Welcome to Brown State Fishing Lake and Wildlife Area, constructed in 1953 and stocked with fish in 1956. Nine miles east of Hiawatha, Brown SFL includes a 60-acre lake and a 129-acre wildlife area. A wildlife oasis in the cornbelt of northeastern Kansas, Brown SFL provides limited but high-quality opportunities for birdwatchers, hunters, fishermen and campers.

FISHING AND BOATING
As with all state fishing lakes, powerboats may be used for fishing only. Water depth near the dam is 12 to 15 feet and very shallow in the northern three coves. A boat ramp is located on the east shoreline. Fourteen fishing piers, and a courtesy dock make access to water convenient.

Through a combination of stocking and length and creel limits, fishing is good for bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, and some flathead catfish are caught as well.

WILDLIFE
The small wildlife area is predominantly native grass. During open seasons, hunters have the opportunity to take bobwhite quail, ring-necked pheasant, waterfowl, rabbits, and furbearers.
The area is open to hunting only on Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays from Sept. 10 - March 31. Wildlife watchers have year-round opportunities to view and photograph these game species, plus a wide variety of songbirds, raptors, small mammals, and reptiles and amphibians.

CAMPING
Although no electrical hookups are available at Brown, both primitive and recreational vehicle camping are allowed on designated areas. Picnic tables and fire pits are available at some of these areas, but no drinking water is available. Two vault toilets have also been constructed on the area.

No trash service is available, so campers and other users of the area must take their trash with them when they leave.

THINGS TO REMEMBER
- All trash must be removed from the area when you leave.
- Special length and creel limits may be in effect for some fish species. Check posted notices and the Kansas Fishing Regulations Summary for details.
- No pleasure boating is allowed on state fishing lakes. Vehicles are permitted on maintained roads and parking lots only.
- Consult area information signs for additional rules and regulations on the area.

Brown SFL & WA
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Brown State Fishing Lake & Wildlife Area

General Area Map

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism