Management Rd.
 Demopolis, AL 36732
 Phone: 334-289-3540

Site 7 Access: Free.
GPS Coordinates: N 31° 57.628' / W 88° 0.3951'
Contact: US Army Corps of Engineers
 384 Resource Management Rd., Demopolis, AL 36732
 Phone: 334-289-3540







Central Loop



Tourist Information



Clarke County
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here



Monroe County
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here

Note: Icons correspond to
“local tourist info” sites shown
on map on pages 1 & 2.

The Central Loop of the Piney Woods Birding Trail (Sites 8-15) will guide you through the Southern Red Hills and Buhrstone Hills region of south-central Alabama. Underlain by extremely erosion-resistant rocks, this region contains some of the steepest terrain in the Gulf Coastal Plain, rising as much as 400 feet above the surrounding lowlands. The Red Hills are home to Alabama’s State Amphibian, the federally threatened Red Hills Salamander (see related story, page 13).

Pine forests blanket these upland areas and ridgetops, much of which is now cultivated in pine plantations. Mixed hardwood and pine forests cover the steep hillsides, with many species of magnolia in the understory. These forests provide habitat for the northern bobwhite, common ground doves (southernmost sites only), brown-headed nuthatch, pine and hooded warblers, and indigo buntings.

Cutting through this rolling terrain is the Alabama River, and nearly all of the sites along the Central Loop lie along this beautiful and historic waterway. At these sites, you’ll find ample opportunities for exploring Alabama’s birds and other wildlife by boat, canoe, or kayak. River-bottom hardwood forests cover the narrow alluvial plains along the river. These plains hold many lakes and swamps that provide refuge for anhingas, swallow-tailed and Mississippi kites, red-shouldered hawks, barred owls, and most of the regional wading birds. Wood storks, a federally endangered species, may stop along the river corridor during late summer and fall.

As its name suggests, the Central Loop truly traverses the heart of the Piney Woods region. Take time out from your birding explorations to visit such quintessential southern towns as Thomasville and Monroeville, childhood hometowns of authors Kathryn Tucker Windham, Harper Lee, and Truman Capote.



Photo credits: (left) Thomasville/Alabama Tourism Department, ©JeffreyGreenberg@aol.com; (right) Common Yellowthroat/Dave Menke, USFWS

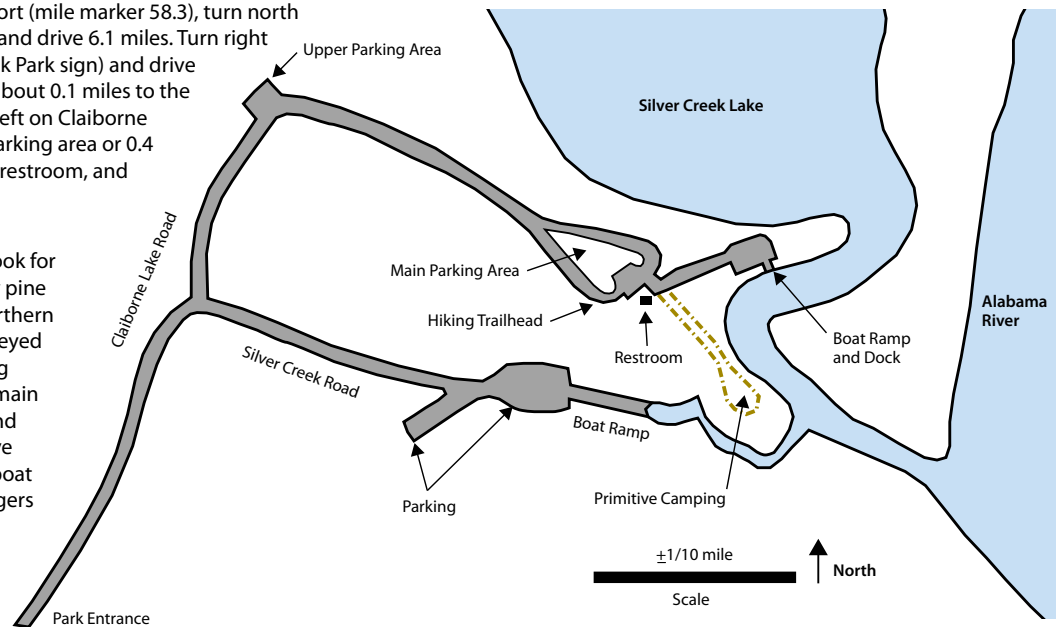


Confluence of Silver Creek and Alabama River, note red buckeye, river cane, and Spanish moss in hardwoods/Don Self

Site 8: Silver Creek Park

Directions: From US Highway 84 at Gosport (mile marker 58.3), turn north on Gosport Road/Clarke County Road 39 and drive 6.1 miles. Turn right (east) on Claiborne Lake Road (Silver Creek Park sign) and drive 1.1 miles to the park entrance. Continue about 0.1 miles to the intersection with Silver Creek Road. Bear left on Claiborne Lake Road. Drive 0.1 miles to the upper parking area or 0.4 miles to the main parking area, trailhead, restroom, and primitive camping area.

