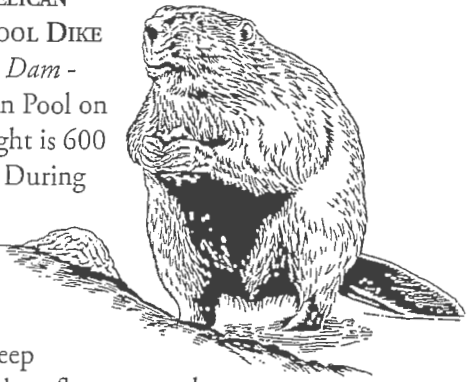


4 LOESS BLUFF HILLS *to the left* - Loess bluff hills are made up of soil deposited thousands of years ago by wind and only found in a few other places in the world. Some of the plants growing on these hills are found nowhere else in Missouri. Sometimes eagles and other birds soar overhead along the bluffs, taking advantage of updraft winds and thermal currents along the bluffs.

5 EAGLE POOL WATER CONTROL GATES - These steel radial gates were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the mid-1930s. They guard the primary outlet for all the water within Eagle (900) acres and Pelican (600 acres) pools. When the gates are closed, they back up (or impound) water behind them and act like a big dam. When the gates are raised, water flows five miles south to the Missouri River. When water is released in spring, fish migrate from the Missouri River up to the controls. People often fish here.

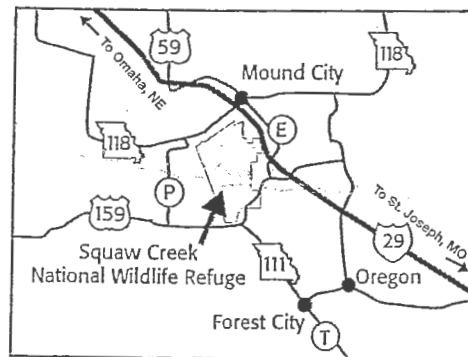
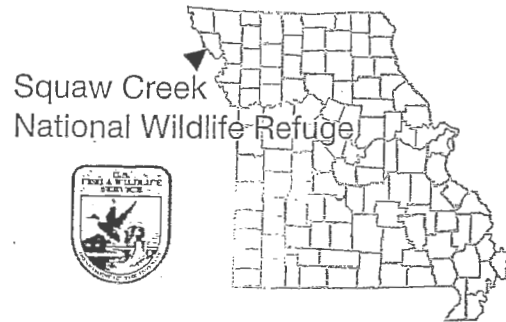
6 PELICAN POOL DIKE *South Dam* - Pelican Pool on the right is 600 acres. During the 1993 flood, water was deep enough to flow across the entire length of the road. A new layer of rip rap rock was placed on the pool-side slope in 1995 to protect it from future floods. Watch for muskrat houses here as you drive around the pool. Ducks, geese, and eagles often can be seen sitting on these houses. Snakes and turtles also use them for sunning.



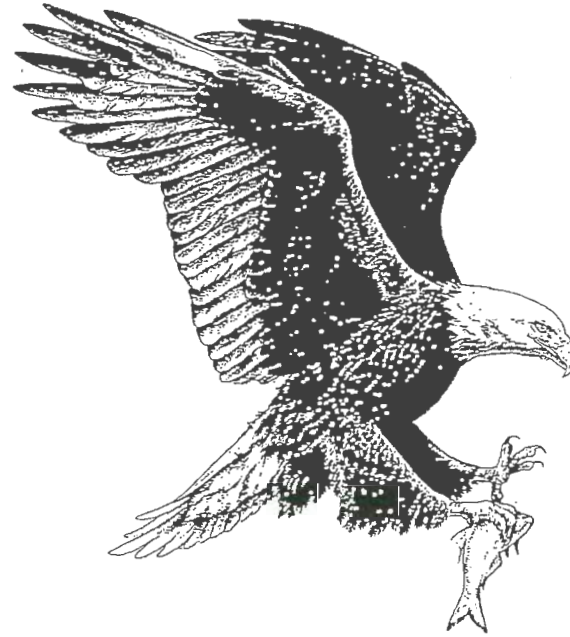
Chosen by wildlife experts as one of Missouri's Watchable Wildlife sites, Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge provides an excellent opportunity to enjoy wildlife in its natural setting. The auto tour allows

visitors to view wildlife from their cars, especially in the fall and winter when white-tailed deer, coyotes, and other wildlife are active at dusk. Birds of prey, waterfowl, beaver, and muskrat also frequent surrounding waterways and marshes.

