A BIRDERS' GUIDE TO MISSOURI PUBLIC LANDS

HUNNEWELL LAKE CONSERVATION AREA AND FISH HATCHERY--Updated: 8/16/2008

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1905 acres, Shelby Co., DeLorme 24, I-4

Directions: From US 36, 3 miles north of Hunnewell on Rt. Z.

When to Visit/Species to Expect: Migration for both songbirds and shorebirds (but note limitation of access to shorebirds at hatchery); late fall and winter for waterfowl on lake.

Features of interest to birders: 228-acre lake with good views from several points off several roads, but not easily accessed all around.

Fish hatchery (16.4 acres) features good gravel perimeter road, but autos are prohibited; shorebirds are flushed when approached on foot, so potential for viewing in this area is severely less than it could be.

75-acre mature white oak forest near campground south of the lake allows easy access for good viewing of migratory passerines.

Some old fields are managed for native prairie grasses (reseeded).

Dam lies along Rt. Z that runs N/S through the eastern portion of the area. Fish hatchery is on the east side of Rt. Z.

13 parking areas, campgrounds and fishing dock area provide easy access to a good mix of habitat: pin oak and hickory woods, brushy areas, marshy coves, grassland. There are no designated trails, but old two-tracks and paths may be followed from parking areas (there are no loops--all dead end).

Toilets: 5 pit toilets

Camping: 70 primitive camping sites in two campgrounds

Hazards/Limitations: Area heavily used on weekends. Hatchery area foot access only. Manager's home located on lakeshore, so no access to view lake from that area.

Nearby Birding Sites: Arrow-wood CA, Mound View Access, Hunnewell Access