Description: At the upper parking area, look for birds of Silver Creek Park's upland loblolly pine forest. Bobwhite, eastern towhee, and northern cardinal live here year-round, with white-eyed vireo, hooded warbler, and indigo bunting present in spring and summer. From the main parking area, you can bird the narrow band of river bottom hardwoods in the primitive campground and picnic area east of the boat ramp. Cerulean warblers and scarlet tanagers stop here during migration, and yellow-throated vireos and northern parulas are summer residents. Scan Silver Creek Lake from the boat ramp for northern roughwing and barn swallows.



You can use Silver Creek Park as a put-in for a 2.4-mile paddle down to Claiborne Lake Dam Site East and Isaac Creek Campground (PWBT Site 10). Or, for those paddling from Haines Island or Bells Landing Parks (PWBT Sites 11 and 13), it can serve as a rest stop, overnight camp, or take-out.

Site 8 Access: Free; Park areas more than 300 feet from park facilities are open to hunting in season.

GPS Coordinates: N 31° 39.760' / W 87° 34.729'

Contact: US Army Corps of Engineers

1226 Power House Road, Camden, AL 36726

Phone: 334-682-4244



Hooded Warbler/USFWS



Bobwhite/Dave Menke, USFWS



Caspian Tern/Lee Karney, USFWS

Site 9: Claiborne Lake Dam Site West Park

Directions: From the intersection of Claiborne Lake Road and Clarke Road 39, go 2.5 miles south on Clarke 39 to 11 Mile Post Road. Go straight on 11 Mile Post Road for 0.4 miles, then turn left (east) on West Bank Road and drive 0.8 miles to the park entrance. From the park entrance, continue 0.2 miles east to the primitive camping area.

Description: If you park at the primitive camping area, you can bird the edges of the mixed pine and hardwood forest. Great crested flycatchers, white-eyed vireos, northern parulas, summer tanagers, indigo buntings, and orchard orioles are common summer residents. Watch for both swallow-tailed and Mississippi kites foraging just above the tree tops. Spring and fall witness the passage of numerous migrants, including rose-breasted grosbeaks.

Continue 0.2 miles to the parking area next to the spillway. The sandbars downstream from the spillway attract large numbers of wading birds in any season. Shorebirds, including solitary and spotted sandpipers, use them for stopovers during spring and especially fall migration. Small flocks of Caspian terns often feed below the spillway during migration. Forster's terns winter here along with large flocks of double-crested cormorants. Watch the large field between the pavilion and the spillway for loggerhead shrikes and eastern bluebirds year round.

Site 9 Access: Free; much of the park is open to hunting in season. GPS Coordinates: N 31° 36.944' / W 87° 33.591' Contact: US Army Corps of Engineers, 1226 Power House Road, Camden, AL 36726, Phone: 334-682-4244



White Ibis/Lee Karney, USFWS

Site 10: Claiborne Lake Dam Site East Park

Directions: From the intersection of US Highway 84 (mile marker 64.2) and Monroe County Road 39 at Claiborne, take Monroe 39 north 8.3 miles to Alabama Highway 41. Turn left (north) on Alabama 41 and go 0.7 miles. Turn left (west) on Monroe 17 and go 5.0 miles. Turn left (west) on Monroe County Road 44 (Lock & Dam Road) and go 1.4 miles. Turn left on Monroe 13 (Lock & Dam Road) and go 3.6 miles to the park entrance.

Description: Park at the Alabama River Museum and bird the edges of the loblolly pine plantation. Purple martins, northern rough-winged and barn swallows, and orchard orioles frequent the area around the museum. Continue north on Isaac Creek Road to the boat ramp on Isaac Creek. Bird the hardwood swamp along the creek, by canoe if possible. Swallow-tailed kites have been reported nesting north of Isaac Creek Campground.

South of the lock structure, loggerhead shrikes nest in roadside trees. Continue to the playground by the southern boat ramp, and walk the Cypress Swamp Trail. A beaver-made wetland attracts birds like white ibis, little blue herons, and common yellowthroats.

This is the take-out for paddles from the Corps of Engineers Parks located upriver (PWBT stops 8, 11 and 13). The Alabama River Canoe Trail portage extends through the Dam Site East Park from the northern boat ramp to the southern boat ramp.

Site 10 Access: Free; Parts of the park are open to hunting in season., GPS Coordinates: N 31° 36.960' / W 87° 32.445' (Park entrance) Contact: US Army Corps of Engineers 1226 Power House Road, Camden, AL 36726 Phone: 334-682-4244



Alabama River Museum

Among the Alabama River Museum's exhibits, you'll find Eocene marine fossils from the bluffs at Claiborne and Bell's Landings that brought fame and world-renowned paleontologists to the area in the early 1800s. You'll also see Native American artifacts excavated at the present Claiborne Lock and Dam site and other archaeological sites in Monroe County. These artifacts span thousands of years, from pre-history to the Creek Indians who lived in Monroe County until the Removal of 1834, better known as the Trail of Tears. A working scale model of the Nettie Quill immortalizes the steamboat era of transportation, and several exhibits, including hands-on exhibits for young people, highlight the region's wildlife. Open on Saturday from 9-4, March through October. For information, contact Monroe County Heritage Museums, P.O. Box 1637, Monroeville, AL 36461. 251-575-7433, www.tokillamockingbird.com.

