



*Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks*

Ninepipe Area Recreational Access Guide

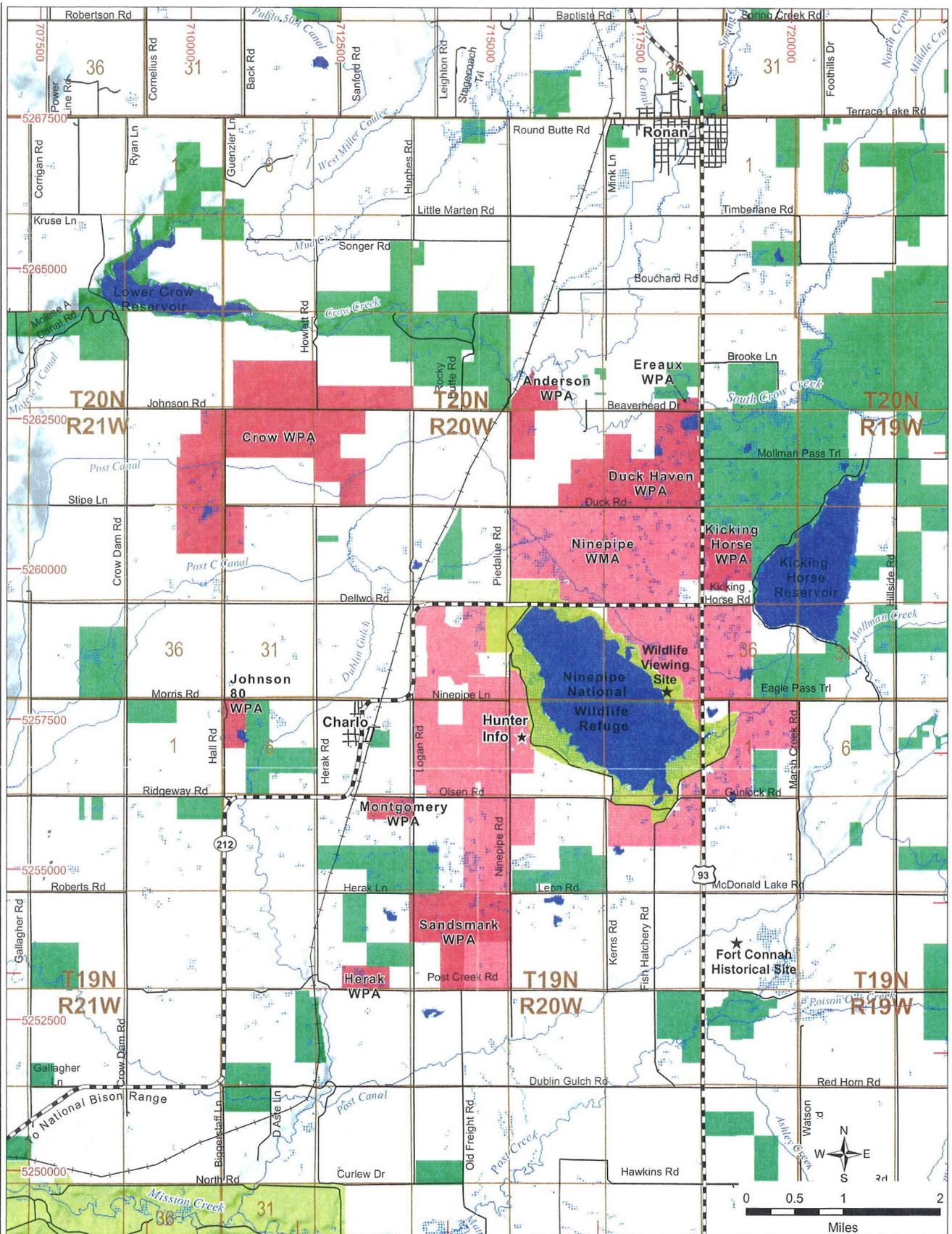


Photo by Mike Aderhold

This map was produced cooperatively by
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks,
United States Fish & Wildlife Service,
and The Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribe.

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LEGEND

- MT FWP Wildlife Management Areas
- USFWS - Waterfowl Production Areas
- USFWS - National Wildlife Refuges
NO Hunting
- Tribal Trust Lands
- Private Lands
- Water \ Wetlands



Tribal trust lands are generally open to fishing, hunting and other outdoor recreational activities with possession of the appropriate tribal license or permit. However, some of these lands are leased as home sites or may be posted against entry by the lessee and may not be open to recreational use.

Map boundaries are not legal delineations and serve only as guides to state, tribal, and federal lands. Please respect private lands. User is responsible for knowing ownership of lands. Users are responsible for consulting the different land managers for agency specific rules and regulations.

Gridtic interval 2500 meters, UTM Zone 11, NAD27

Data sources used to produce this map were obtained from the MT Natural Resource Information System; MT Natural Heritage Program; MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks; and The Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes.