Squaw Creek, which is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is dedicated to the preservation and conservation of wildlife. For more information please write: Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 158, Mound City, Missouri 64470 Or phone: 660/442-3187. Friends of Squaw Creek Refuge website: <http://squawcreek.org>



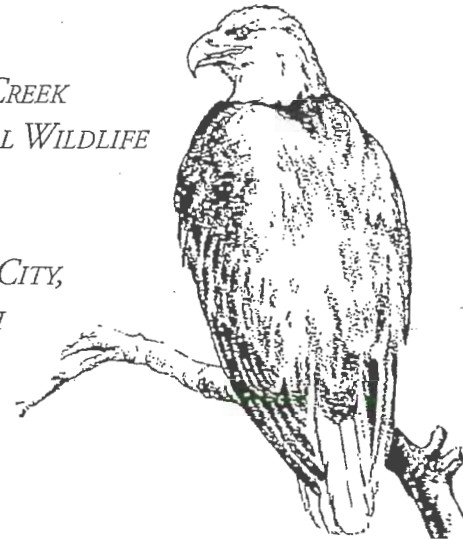
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



SQUAW CREEK AUTO TOUR GUIDE

SQUAW CREEK
NATIONAL WILDLIFE
REFUGE

MOUND CITY,
MISSOURI



1 HEADQUARTERS - Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge is just one of more than 535 National Wildlife Refuges under the Department of the Interior in the United States. Squaw Creek is 7,350 acres. It was established in 1935 by Franklin D. Roosevelt as a resting and feeding area for migratory birds and other wildlife. The original roads, hiking trails and some of the old buildings were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the mid - 1930s. All national wildlife refuges are funded and managed by the Federal government. The Refuge System is made up of more than 93 million acres. There is a refuge in every state and five in Missouri. The National Wildlife Refuge System is 100 years old in 2003.

2 TOWER - The observation tower, completed in December 1995, is disabled accessible and open to all refuge visitors. It also has a permanently mounted scope. It offers a good view of Eagle Pool, and waterfowl and eagles often can be seen in spring and fall.



3 WOODLANDS *East of Davis Creek, Just South of the Tower* - During fall migration, bald eagles often can be seen sitting in these trees. The trees give the eagles a good place to rest and loaf, but they also are good vantage points from which to watch for sick and injured waterfowl. The eagles feed on the waterfowl in nearby Eagle Pool. Other birds of prey also can be seen sitting in the trees to the left.



Squaw Creek Refuge Auto Tour Map

7 PELICAN POOL - Vegetation growing out of the pool includes river bulrush, cattail, arrowhead and American lotus. Muskrats feed on and build their houses out of some of these plants. Marsh and water birds often nest in this pool during summer.

8 SNOW GOOSE POOL COMPLEX - There are five individual pools in this complex. Some contain moist soil plants attractive to ducks and geese, such as smartweed, rice cutgrass, and wild millet. When controlled flooding begins in fall, ducks and geese land here to eat the seeds and pull up the plants. To the west (left) is Pintail Pool. You probably will see ducks sitting in the open water and eagles sitting in the trees and on the muskrat houses.

9 SQUAW CREEK WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE - The control is 35 feet long and 5-1/2 feet high. When this big steel gate is lowered down into the ditch, it backs up water. Water then moves through the tube under the road. Most of the water you have seen so far on the refuge came out of this ditch. It is the main source of water and comes from farm fields on top of the bluffs.

10 BALD EAGLE NEST - Bald Eagles began nesting at Squaw Creek for the first time in 1997. Stop at the pull off and watch for nesting activity.

11 MALLARD MARSH PUMP AND MONUMENT - A 91 foot well is used to flood this marsh. The marsh restoration project was a cooperative effort completed in 1991.

12 FARM FIELDS - Crops are planted in these fields to the left. If you look closely, you may catch a glimpse of deer or turkeys feeding in the field. The large trees at the end of the field are an important area for eagles to roost in at night.

13 CROSS LEVEE 2 - There are trees on both sides of the road, most of which are silver maple and cottonwood. White-tailed deer can be seen from this road almost every day of the year because they like the woods which are warmer in winter and cooler in summer. You may also see a pheasant. To the right of the road is a large cordgrass prairie - home of the endangered massasauga rattlesnake, and one of only three places left in Missouri where this snake is found.

14 DAVIS CREEK WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE - This control was built in 1989. The large radial gate is lowered into the ditch and water is sent under the road to flood the moist soil units on the right side of the road. Watch for shorebirds feeding in the shallow water.

15 MOIST SOIL UNIT 5 AND CATTAIL POOL - This area sometimes is called a greentree reservoir. Some species of ducks like to feed and linger in the flooded timber. The next pool just south of the flooded timber is Cattail Pool. There is a 14 acre area adjacent to the road managed for shorebirds. Stop at the pull off and watch for shorebirds feeding on the mud flats.