GPS: N31° 36.933' / W87° 32.908'

Creek Indian period clothing/Don Self



Red Hills Salamander

The only place on earth you'll find Alabama's State Amphibian, the Red Hills Salamander (*Phaeognathus hubrichti*), is on hardwood-covered, cool, shady, moist ravines and bluffs in Alabama's Monroe, Conecuh, Butler, Covington, and Crenshaw Counties. Even here, you're unlikely to spot the salamander, as it lives underground, venturing to the mouth of its burrow at night to eat insects. Herpetologists didn't discover the Red Hills Salamander until 1960. With low reproductive rates and loss of habitat from logging and other practices, the salamander has been federally listed as threatened since 1976.

The Red Hills Salamander is dark brown to dark gray in color with a prehensile tail that occupies nearly half its total length of up to 10 inches. Its life expectancy in the wild is unknown, but an individual at the Cincinnati Zoo lived more than 25 years.

Emmett Blankenship, USFWS



Don Self

Site 11: Haines Island Park

Directions: From Claiborne Lock & Dam, return to intersection with Monroe County Road 17, turn left (north) on Monroe 17 and go 5.0 miles. Turn left (west) on unpaved Monroe County Road 49 to Haines Island Park and Davis Ferry and go about 1.0 miles to the park entrance.

Description: The entrance to this 480-acre park is in a pine-dominated forest atop the Buhrstone Questa escarpment. From the overlook, scan the Alabama River Valley for red-shouldered and broad-winged hawks. Continue 0.5 miles to the public boat ramp and ferry, where you'll find trailheads for three hiking trails (each about one mile long). The road from the boat ramp through the lower part of the park traverses a narrow strip of hardwoods between the Alabama River and a marsh and lake. Watch for wood ducks, anhingas, herons, egrets and white ibis around the lake. Nutrias, large aquatic rodents introduced from South America, are a common sight.

Haines Island Park boat ramp makes an excellent put-in/take-out for paddles on the Alabama River, especially in the spring. Try paddling south to Silver Creek Park (8.3 miles) or Claiborne Lake Dam Site East (10.7 miles), PWBT Sites 8 and 10 respectively. This site makes an excellent take-out for paddlers coming downstream from Bells Landing Park (PWBT Site 13). Davis Ferry (free) runs on weekdays from 6:30 am to noon and from 1:00 to 4:10 pm.

Site 11 Access: Free; Park areas are open to hunting in season. GPS Coordinates: N 31° 43.248' / W 87° 27.791' (Park entrance); N 31° 43.473' / W 87° 28.158' (Trailheads), Contact: US Army Corps of Engineers, 1226 Power House Road, Camden, AL 36726, Phone: 334-682-4244



Site 12: McDuffie Landing

Directions: From Haines Island Park, return to Monroe County Road 17. Turn left on Monroe 17 and go 2.8 miles. Turn left (north) on Alabama Highway 41 and go 1.6 miles. Turn left (west) on McDuffie Landing Road and go 0.7 miles to the gate at the entrance to the property.

Or, from the intersection of US Highway 84 and Monroe County Road 39 at Claiborne, take Monroe 39 north 8.0 miles to Alabama Highway 41. Turn left on Alabama 41 for 9.6 miles to mile marker 66.6. Turn left on McDuffie Landing Road for 0.7 miles to entrance.

Description: McDuffie Landing, a 116-acre tract of land owned by the US Corps of Engineers, is currently open only for hunting and bird watching. A **written permit is required for entry**. Permits are free, issued annually after September 1 by the US Army Corps of Engineers at either the Millers Ferry Resource Office, 1226 Power House Road, Camden, AL 36726 (334-682-4244), or the Alabama River Lakes Site Office, 8493 U.S. Highway 80 W, Hayneville, AL 36040, (334-872-9554). Office hours are 7– 4, M-F. **Requests to process permits will not be taken over the phone.**

Park on McDuffie Landing Road by the yellow gate and proceed on foot. The park access roads make excellent birding trails in river bottom hardwoods and pines. Red-eyed vireos, Acadian flycatchers, northern parulas, yellow-throated, hooded, and Kentucky warblers, and summer tanagers are common spring and summer residents.

Site 12 Access: By permit only; property is open to bow hunting. There is no access to the river for boating at this site. GPS Coordinates: N 31° 44.756' / W 87° 25.882' (Entrance gate), Contact: US Army Corps of Engineers, 1226 Power House Road Camden, AL 36726 Phone: 334-682-4244



