

Recreation Opportunities

Hiking



The refuge offers year-round access at two scenic hiking trails – Platte River and Sedge Meadow – for foot travel only.

Bicycling



Bicycles are permitted only on the refuge entrance road. Hiking trails are closed to biking, and no off-road travel is permitted. All traffic and directional signs must be obeyed.

Winter Activities



Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are permitted. As snow conditions allow, the Platte River Trail may be groomed for cross-country skiing. Hikers and snowshoers are asked to be respectful of tracks set by skiers and hike to the side of the trail.

Wildlife Observation



The refuge provides three wildlife observation decks – two along the Platte River Trail and one at the Sedge Meadow Trail and Overlook. Additionally, wildlife can be viewed while on hiking trails or when driving on county and township roads between refuge units.

Photography



Photography is allowed and does not require a special use permit. Refuge regulations must be followed. Sets and props are not permitted; tripods are not considered a prop.

Hunting



Small game, big game, furbearer and migratory bird hunting are permitted at the refuge. Special hunts are available for persons with disabilities. Refer to the refuge hunting regulations brochure for hunting rules and regulations.

Boating



Both motorized and non-motorized boating is allowed on Rice Lake, Skunk Lake, Mud Lake and local rivers following both the refuge and Minnesota boating regulations.

Volunteer Opportunities

The refuge offers a wide variety of volunteer opportunities. To learn more or to receive an application form, visit the refuge website or email the refuge.

Regulations

The refuge is open to visitors ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

All property brought into the refuge must be removed at the end of each day.



Parking is allowed on designated roads and parking areas only. No overnight parking. State and county regulations apply.



Dogs and other pets must always be on a leash at all times. No dog training.

Prohibited

- OHVs & ATVs
- Snowmobiles
- Horses
- Target Shooting
- Camping
- Drones
- Fires
- Bank Fishing
- Use or possession of alcohol by minors.
- Use or possession of any illegal drug or drug paraphernalia.
- Plants and animals collected, taken or acquired elsewhere shall not be introduced, liberated or placed on any part of the refuge.
- All collection or disturbance of plant or animal life, including shed deer antlers, stones, plants and artifacts.
- Unauthorized use of firearms, fireworks, air gun and all other weapons.

Federal Regulations Apply

(16 USC 668 dd & 50 CFR Part 25-32)

Emergencies 911

Crane Meadows is part of the Sherburne National Wildlife Complex and is managed out of the Complex Headquarters in Zimmerman, MN. Visitors may contact staff at Complex Headquarters with recreation, public use, habitat management and volunteering questions.

For More Information

**Crane Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
19502 Iris Road
Little Falls, MN 56345**

**Crane Meadows Maintenance Office
320-632-1575**

**Complex Headquarters
17076 293rd Avenue NW
Zimmerman, MN 55398
763-389-3323**

**TTY users may access the Federal
Information Relay Service at 800-877-8339**

**www.fws.gov/refuge/crane-meadows/
CraneMeadows@fws.gov**

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1-800/344-WILD
www.fws.gov/**

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All previous versions obsolete



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Crane Meadows

National Wildlife Refuge

Public Use Regulations
and Map





This is a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people. Crane Meadows National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1992 to protect and conserve a large, natural wetland complex and is one of four refuges that make up the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge Complex. A wide variety of wildlife may be seen or heard as they use the sedge meadows, shallow lakes and other wetland habitats on the refuge. Restored tallgrass prairie and oak savanna habitats host a wealth of songbirds, as well as an array of wildflowers. Recreation is encouraged where it is compatible with the land.

