



This goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling, is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Please note that Northwest Montana Waterfowl Production Areas are closed to all public access from March 1st to July 15th each year to limit disturbance to nesting birds.

Welcome

We encourage you to visit and enjoy the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs) in Northwestern Montana. The WPAs are administered by the Refuge staff at Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge, which is located 20 miles northwest of Marion, Montana. WPAs are part of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands set aside to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitat for the continuing benefit of the American people.

General Information

WPAs are wetland and grassland areas purchased by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with proceeds from the sale of Federal Duck Stamps and are managed primarily for the benefit of waterfowl and other migratory, water-dependent birds. There are five WPAs located in Flathead County.

Flathead WPA

This 2,362-acre WPA is located at the north end of Flathead Lake, 7 miles southeast of Kalispell. To get there, take Highway 93 south of Kalispell, then take Highway 82 east. There are several access points to the WPA along Highway 82.

Blasdel WPA

This 537-acre WPA is located 5 miles southeast of Kalispell. To get there, take Highway 93 south of Kalispell, then take Highway 82 east for 1 mile. Turn north on N. Somers Road, and continue $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile north.

Smith Lake WPA

This 1,112-acre WPA is located 10 miles west of Kalispell. Smith Lake WPA is considered an excellent area to view waterfowl and shorebirds. To get there, take Highway 2 West, then turn left on Kila Road. Parking areas are found on Kila Road and Smith Lake Road.

Batavia WPA

This 510-acre WPA is located 5 miles west of Kalispell adjacent to Highway 2 West.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Northwest Montana

Wetland Management District Flathead County

Authorized Public Uses

McGregor Meadows WPA

This 799-acre WPA is located 28 miles west of Kalispell along Highway 2 West (approximately 8 miles west of the town of Marion).

Wildlife Viewing Opportunities

- The wetland habitats of these WPAs support abundant waterfowl species such as Canada geese, mallards, redheads, northern pintails, American wigeons, northern shovelers, and blue-winged and green-winged teal.
- The upland habitats support ring-necked pheasants, wild turkeys, and gray partridges, and also provide nesting habitat for savannah sparrows, western meadowlarks, and song sparrows.
- Bald and golden eagles, several species of falcons, short-eared owls, northern harriers, rough-legged hawks, red-tailed hawks, and northern goshawks hunt on the WPAs.
- Shorebirds such as killdeer, American avocets, black-necked stilts, Wilson's phalaropes, and yellowlegs use the WPAs as rest stops during migration and also for nesting.
- Mammals found on the WPAs include mule and white-tailed deer, muskrats, striped skunks, mink, American martens, badgers, meadow voles, and porcupines.

Regulations

Many recreational activities are available on these public lands. The following regulations were designed to protect both you and the resources that you have come here to experience. Please pay close attention to the information provided in this leaflet.

Permitted Uses

- All WPAs are open from 1 hour before sunrise to 1 hour after sunset.
- Parking is authorized in designated areas only.
- Wildlife observation, non-commercial photography, hiking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing are authorized uses on all WPAs.

- Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuge System lands must comply with all provisions of State and local law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 32).
- The use of firearms is only permitted during authorized hunting seasons. Target shooting is not allowed.
- Hunting, fishing, and trapping are permitted on WPAs according to Federal and State regulations. Flathead, Blasdel, and Batavia WPAs are restricted to hunting with archery equipment, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader, or crossbow only. Only approved non-toxic shot may be used or possessed when hunting upland game birds and waterfowl.
- Temporary, portable blinds (and those made of native materials) or tree stands are permitted, but must be removed at the end of each hunting day.
- Boating is allowed on Flathead Lake, Smith Lake, and the Flathead River. Motorboats must be operated at no wake speeds.
- Pets must be kept on a leash at all times, except during a State-approved hunting season when hunting dogs must be under the immediate control of the hunter at all times.

Prohibited Uses

- Overnight parking or camping is prohibited.
- Fires are prohibited.
- Collecting, injuring, disturbing, destroying, or harming any animal, animal part (including antlers), or plants is prohibited unless authorized.
- The use of nails, bolts, wire, and screws to attach a stand or blind to a tree is prohibited.
- Horses and horseback riding is prohibited.
- Commercial dog trials are prohibited.
- Blocking roads or gates is prohibited.
- Off-road mechanized vehicle use, including bicycles, motorcycles, snowmobiles, and all terrain vehicles, is prohibited.

Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge

6295 Pleasant Valley Road

Marion, MT 59925

406 / 858-2216

406 / 858-2218 fax

<http://www.fws.gov/losttrail>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

<http://www.fws.gov>

For State relay service

TTY / Voice: 711

For Refuge System Information

1-800-344-WILD

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Accessibility Information

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. Dial 711 for a free connection to the State relay service for TTY and voice calls to and from people with hearing and speech disabilities. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the Refuge staff at 406 / 858-2216, or the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

