



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

White River National Wildlife Refuge

Bottomland Trail Proposal Fact Sheet



Segment	Distance in feet	Trail Surface
A	410	Natural
B	55	Natural
C	1,323	Boardwalk
D	173	Natural
E	60	Boardwalk
F	940	Natural
G	1,562	Natural
H	753	Natural
I	810	Natural
J	616	Natural
K	710	Natural
L	50	Boardwalk
M	400	Natural
N	519	Natural

The Friends of White River National Wildlife Refuge in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, is working to develop partnerships and funding to construct boardwalks and walking trails on the Refuge. The initial effort will be to develop a trail for adventurous visitors to walk in a matter of minutes from the backdoor of White River NWR's Visitor Center into a bottomland hardwood forest. As proposed, the initial trail would take visitors down the escarpment behind the Visitor Center and into the wetter bottomland hardwood habitat for approximately 400 feet. Here visitors would be greeted by an elevated boardwalk that would allow year-round visitation through another 1,500 feet of the forest. Visitors would have the opportunity to see many representative residences of the Refuge including beaver and fish swimming beneath their feet, Pileated Woodpecker calling in the distance, and wood duck wilyly flying through the trees. With further help of additional friends and partnerships, the Friends of White River NWR hope to obtain the funding needed to construct the trail and make this another feature we can all be proud of.

As indicated above, portions of the trail would retain its character of being a "natural trail" subject to flooding during winter / spring. The boardwalk would be open all year as it would be constructed above the normal flood level.



This part of the trail will be accessible all year by boardwalk. Boardwalk shown is artist rendition.



Notice the high water mark on the tree next to the hiker. This portion of the trail will be "natural" surface as it will flood in winter and spring. Hikers will use this portion of trail during dry months to hike a loop trail back to the beginning. In wetter months, this portion of the trail will be closed and hikers will return via the boardwalk.

If you have any questions, contact
Larry E. Mallard at:
White River NWR
P.O. Box 205
57 South CC Camp Road
St. Charles, AR 72140
Telephone: 870-282-8200
Fax: 870-282-8234
whiteriver@fws.gov



Hikers will be greeted by massive trees and a myriad of native wildlife.