Bells Landing Park picnic area/Don Self

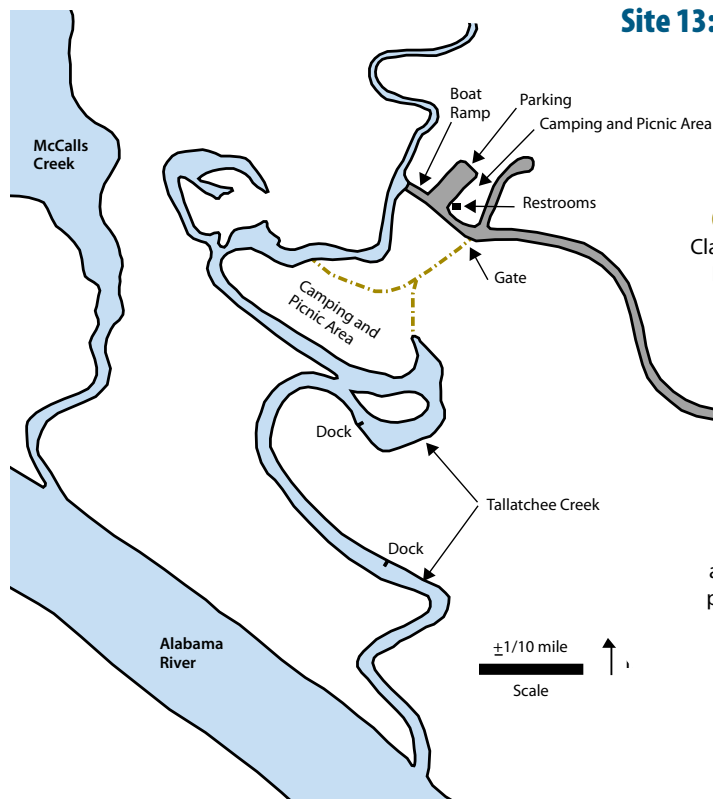
Site 13: Bells Landing Park

Directions: From the intersection McDuffie Landing Road and AL Highway 41, continue north on Alabama 41 for 5.2 miles to mile marker 71.8. Turn left (west) on Bells Landing Road and go 1.1 miles to the park entrance.

Or, from the intersection of US Hwy 84 and Monroe County Rd 39 at Claiborne, take Monroe 39 north 8.0 miles, then left on AL 41 for 16.0 miles to Bells Landing Road. Turn left and go 1.1 miles to the park entrance.

Description: Bells Landing Park's 320 acres range from upland pine forest to river bottom hardwoods along Tallatchee Creek. The road to the campsites north of Bells Landing Road and the boat ramp parking area offers excellent birding. The Bells Landing boat ramp provides access to Tallatchee Creek about a mile above its confluence with the Alabama River. Canoe the creek and its old meanders to see and hear yellow-throated and red-eyed vireos, prothonotary warblers, American redstarts, Louisiana water thrushes, and summer tanagers. Anhingas and swallow-tailed kites frequently soar above the creek in the spring and summer. Cerulean and magnolia warblers stop here during migration.

Put in here for an Alabama River paddle to Haines Island/Davis Ferry (7.3 miles), Silver Creek Park (15.6 miles), or Isaac's Creek campground at the Claiborne Lake Dam Site East (18 miles), PWBT Sites 11, 8 and 10 respectively.



Site 13 Access: Free; Park areas more than 300 feet from park facilities are open to hunting in season.
GPS Coordinates: N 31° 48.228' / W 87° 24.954' (Park entrance)
Contact: US Army Corps of Engineers
1226 Power House Road, Camden, AL 36726
Phone: 334-682-4244



American Redstart/Steve Maslowski, USFWS

Rikard's Mill Historic Site

Built in 1845, this mill is an operating, water-powered grist mill and museum situated on picturesque Flat Creek, just off Alabama Highway 265, north of Beatrice. Visitors can watch as the mill grinds corn into cornmeal and grits. The museum is dedicated to preserving folk traditions, such as milling, blacksmithing, and cane syrup making. The Annual Mill Reopening in April and Cane Syrup Making Day in November are annual events. The covered bridge gift shop offers arts and crafts by local craftspeople, souvenirs, artwork, and books. The Cypress Swamp Trail offers a 0.6-mile walk through hardwood forest adjacent to Flat Creek. Rikard's Mill is open Saturday, 9-5, mid-April through mid-December. Admission is charged. For information, contact the Monroe County Heritage Museums, P.O. Box 1637, Monroeville, AL 36461. 251-575-7433. www.tokillamockingbird.com.

GPS: N 31° 46.981' / W 87° 13.361'

Don Self



White Pelican/Thomas Barnes, USFWS

Site 14: Monroe County Lake

Directions: From the intersection of Bells Landing Road and AL Hwy 41, go north on AL 41 for 2.0 miles to Hybart. Turn right on Monroe County Road 56 and go 3.0 miles. Turn right on 56 Bypass and go 1.1 miles. Turn right on Monroe 56 and go 6.7 miles. Monroe 56 joins AL Hwy 265; continue on AL 265 for 3.8 miles to Beatrice. Turn right on Monroe 50 and go 3.7 miles to Monroe County Lake on the right.

Or, from the intersection of AL Hwy 47 and US Hwy 84 west of Monroeville, turn north on AL 47 and go 22.5 miles to Beatrice. At mile marker 59.3, turn left on AL 265 and go 0.3 miles. Turn left on Monroe County Road 50 and go 3.7 miles to Monroe County Lake on the right.