Map was produced by MT FWP - FWD - SPDS 1420 E. 6th Ave., Helena, MT, 59601-1679

Flathead Indian Reservation

- The Flathead Indian Reservation was created in 1855 and is home to the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes. The Mission Valley, in the east central portion of the Reservation, was at the southern extreme of the last continental glacier which retreated some 12,000 years ago. Heavy, fertile soils and hundreds of small wetland basins left by the glacier, in conjunction with a favorable climate and a major irrigation project make this land highly productive for many wildlife species. The area is also part of a major migratory bird flyway in the Rocky Mountain Trench, and serves as a resting area for many birds in spring and fall. The area provides high quality upland bird and waterfowl habitat, hunting and wildlife viewing. Winter raptor viewing is nationally acclaimed. Visitors should always be on the alert for bears. Grizzly and black bears occupy the nearby Mission Mountains and bear sightings on the open prairie of the valley floor are not uncommon. Beginning in 2000, the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes began to acquire lands specifically for fish and wildlife habitat. Wetland and riparian restoration projects are currently being planned for these parcels.

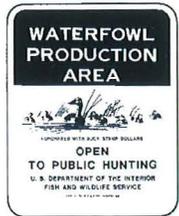
Hunting & Fishing Licenses

- The Flathead Indian Reservation is open to hunting and fishing by non-tribal members who purchase the appropriate license and permits. A joint state/tribal license and the appropriate hunting/fishing stamps are required of all hunters and anglers who are not members of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. A Federal Migratory Bird Stamp is required of all hunters 16 years of age or older who hunt waterfowl. Hunting by non-tribal members is allowed only for ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, Hungarian partridge and pheasants. The entire reservation is closed to all other hunting by non-tribal members. Consult the Flathead Indian Reservation Joint Fishing, Hunting, and Recreation Regulations for season dates, methods of taking fish and game as well as bag and possession limits.

Recreational Use – Tribal, State, and Federal Lands

- Tribal trust lands are open for recreational uses, including hunting and fishing, by non-tribal members with the appropriate joint state/tribal license and permits unless specifically posted as closed.
- Ninepipe National Wildlife Refuge is open for wildlife observation and photography, environmental education, and fishing during appropriate seasons. No boats or floatation devices are allowed. It is closed to all public access (including game retrieval) during the hunting seasons. Portions of the refuge are closed to public access during the nesting season, March 15 to July 15.
- Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA) are generally open to hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching and photography. No other uses are allowed except under special permit.
- Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is open to hunting, fishing, and other recreational uses compatible with wildlife conservation.

State and Federal Lands Identified with Special Signs:



Ninepipe National Wildlife Refuge

Ninepipe National Wildlife Refuge is an easement refuge on Confederated Salish-Kootenai Tribal land and is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Ninepipe National Wildlife Refuge is not open to hunting at any time. Seasonal closures prevent human disturbances to birds and enhance the quality of hunting in the Mission Valley by providing birds with a sanctuary during the hunting season.

Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area

The Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area is owned and managed by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. The WMA was acquired, developed, and is managed primarily with funds generated by hunting license fees and excise taxes on hunting equipment. Beginning in 1953, these lands were acquired for the conservation of waterfowl and pheasant habitat and to provide a place for public hunting. Land continues to be added to the WMA primarily for the conservation of game bird populations although a great variety of wildlife species benefit from habitat enhancement and protection.

Lake County Waterfowl Production Areas

Waterfowl Production Areas are units of the National Wildlife Refuge System within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. WPAs are acquired with funds from the sale of Federal Migratory Bird Stamps (Duck Stamps) and are managed to provide wetlands and nesting cover for waterfowl and many other species of wildlife. The WPAs are open to public hunting.

Rules & Restrictions

- Firearms are permitted only during open hunting seasons. Target practice or clay-bird shooting is prohibited at all times on the refuge, WMA and WPAs .
- Motor vehicles are prohibited from operating on WPAs and WMA. Parking is allowed in designated parking areas or along the shoulder of public roads.
- No fires, camping, or overnight use is allowed.
- No commercial activities are allowed on the WMA. Any commercial use on the WPAs requires a special use permit.
- Blinds must be removed daily.
- Non-toxic shot is required for all bird hunting on the Flathead Reservation.

Dog Use

- On the WMA and WPAs, dogs must be on a leash from April 1 to August 31. They must be under the owner's immediate control at all other times. Free roaming pets are prohibited on any portion of the WMA and WPAs.
- Dog training by individuals is permitted on WPAs and WMA under the above constraints of control. Commercial and professional dog training is not allowed on WPAs.
- Dog training is prohibited on tribal lands.

Personal Conduct

- Public lands belong to everyone, but individuals also have responsibilities in protecting and preserving them. Pack out all litter. Leave all vegetation and natural objects undisturbed for others to enjoy. Respect other users and keep disturbances at a minimum. Leave all gates as you find them.
- The possession and discharge of fireworks or other explosives on the WMA or WPAs is prohibited.

This is not a complete list of rules and regulations. Please consult annually published tribal, federal, and state hunting and fishing regulations or contact:

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribe

Division of Fish, Wildlife,
and Conservation
51396 Hwy 93 N
Pablo, MT 59855
(406) 675-2700
<http://www.cskt.org>

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Region 1
490 North Meridian
Kalispell, MT 59901
(406) 752-5501
Telephone Device for the Deaf:
(406) 444-1200
<http://www.fwp.mt.gov>

US Fish and Wildlife Service

National Bison Range
132 Bison Range Road
Moiese, MT 59824
(406) 644-2211, ext 0

<http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov/>