Signs to Know



Platte River Trail

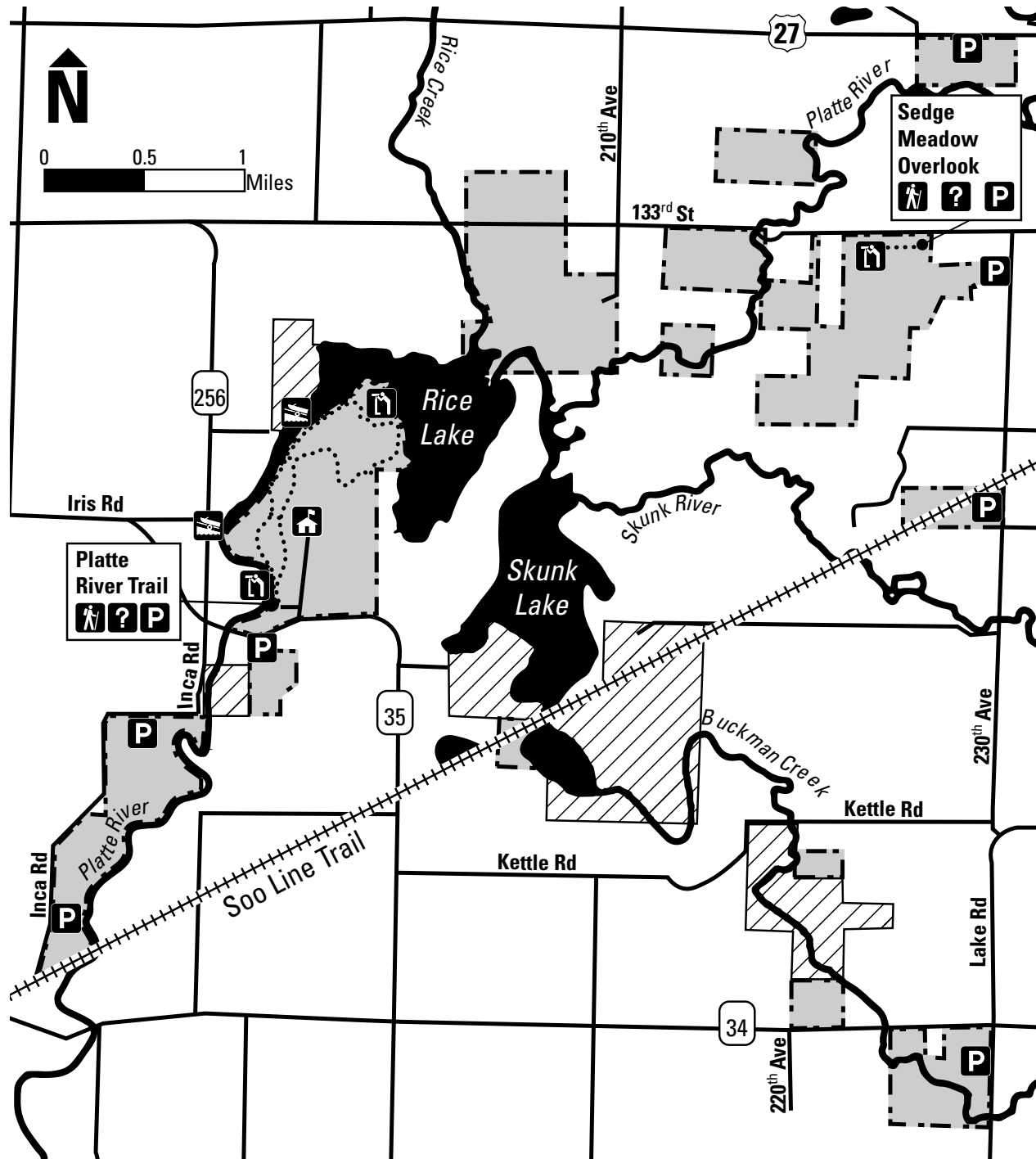


This scenic 3.7-mile accessible hiking trail is located on the refuge headquarters unit at 19502 Iris Road, Little Falls, MN 56345. With four loops, two observation decks and a crushed granite base, the trail offers ample opportunity to explore the refuge at your own pace.

Sedge Meadow Trail and Overlook



The Sedge Meadow Trail and Overlook is located at 22501 133rd Street Pierz, MN 56364. This short 0.12-mile trail starts at an informational kiosk and ends at the overlook platform which has views of a sedge meadow and the large wetland complex the refuge was established to protect.



The USFWS makes no warrant for the use of this map and cannot be held liable for actions or decisions based on map content. Boundaries posted in the field supercede all boundaries shown on map.

Crane Meadows National Wildlife Refuge

- Refuge Boundary
- MN DNR
- Maintenance Office
- Parking
- Kiosk
- MN DNR Boat Landing
- Hiking
- Observation Deck