Description: Monroe County Lake is a 94-acre manmade lake surrounded by upland loblolly pine forest on three sides. A hardwood swamp extends north from the lake up its main tributary. Drive or walk north from the concession on the access road toward the north end of the lake. Pileated woodpeckers, brown-headed nuthatches and pine warblers are year-round residents, and summer tanagers, white-eyed vireos, and yellow-throated warblers live here in spring and summer. Palm warblers, orchard orioles and white pelicans stopover here during migration, and the lake has attracted common loons during winter. Barn owls are reported to have nested in the old windmill structure near the lake concession.

Site 14 Access: Free; open Feb through Nov, Tu-Sun, sunrise to sunset.

GPS Coordinates: N 31° 43.173' / W 87° 15.618'

Contact: Monroe County Lake

3596 Co Rd 50, Beatrice, AL 36425

Phone: 251-789-2104





Southeastern Loop



Tourist Information

E

Conecuh County
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here

F

Escambia County
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here
insert contact info here

Note: Icons correspond to
“local tourist info” sites shown
on map on pages 1 & 2.

The Southeastern Loop of the Piney Woods Birding Trail (Sites 15-23) traverses the Lime Hills, Dougherty Plain, and Southern Pine Hills. Geologically, the landscape here comprises fossil-rich marine clays, marls, and limestones, which have weathered to a gently rolling topography. In addition to abundant fossil mollusks, sea urchins and shark teeth, two notable vertebrate fossils have been found in this region’s geologic formations. North America’s oldest primate comes from a thin layer of sand at the base of the Hatchetigbee Formation that was deposited about 54 million ago. And Alabama’s State Fossil, *Basilosaurus cetoides*, a 45- to 70-foot primitive whale (Archaeocete) is commonly found in the formations of the Jackson Group (33 to 37 million years before present). In fact, *Basilosaurus* fossils were so common that early settlers used the large vertebrae as andirons for fireplaces and blocks to support cabins.

Although much of the area’s forests have been cut and planted in pine plantations, eastern red cedar is still prominent in some areas of the Lime Hills. Long-leaf pine forests once covered much of the Southern Pine Hills. Today this once-widespread ecosystem is preserved only in the Conecuh National Forest and a few other places, making Conecuh a must-see site for birders. Forest managers in the Conecuh National Forest use management techniques like prescribed burning to maintain and improve long-leaf pine habitat, which is home to such specialists as Bachman’s sparrow and the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker.



Photo credits: (left) Long-leaf Pine/Jeff McMillian, USDA-NRCS; (right) Red-winged Blackbird/Lee Karney, USFWS.



Indigo Bunting/Thomas Barnes,USFWS

Site 15: Travis Bridge access of the Sepulga River Canoe Trail

Directions: From the US Highway 84 interchange (exit 93) on I-65, go east on US 84 for 9.7 miles. Turn left on US Highway 31 and go 5.1 miles to the east end of Travis Bridge (mile marker 106.9). Turn left (north) onto an unmarked, unpaved (red gravel) road which leads back beneath the bridge to the boat ramp and parking.

Description: This site is the northernmost put-in for the 29-mile-long Sepulga River Canoe Trail and the starting point for an 8-mile paddle down the Sepulga River to Staples Bridge on US Highway 84 (PWBT Site 16). Under normal conditions, this paddle is classed as “novice” with only one short stretch of Class 1 whitewater. Heavy rain upstream can change all that, however. The steep limestone stream banks are covered with hardwoods and pines, and this paddle provides an excellent opportunity for birders to get away from the noise of civilization and just enjoy the birds. A small colony of barn swallows nests beneath Travis Bridge and white-eyed vireos and indigo buntings are common. Watch for Mississippi kites performing their acrobatics just above the tree tops.



View downstream from Staples Bridge/Don Self

Site 16: Staples Bridge (US Highway 84) access to the Sepulga River Canoe Trail

Directions: From Travis Bridge, go 0.2 miles west on US Highway 31. Turn left (south) on Conecuh County Road 63 and go 3.3 miles. Turn left (east) on US Highway 84 and go 3.8 miles to mile marker 115.5 and an unmarked, unpaved (red gravel) road about 0.1 miles west of Staples Bridge. Turn right (south) on to the gravel road and follow it to the boat ramp and parking area.

Description: Staples Bridge is the take-out for the most popular paddle on the Sepulga River Canoe Trail (see PWBT site 15 for a description of this 8-mile paddle). It is also the put-in for the 13.4-mile paddle to the Iron Bridge (PWBT site 17). The paddle to the Iron Bridge is long, without amenities or access, and is only for the more adventuresome. Birding at Staples Bridge itself is minimal. Its primary function is access to the riparian hardwood and pine forest that lines the Sepulga River Canoe Trail.



Iron Bridge access/boat launch on the Sepulga River/Don Self

Site 17: Iron Bridge access to the Sepulga River Canoe Trail

Directions: From Staples Bridge, go west on US Highway 84 for 0.6 miles to mile marker 114.9. Turn left (south) on Conecuh County Road 93 and go 1.8 miles. Turn left (south) on Conecuh County Road 43 and go 6.2 miles. Turn left (east) on Bull Slough Road and go 1.3 miles to the Iron Bridge access parking area.

