

“I Spy...”

This very popular trail allows visitors to the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge the opportunity to observe wildlife without causing disturbance to their natural behavioral patterns.

To observe the wildlife out here, you can climb the tower and look through the scope or use a pair of binoculars. Look out across the marsh. Watch quietly and see if you can find the following animals:

Red-wing blackbird

Sandhill Crane

White-tailed deer

Canada geese

Great blue heron

Trumpeter swan

Whooping crane

Timber wolf

Coyote

Ducks (mallard, wood, etc.)

Bald eagle

Red tailed hawk

U.S. FISH & WILIFE SERVICE

NECEDAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HIKING



OBSERVATION TOWER TRAIL



Welcome to Necedah National Wildlife Refuge's Observation Tower Trail

The Trail:

Observation Tower Trail is a 0.8 mile trail that meanders through a mostly forested habitat. The trail provides the option of walking directly to the two story tower that looks out over Rynearson Pool #1; or taking a leisurely stroll through the woods.

The Observation Tower is the best location on the refuge to get an intimate landscape view of refuge wetlands. The tower has two stories with a platform on each level and a viewing scope on the top level.

Half-way along the trail there is an open-air observation blind that is set on a peninsula. The blind provides a place to relax and enjoy the sounds and sights of the wetlands.



Trail Wildlife & Habitats:

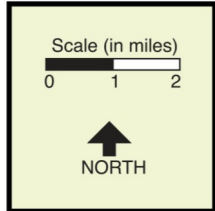
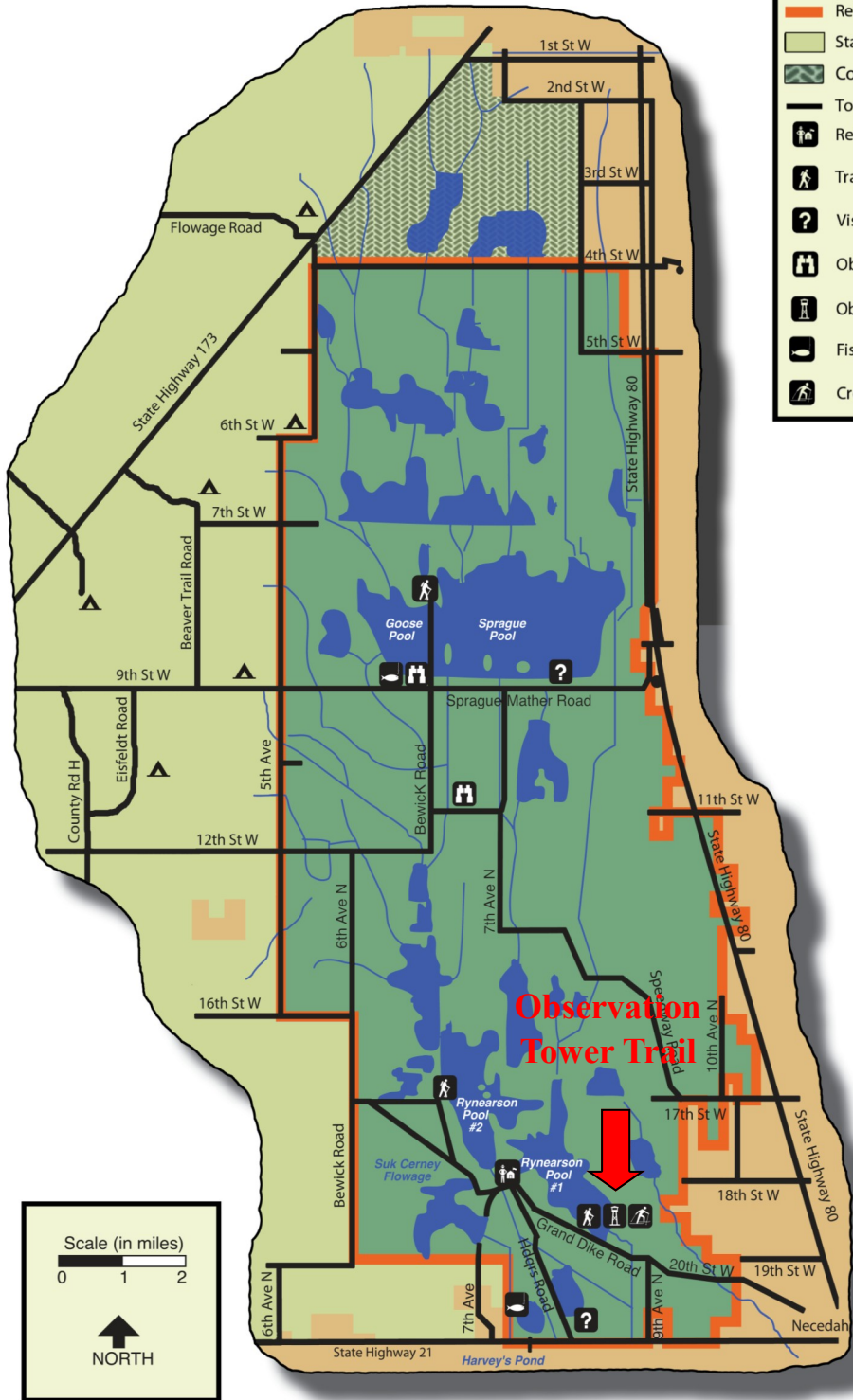
Rynearson Pool #1 is a fantastic place to observe wetland wildlife. Looking out over the pool, do not be surprised to see deer grazing along the wetland's edge, red-winged blackbirds flitting from cattail to cattail, and cranes or geese roosting and feeding.

Because of its abundance of amphibians, fish, invertebrates, and small aquatic plants, this area attracts large numbers of cranes including the endangered whooping crane.

Water Level Management:

Wetlands play an important role in the protection and production of waterfowl, fish, invertebrates, and mammals. Similarly, they serve as a sponge for catching spring runoff and prevention of flooding. Water management began at the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge in 1936 when the two Rynearson impoundments were constructed. Today, the water management program at Necedah NWR consists of 5,000 acres of permanent marsh within 50 impoundments.

Necedah National Wildlife Refuge



Legend	
	Refuge Boundary
	State Managed Lands
	Co-op Managed Unit
	Township Roads
	Refuge Headquarters
	Trail Access
	Visitor Information
	Observation Area
	Observation Tower
	Fishing
	Cross-Country Ski

Observation Tower Trail

