

A BIRDERS' GUIDE TO MISSOURI PUBLIC LANDS

HARRY S TRUMAN STATE PARK--Updated: 8/16/2008

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1,440 acres, Benton Co., DeLorme 43, B-10

Directions: From US 65 at Warsaw, take MO 7 west about 6 miles, then right (north) on Rt. UU 2 miles.

When to Visit/Species to Expect: Fall through early spring is an excellent time to look here for unusual gull species. American White Pelicans stop over. Waterfowl may seek refuge from hunters nearby. In spring, migrants may concentrate on the park peninsula.

Features of interest to birders: Park is on a peninsula extending into the south end of Truman Reservoir. Two points offer excellent views of the water, including secluded coves.

Gulls roost on marina roofs.

Good paved roads give easy access to a variety of habitats.

Western Wallflower Glade Trail meanders through glade and savanna habitat; Bluff Ridge Trail traverses dry oak forests and glades.

Buck Ridge and Wild Turkey Ridge campgrounds are open May through September. Closed to vehicles and campers in fall/winter, these areas may harbor wintering birds to be looked for on foot.

Brushy area near park office offers opportunity to find skulkers.

Toilets: 3 modern restrooms

Camping: 202 campsites scattered throughout the park, including 100 with electrical hookups.

Hazards/Limitations:

Heavily used in summer and on weekends

Potable water is not available in the park during the off-season (November through March). Campers should bring their own potable water during this time.