Description: This is the put-in for a 7.5-mile paddle down the Sepulga River to the Brooklyn take-out (PWBT site 18 and southern terminus of the Sepulga River Canoe Trail). Second growth river bottom hardwood forest with a good bit of cypress and sycamore lines the limestone banks and makes for a scenic paddle. Spring and early summer provide the best combination of paddling and birding. Listen for the classic southern riparian species like northern parula and yellow-throated and prothonotary warblers. Watch for white ibis and for Mississippi kites flying above the tree tops.

Site 15 Access: Free
GPS Coordinates: N 31° 27.244' / W 86° 47.176'
Contact: Conecuh/Sepulga Watershed Alliance
P.O. Box 2792, Brooklyn, AL 36429
Phone: 251-867-2445

Site 16 Access: Free
GPS Coordinates: N 31°24.473' / W 86°43.792'
Contact: Conecuh/Sepulga Watershed Alliance
P.O. Box 2792
Brooklyn, AL 36429
Phone: 251-867-2445

Site 17 Access: Free, GPS Coordinates:
N 31° 18.085' / W 86° 43.031'
Contact: Conecuh/Sepulga Watershed Alliance
P.O. Box 2792, Brooklyn, AL 36429
Phone: 251-867-2445





Gray Catbird/Thomas Barnes, USFWS

Site 18: Brooklyn access and southern terminus of the Sepulga River Canoe Trail

Directions: From the Iron Bridge, return to the intersection of Bull Slough Road and Conecuh County Road 43. Turn left (south) on Conecuh 43 and go 4.0 miles. Turn left (south) on Conecuh County Road 42 and go 0.3 miles to the intersection with Conecuh County Road 6 and Riverside Drive (unpaved). Turn left (east) on Riverside Drive and go 0.3 miles to the public boat ramp.

Description: The Brooklyn access is the southernmost take-out for the Sepulga River Canoe Trail and the take-out for paddles from the Iron Bridge, PWB Site 17. Bird the undergrowth at the boat ramp for brown thrashers, gray catbirds and white-eyed vireos. Northern parulas are conspicuous in spring and early summer. Watch overhead for red-shouldered hawks and Mississippi kites.

Site 18 Access: Free
GPS Coordinates: N 31°15.738' / W 86°45.740'
Contact: Conecuh/Sepulga Watershed Alliance
P.O. Box 2792, Brooklyn, AL 36429
Phone: 251-867-2445

Site 19: Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center

Directions: From Brooklyn, go west on Conecuh County Road 6 for 0.2 miles. Turn left on Escambia County Road 43, go 7.2 miles on Escambia 43 to the intersection with US Highway 29. Turn left (east) on US 29 and go 6.7 miles to mile marker 26.3 and the entrance to the intersection with Dixon Center Road. Turn left (north) and go 1.5 miles to the office, and check in.

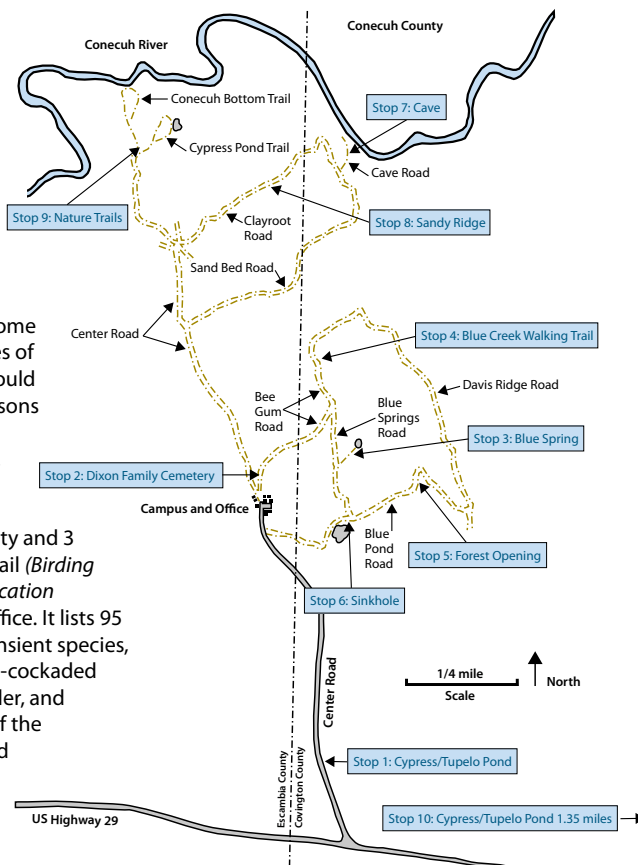
Or, from Brewton take US Highway 29, go about 26.3 miles. Turn left on Dixon Center Road. The entrance road is clearly marked with a large wooden sign located about 0.2 miles north (east) of the Covington and Escambia County line on US Highway 29.

