

# BIG HILL

Owned and managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Big Hill Wildlife Area is located in Labette County, approximately 5 miles east

of Cherryvale. County roads provide access to the area. Highway 400 passes 4 miles to the north of the area, and K-96 passes 4 miles to the south. Big Hill Reservoir,

managed by the Corps of Engineers, is located one-half mile west of the wildlife area.

## WILDLIFE

The wildlife area is comprised of five tracts, approximately 1,280 acres. All of the wildlife area is fenced and posted, with the exception of the unfenced 80-acre tract to the southwest. The area is managed for hunting, fishing, trapping, wildlife photography, hiking, and backpack camping.

Dominant vegetation includes big bluestem, little bluestem, Indiangrass, and switch grass. Several small intermittent streams run through the area, which adds to the diversity of habitat types. Streams lined with hackberry, American elm, hickory, red oak, chinkapin oak, red mulberry, and sycamore provide excellent habitat for squirrel and deer. The upland areas contain many small ponds used by furbearers, waterfowl, and upland wildlife, both game and nongame.

The prairie and associated woodlands support many different types of wildlife. Resident game species include quail, turkey, dove, rabbit, fox squirrel, and white-tailed deer. Furbearers include raccoon, opossum, skunk, beaver, muskrat, mink, bobcat, fox, and coyote. Since the wildlife area is only one-half mile from the 1,240-acre reservoir, waterfowl using the lake venture onto the wildlife area ponds, providing the sportsmen with additional hunting opportunities.

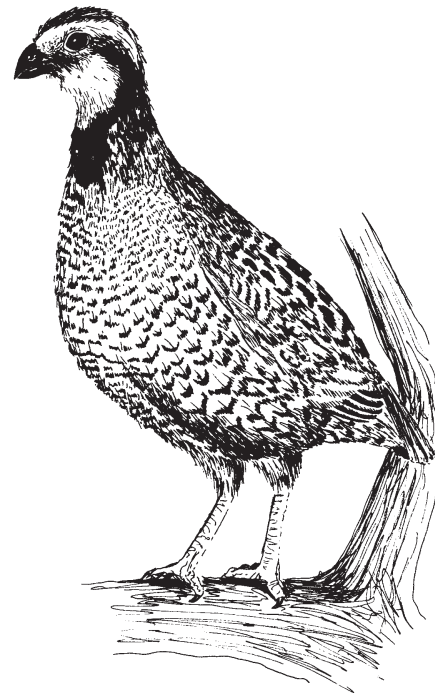
## FISHING

The Big Hill area has several small ponds with mature fish populations and two larger ponds intensively managed for fishing. They have developed access roads, parking and a gravel boat ramp.

The larger ponds are annually stocked with one-half pound channel cat. Water level management, restrictive harvest, fish habitat construction, and supplemental stocking help maintain the fishery.

Due to the excellent mix of timberland and native grass habitat, Big Hill Wildlife Area has become one of the finest bobwhite quail areas in the state. The thick native bluestem grass and bushy thickets create a challenge to area hunters, but explosions of bobwhite coveys reward the hunter's efforts.

Prescribed rotational burning has greatly increased native grasses and prairie wildflowers and helped slow woody invasion. Food plots, brush piles, and clearing of trees also enhance wildlife habitat.



## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

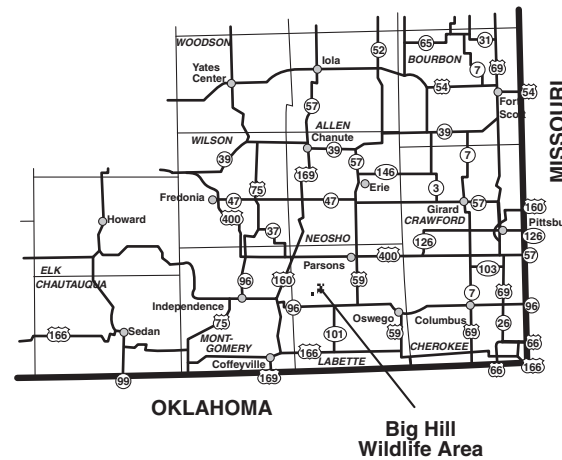
The entire area is managed for hunting and fishing. Other activities allowed are hiking, wildlife photography, birdwatching, and primitive backpack camping.

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

There are no trash barrels or picnic tables in the area, so please take your trash with you. Special length limit and creel limits may be in effect for some fish species. Check the Kansas Fishing Regulations Summary and all posted notices before fishing.

No trot or limb lines are allowed in the area ponds. Vehicles are restricted to established roads and parking areas.

Big Hill Wildlife Area is subject to all state laws and regulations regarding hunting, fishing, and public use. Pertinent information is posted. For further information about the area, contact the office listed on the front panel.



General Area Map

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs described herein is available to all individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, and military or veteran status. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to Office of the Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, 1020 S Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66612-1327. 08/11

# Big Hill

## Wildlife Area



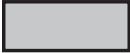




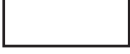
Elk City Wildlife Area  
5089 Co. Rd. 2925  
Independence, KS 67301

(Area Office)  
(620) 331-6820

(Regional Office)  
(620) 431-0380

www.kdwpt.state.ks.us

# BIG HILL WILDLIFE AREA

LEGEND	
Public Use Area (hunting allowed)	
Paved Road	
Gravel Road	
Parking Area	
Stream	
Ponds	
Railroad	