The MLWA offers two modern rental cabins as an alternative to tent and RV camping. The cabins are located on Unit 30 of the wildlife area overlooking the Trout Lake. The cabins are named Coal Ridge (west) and Mine 19 (east) to represent the coal mining era that once dominated this landscape. The cabins are available for rent year-round and will accommodate up to six overnight guests. For reservations go to: www.reserve.ksoutdoors.com.

WILDLIFE

The Mined Land Wildlife Area (MLWA) is located in Crawford, Cherokee, and Labette counties in southeast Kansas. Mining in the area began in the late 1890s. Big Brutus, a twelve million pound electric coal shovel, remains near MLWA #44 as a reminder. Today, the area is characterized by woodlands, healthy grasslands, and abundant water.

The first land donation was received in 1926. The largest acquisition, totaling 8,208 acres, was donated by the Pittsburg and Midwest Coal Company to the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism in 1981. The area includes 47 tracts totaling around 14,500 acres.

Several hundred water-filled pits dot the MLWA, creating about 1,500 acres of public waters. More than 200 lakes on the area are managed for fishing.

Strip-mine lakes produce some of Kansas’ finest fishing. Sportfish include largemouth bass, rainbow trout, walleye, channel catfish, crappie, bluegill, redear sunfish, spotted bass, wipers, bullhead, and trout, walleye, channel catfish, crappie, bluegill, redear sunfish, spotted bass, wipers, bullhead, and trout. The woodlands areas of the property hold good populations of white-tailed deer and eastern turkey. The area supports good numbers of raccoons, opossums, bobcats, beavers, coyotes. Other furbearers, including mink, and fox are also common.

Several marshes have been constructed to attract doves in September. Doves can be abundant and challenging. Anglers who approach the water quietly, use light line and fish during low-light hours are more successful. Boats help reach many of the prime fishing spots. The lakes are mostly sheltered from road traffic, or drive off roads. No hookups are available.

Many of the lakes are steep sided, Anglers wading the shorelines should use caution.

Swimming is NOT allowed on the area.

Visitors must take their trash with them. Check the Kansas Fishing Regulations Summary and all posted notices before fishing.

Certain areas may be closed to hunting and fishing periodically.

Target shooting, trotlines and setlines are prohibited on all areas.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

Vehicles are restricted to maintained roads and parking lots. Some roads are closed to all traffic. Do not leave vehicles parked on boat ramps. Use caution when launching boats because ramps drop off sharply, and trailers backed too far may become high centered. Boat ramps are available on most large lakes.

Swimming is NOT allowed on the area.

Many of the lakes are steep sided, Anglers wading the shorelines should use caution.

Tent camping is allowed at any location except refuge areas. RVs may be parked in designated areas or parking lots. RVs may not block boat ramps, restrict road traffic, or drive off roads. No hookups are available.

Photographers and wildlife observers will find a variety of birds and other animals at the MLWA.

The Bob Grant Bison Herd is on display, located on Unit 30 of the wildlife area overlooking the Trout Lake. The cabins are named Coal Ridge (west) and Mine 19 (east) to represent the coal mining era that once dominated this landscape. The cabins are available for rent year-round and will accommodate up to six overnight guests. For reservations go to: www.reserve.ksoutdoors.com.

Waterfowl hunting can also be good on the area. Several marshes have been constructed to attract ducks. A waterfowl refuge often holds several hundred Canada geese in the area.

The woodlands areas of the property hold good populations of white-tailed deer and eastern turkey.

The area supports good numbers of raccoons, opossums, bobcats, beavers, and coyotes. Other furbearers, including mink, and fox are also common.

FISHING

Several hundred water-filled pits dot the MLWA, creating about 1,500 acres of public waters. More than 200 lakes on the area are managed for fishing.

Strip-mine lakes produce some of Kansas’ finest fishing. Sportfish include largemouth bass, rainbow trout, walleye, channel catfish, crappie, bluegill, redear sunfish, spotted bass, wipers, bullhead, and trout, walleye, channel catfish, crappie, bluegill, redear sunfish, spotted bass, wipers, bullhead, and trout.

Unique water characteristics allow the trout to survive and grow year-round. A trout stamp is required for anyone age 16 or older to fish the trout lake.

Most MLWA waters are quite clear, and fishing is challenging. Anglers who approach the water quietly, use light line and fish during low-light hours are more successful. Boats help reach many of the prime fishing spots. The lakes are mostly sheltered from wind and too small for large craft. Small boats and float tubes work best.

The MLWA offers two modern rental cabins as an alternative to tent and RV camping. The cabins are located on Unit 30 of the wildlife area overlooking the Trout Lake. The cabins are named Coal Ridge (west) and Mine 19 (east) to represent the coal mining era that once dominated this landscape. The cabins are available for rent year-round and will accommodate up to six overnight guests. For reservations go to: www.reserve.ksoutdoors.com.

Tent camping is allowed at any location except refuge areas. RVs may be parked in designated areas or parking lots. RVs may not block boat ramps, restrict road traffic, or drive off roads. No hookups are available.

Visitors must take their trash with them. Check the Kansas Fishing Regulations Summary and all posted notices before fishing.

Certain areas may be closed to hunting and fishing periodically.

Target shooting, trotlines and setlines are prohibited on all areas.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

Vehicles are restricted to maintained roads and parking lots. Some roads are closed to all traffic. Do not leave vehicles parked on boat ramps. Use caution when launching boats because ramps drop off sharply, and trailers backed too far may become high centered. Boat ramps are available on most large lakes.

Swimming is NOT allowed on the area.

Many of the lakes are steep sided, Anglers wading the shorelines should use caution.

Tent camping is allowed at any location except refuge areas. RVs may be parked in designated areas or parking lots. RVs may not block boat ramps, restrict road traffic, or drive off roads. No hookups are available.

Visitors must take their trash with them. Check the Kansas Fishing Regulations Summary and all posted notices before fishing.

Certain areas may be closed to hunting and fishing periodically.

Target shooting, trotlines and setlines are prohibited on all areas.

Photographers and wildlife observers will find a variety of birds and other animals at the MLWA.
MINED LAND WILDLIFE AREA (SCAMMON UNITS)

Crawford County

LEGEND

Wildlife Area Office
Field Office
Towns
Paved Road
Gravel Road
Seasonal Road
Parking Area
Cabin Area
Concrete Boat Ramp (with parking)
Gravel Boat Ramp (with parking)
Vault Toilet
Public Hunting
Marsh
No Firearms
Streams
Bridge
Cemetery

MINED LAND WILDLIFE AREA (PITTSBURG UNITS)
FRONTENAC
PICTSUG
CHICOPEE
SCAMMON
ROSELAND

5 miles to West Mineral
4 miles to Columbus
4 miles
Between Scammon & Cherokee
1 mile to Weir

STATE OF MISSOURI
STATE OF KANSAS