Description: Birders are welcome to explore this site's 5,350 acres of diverse forest habitats, but should call ahead during hunting seasons as the much of the center's property is leased for hunting. The center has an excellent self-guided birding trail with 10 stops (7 in Covington County and 3 in Escambia). A guide to the trail (*Birding at the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center*) is available from the office. It lists 95 summer, 100 winter, and 8 transient species, including purple gallinule, red-cockaded woodpecker, Swainson's warbler, and Bachman's sparrow. The text of the guide is essentially reproduced in *A Birder's Guide to Alabama* (Porter, 2001, pp 73-79). Pick up a map of the center's roads from the office.



Don Self

Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center Birding Trail



Site 19 Access: Free
GPS Coordinates: N 31° 09.781' / W 86° 42.163' (Office)
Contact: Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center
12130 Dixon Center Road, Andalusia, AL 36420
Phone: 334-222-7779 or 7778



Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center

The Solon Dixon Center offers classrooms and living accommodations on its 5,350-acre “working forest” for students and visitors alike. Since 1980, the center has provided natural resource education to many user groups, supported research in natural resource fields, and managed its natural resources to provide income for the center’s programs.

The campus facilities include two bunkhouse-style dormitories and five new dorms with private/semi-private accommodations. Meals are prepared in a full service kitchen/dining hall, while most of the center’s classroom activities take place in the Charles Dixon Auditorium. The center is within easy driving distance of the Baldwin County Birdfest, and birding groups may be interested in basing events, field trips, and tours here. Contact the center office, 334-222-7779 or 7778, for more information.

Don Self



East arm of the lake/Don Self

Site 20: Leon Brooks Hines Public Lake

Directions: From the intersection of Center Rd and US Hwy 29, go west on US 29 for 1.7 miles to mile marker 24.6. Turn left on Escambia Cty Rd 11 and go 7.1 miles. Turn right on Escambia Cty Rd 4 and go 0.4 miles. Turn left on Escambia Cty Rd 11 and go 1.6 miles. Turn right on Parker Spring Rd and go 0.4 miles. Turn left on Barney Rd and go 0.5 miles. Turn right onto State Lake Rd and go 0.6 miles to the parking area at the lake concession.

Description: Leon Brooks Hines Lake is a 184-acre manmade lake surrounded by over 700 acres of long-leaf pine forest that is burned regularly. You’ll also find a pitcher plant bog at the north end of lake. Although there are no hiking trails, there are old access roads almost all the way around the lake that you can bird. A red-cockaded woodpecker restoration project is active here. Look for marked trees and artificial nest cavities, and listen for Bachman’s sparrows that nest in the grass beneath them. Bald eagles nest below the dam, and wood ducks and screech owls nest in the nest boxes behind the concession. Every species of woodpecker that occurs in Alabama can be viewed here. Tropical storms may bring Brown Pelicans and other seabirds to the lake.

Follow Barney Rd, Alaflora Rd, and Parker Springs Rd 6.2 miles around the lake for very productive birding. Parking is limited along these roads.

Site 20 Access: Free; open F-W from Feb through June, F-Tu from July through Nov. GPS Coordinates: N 31° 02.199’ / W 86° 49.254’ (Gate at entrance), Contact: ADCNR, Leon Brooks Hines Public Lake, 917 Barney Rd., Wing, AL 36483, Phone: 251-809-0068



Parker Springs Bog

Directions: From Leon Brooks Hines Public Lake return to Barney Rd, turn left and go 0.4 miles. Turn left on Parker Springs Rd. The bog is on the left side of the road.

Description: Located on the western side of Conecuh National Forest, this hillside bog is part of a rather large complex of bogs that lies around the feeder streams running into Leon Brook Hines Public Lake. The carnivorous plant species and sheer diversity of plants found in this area are truly impressive. Ongoing ecosystem restoration and management have allowed the Conecuh National Forest to function as a biological refuge for unique communities and endemic plant species. The most impressive time to view Parker Springs Bog is in May, when many plant species are blooming. For information, call the USFS Conecuh Ranger District at 334-222-2555, or visit www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/regions/southern/ParkerSpringsBog/index/shtml.

Pitcher Plant/Larry Allain





Osprey/Lee Karney, USFWS

Site 21: Turtle Point Environmental Science Center

Directions: Return to the intersection of Escambia County Rds 4 and 11. Go west on Escambia 4 for 10.5 miles. Turn left on US Hwy 29 and go 23.9 miles. Bear right at the traffic light and go 0.5 miles on US Hwy 31. Turn right into Hurricane Park.

Or, from the intersection of I-65 (exit 69) and AL Hwy 113, go south on AL 113 for about 14 miles. Turn right on US Hwys 29 and 31 and go 0.9 miles. Bear right at the traffic light and go 0.5 miles on US 31. Turn right into Hurricane Park.

Description: Bird the hardwoods and lawn areas around the entrance to the Center, then bird the elevated boardwalk that winds above the 20 acres of wetlands adjacent to Big Escambia Creek. Large hardwoods were damaged by recent hurricanes and now provide excellent habitat for red-bellied, red-headed, and pileated woodpeckers. Common grackles and red-winged blackbirds are attracted year-round to the diamond leaf and water oak, tupelo, and bald cypress that grow in the wetlands. Brewer's blackbirds join them in the winter. Belted kingfishers are a common sight on Big Escambia Creek, as are great blue heron, great egret, and green heron. Mississippi kites forage just above the tree tops in spring and summer, and the occasional osprey appears during spring and fall migration.

