

Minnesota Valley

National Wildlife Refuge

Bloomington Ferry Unit

Trail Map



About the Unit

The Bloomington Ferry Unit is located predominantly in river bottom on the north side of the Minnesota River. A significant wetland area, Opus Marsh, encompasses a portion of the east half of the unit. A connecting trail and pedestrian bridge also allows access to the refuge's Wilkie Unit.

Getting There

Primary access is from the main parking area at **11255 Bloomington Ferry Road**, Bloomington 55438. From Hwy. 169, proceed east on Old Shakopee Road to Bloomington Ferry Road (at the Dred Scott Playfields). Turn right, proceed 1/2 mile, and turn right on Bloomington Ferry Circle. Proceed down the hill to the parking area.



Our parking lots have addresses, to assist you in locating them.

The unit can also be reached from the Wilkie Unit trailhead at **7701 County Road 101 East**, Shakopee 55379. It is located 1/2 mile west of the HWY 169 & County Rd. 101 junction. From HWY 169, exit on County Rd. 101 west toward Shakopee. Turn right at the first stop light and around the bend to the trailhead parking area.

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3815 American Boulevard East
Bloomington, MN 55425-1600
952/854 5900

Minnesota Valley's website address:
<http://midwest.fws.gov/minnesotavalley>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD (9453)
<http://www.fws.gov>

Deaf/hard of hearing individuals may reach Minnesota Valley NWR through the Federal Information Relay System at 1 800/877 8339

Available in alternative formats upon request.



Bloomington Ferry Unit - Trail Map

Trail Descriptions

Note: mileages given include only those distances within the refuge. *Please note that trails often continue outside refuge boundaries, sometimes in or through private land. These sections are not maintained by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

Bloomington Ferry Trail; 1.0 mile (linear, one way)

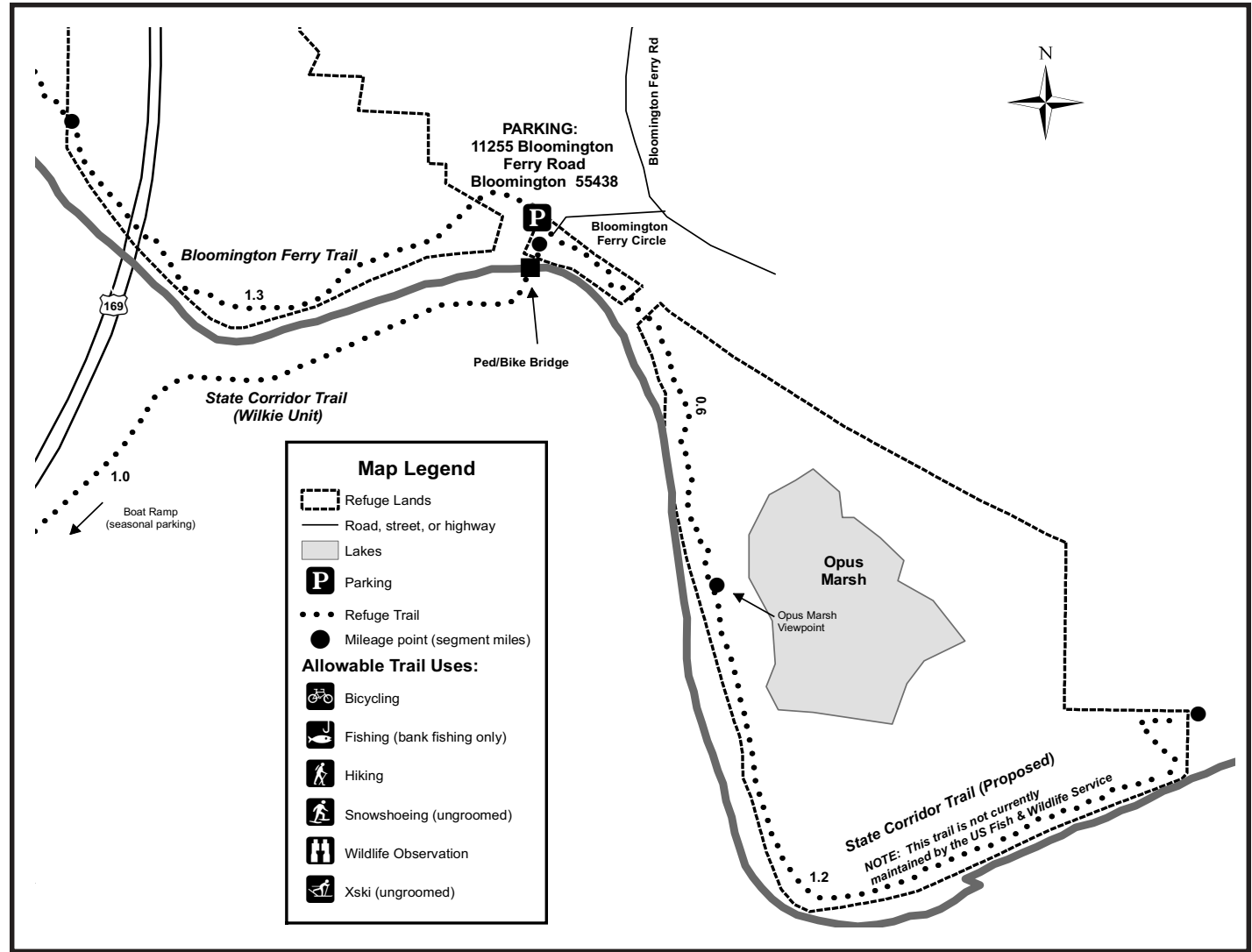
From the parking area, proceed through the gate on the west side of the parking area. This trail drops into the river bottoms, in forest its entire length, and follows the river under the Hwy. 169 bridge. The trail offers several good views of the river, and ends at a clearing about 1/2 mile west of the bridge.

State Corridor Trail (to Wilkie Unit) 1 mile (linear, one way)

From the parking area, proceed across the pedestrian bridge. After passing alongside the river, the trail veers southwest between Rice and Fisher Lakes. After passing a boat launch located under the Hwy. 169 bridge, the trail continues about 1 mile to the Wilkie parking area along Hwy. 101.

State Corridor Trail (Proposed); 1.8 miles (refuge portion; linear, one way)

NOTE: This is not a USFWS maintained trail. From the parking area, a trail begins next to the information kiosk. The trail follows the river for most of its route, passing a good view of Opus Marsh (0.6 mi.), then a large, open field. For more than a half mile, the trail winds through some spectacularly large cottonwoods, then crosses a small stream, before exiting the refuge. The trail continues as a biking/hiking trail to Russell Sorenson Landing (Lindale Avenue, under I-35W) through Izaak Walton League and Bloomington City property, an additional distance of about 4 miles.



For your safety and to protect and preserve the refuge, please obey all refuge regulations. Pets must be on a leash at all times.