

A BIRDERS' GUIDE TO MISSOURI PUBLIC LANDS

YOUNG CONSERVATION AREA--UPDATED: 8/16/2008

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991 acres Jefferson Co. DeLorme 40, I-4

Directions: Exit 264 off I-44, go south on Rt. W, then 3 miles west on Rt. FF.

When to Visit/Species to Expect: Spring, early summer for good mix of nesting warblers, including Pine Warblers in short-leaf pine grove; orioles and tanagers. Winter for sparrows and woodpeckers, possibly Red-breasted Nuthatches in invasion winters.

Features of interest to birders: Parking area gives access to Taconic Loop Trail (2.5 miles total, with cut-off) allowing hiking and viewing along creek bottom and ridge; 2 small ponds in northern part of area. Some scrubby habitat edges accessible off the trail near the north end. 30 acres of grassland converted to prairie.

Old field trail (two-track) allows limited incursion into southern portion.

Toilets: None

Camping: None

Hazards/Limitations: Heavily forested, rugged terrain with no established trails limit birding in southern 80% of the area. Heavy tick population.

Nearby Birding Sites: Pacific Palisades CA, Allenton Access, Catawissa CA