Site 21 Access: Open August through May, M-F, 8-3, call for summer and Saturday schedules. GPS: N 31° 00.523' / W 87°16.403'; Contact: Turtle Pt. Environmental Science Center, 20959 US Highway 31, Flomaton, AL 36441, 251-296-3401 or e-mail: turtlepoint@escambia12.net



Don Self

Site 22: Little River State Forest

Directions: From Turtle Point, turn right on US Hwy 31 and go 13.7 miles to Atmore. Turn right on AL Hwy 21 and go 17.1 miles to mile marker 19. Turn right (east) onto H. Kyle Rd and go 0.5 miles to the park entrance.

Or, from I-65 exit 59 go 10.8 miles north AL Hwy 21 to mile marker 19. Turn right onto H. Kyle Rd and go 0.5 miles to the park entrance.

Description: Little River State Forest is a 960-acre park with 25-acre manmade Blacksher Lake and 4.7 miles of hiking trails. The Gazebo Trail is 3.2 miles round-trip and the Bell/CCC Trail is 1.5 miles (maps available from park office). Both traverse mixed mature deciduous and loblolly and long-leaf pine. The unpaved 1.5-mile Gazebo Road parallels the Gazebo Trail and offers an alternative to the Gazebo hike—both the road and trail offer some of the park's best birding. Bird the area around the picnic area and lake to see a number of open woodland species, like brown-headed nuthatch, eastern bluebird, pine warbler, and northern cardinals year-round. Pied-billed grebes winter on the lake.

An additional 1200 acres of forest located west of Highway 21 may be open for birding outside of hunting seasons (Handicapped hunting programs are conducted on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays during hunting season). Check with the ranger at the office at the beach and bathhouse.

Site 22 Access: Modest day use fee. GPS: N 31° 15.488' / W 87°29.234' Contact: Little River State Forest 580 H. Kayle Road, Atmore, AL 36502 Phone: 251-862-2511

Turtle Point Environmental Science Center

Located on the banks of Big Escambia Creek, Turtle Point Environmental Science Center welcomes nature lovers of all ages. The 3000-square-foot facility offers a touch tank for children and other hands-on exhibits. You'll find an extensive collection of wildlife specimens here, including many Alabama birds, nests, and eggs; a butterfly and living bee exhibit; and live reptiles, amphibians, and fish of the East Gulf Coastal Plain physiographic region.

Bird the nature trail boardwalk, where visitors often see red-tailed hawk, great blue heron, great egret, pileated woodpecker, red-headed woodpecker, yellow-bellied sapsucker, eastern bluebird, wren, killdeer, green heron, barred owl, screech owl, and many other native birds and wildlife. Turtle Point staff offer tours to senior groups, church groups, and other civic organizations, as well as community educational events.

Don Self



P boardwalk



P Boat rentals (canoe, pedal boats)

Red-cockaded Woodpecker Restoration Project

Red-cockaded woodpeckers depend on longleaf woodlands for food and shelter. Native grasses and forbs beneath the pines nurture insects the birds glean from pine bark. Unlike most woodpeckers, red-cockaded woodpeckers excavate nest holes in live pine trees. Sap from the living tree flows from the nest hole and deters climbing snakes that might prey on the chicks.

Frequent fires—as well as hurricanes, tornados, and storms—historically shaped longleaf woodlands. Today, Conecuh National Forest managers use prescribed burning, longleaf pine planting, and timber thinning to restore longleaf forests.

By 2009, ongoing management had increased Conecuh's red-cockaded woodpecker population from fourteen to nearly fifty active clusters. Once the Conecuh-Blackwater population contains 250 potential breeding groups, it will have reached the recovery goal.

J&K Hollingsworth/USFWS



J.S. Peterson, USDA-NRCS Plants Database



insert bird table here



Bald Eagle/Steve Maslowski, USFWS

Partners in Conservation

The Conservation Fund is dedicated to advancing America's land and water legacy. With our partners, we conserve land, train leaders, and invest in conservation at home. From our headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, and our field offices across the country, we've saved land in all 50 states—over 6 million acres of wild havens, working lands, vibrant communities and more.

The Alabama Black Belt Heritage Area is a grassroots initiative designed to bring economic development to 19 counties in the Black Belt region. We partner with local communities, state agencies, and non-profit organizations to shape a sustainable future for the Black Belt region through the preservation, interpretation, and marketing of unique cultural and natural assets. We strive to create a better quality of life for Black Belt residents through education and development of community capacity and pride.



Alabama Black Belt Heritage Area

The Center for the Study of the Black Belt
University of West Alabama, Station 45
Livingston, AL 35470
p: 205.652.3497, f: 205.652.3589
www.alblackbeltheritage.org

THE CONSERVATION FUND

America's Partner in Conservation

*Funding provided by the Doris Duke
Charitable Foundation.*

The Conservation Fund

Southeast Regional Office
4500 Hugh Howell Road, Suite 470
Tucker, GA 30084
p: 770.414.0211, f: 770.938.0585
www.conservationfund.org

www.alblackbeltheritage.org