

*General
Regulations*

Open for daylight use only. Hiking and cross country skiing is permitted on designated trails. Pets must be on a leash at all times. Bicycles permitted only on refuge entrance road. Fishing is not permitted along the banks of the Platte River or Rice Lake. Many access sites to the river and the lake are available in the local area. Camping, overnight parking, and open fires are prohibited. Horses, trail bikes, snowmobiles, dog sledding, and all other off-road vehicles are prohibited. Target shooting is not permitted. Special hunts are available to youth and people with disabilities. See our hunting map and regulations sheet or contact the office for detailed information.

*Volunteer
Opportunities*



The refuge offers a wide variety of volunteer opportunities. To receive an application form, call the refuge office.

Directions



The refuge is located in Central Minnesota, approximately 30 miles north of St. Cloud and 8 miles southeast of Little Falls. From State Highway 10 take County Highway 35 East. Travel 4.5 miles to the Platte River bridge. After crossing the bridge, take the first left to the Platte River Trailhead and refuge headquarters.

Crane Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
19502 Iris Road
Little Falls, MN 56345

320.632.1575
FAX 320.632.5471
TTY users may access the Federal
Information Relay Service at 800.877.8339

Crane Meadows website address:
<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/cranemeadows>
Crane Meadows email address:
CraneMeadows@fws.gov

U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1.800.344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov/>



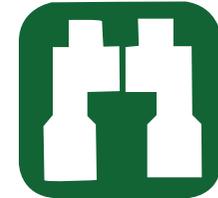
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Crane Meadows

National Wildlife Refuge

Public Use Regulations

& Map





Welcome to Crane Meadows.

The "Blue Goose" symbolizes the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of over 540 refuges protected and managed for wildlife, habitat, and people.

Crane Meadows National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1992 to preserve a large, natural wetland complex. The refuge serves as an important stop for many species of migrating birds. It harbors one of the largest nesting populations of greater sandhill cranes in Minnesota. A wide variety of wildlife may be seen or heard as they use the sedge meadows, shallow lakes and other wetland habitats on the refuge. Restored tallgrass prairie and oak savanna habitats host a wealth of songbirds as well as an array of wildflowers. The refuge is open to visitors during daylight hours within the guidelines listed in this leaflet.

Hiking Trails



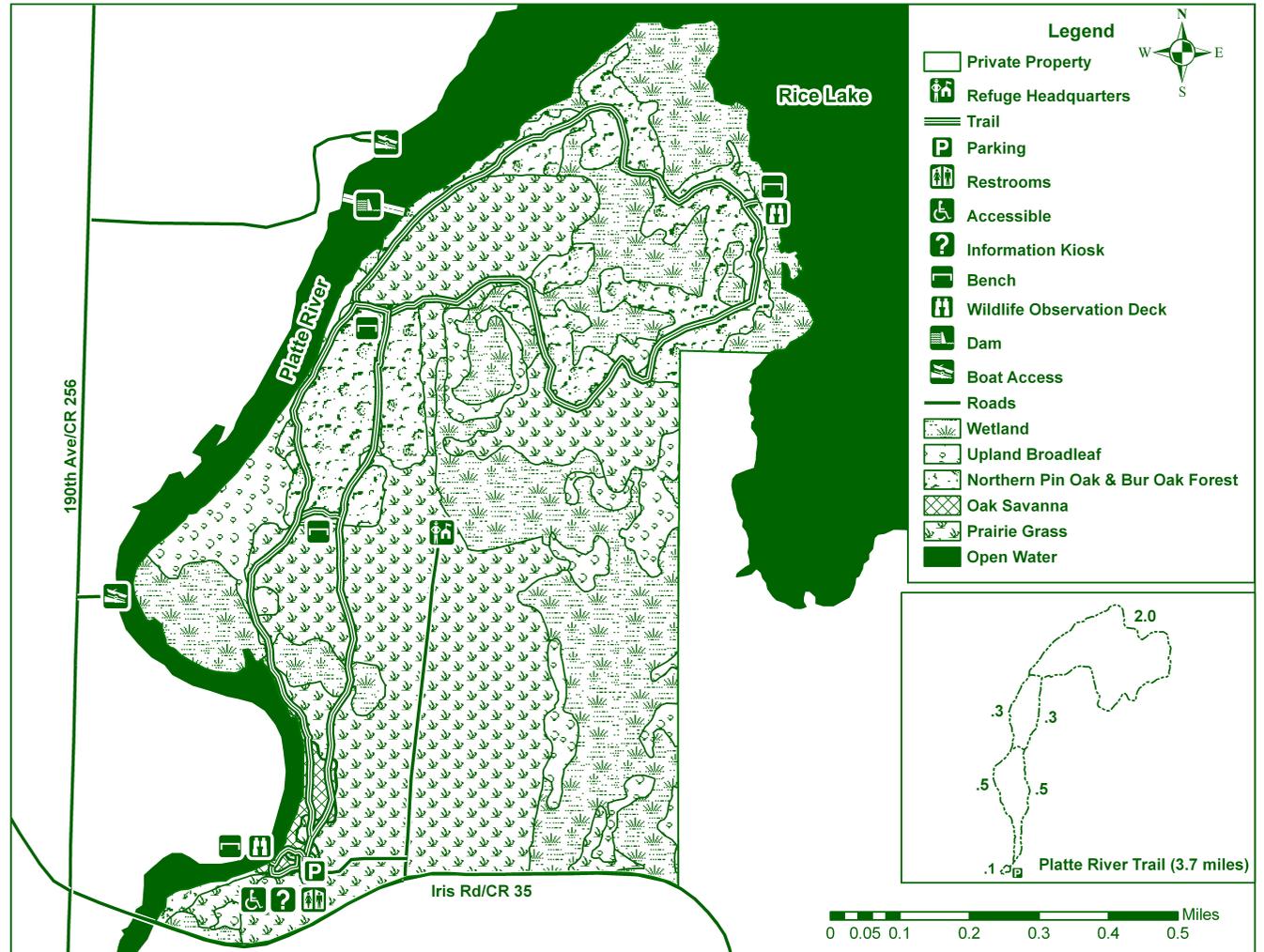
The refuge offers a scenic 3.7 mile accessible hiking trail that leads the visitor along the banks of the Platte River to the edge of Rice Lake. The trail is for foot travel only. Bicycles and horses are not permitted. Pets must be on a leash at all times. There are two observation platforms; one adjacent to the Platte River near the trailhead and the other, outfitted with a spotting scope, overlooks Rice Lake.

Cross Country Skiing



The Platte River Hiking Trail is groomed for cross country skiing during the winter, as conditions permit. Hikers and snowshoers are asked to be respectful of tracks set by skiers and hike to the side of the trail.

Platte River Trail



Signs To Know



Refuge Boundary



No Hunting



Closed to All entry