
2023 Dove Draw Information Pigeon River Fish & Wildlife Area

This page includes information and instructions for those interested in or selected to participate in a 2023 Indiana Dove Hunt Draw. It is important to note that areas participating in reserved hunts are managed by various agencies and may have unique restrictions that each hunter must follow. Please read each area's information packet carefully before pursuing a hunt.

Applying:

The application period for the 2023 Dove Hunt Draw is July 2 – Aug. 6, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted. You must obtain a valid hunting license and Game Bird Habitat stamp prior to applying. Each hunter is eligible to select one hunt date from any participating property when applying. There are no age restrictions on applying. Youth hunters may apply if they are properly licensed to hunt dove.

A HIP number is also required to hunt doves. Hunters must register at indianaoutdoor.IN.gov or by calling 866-671-4499. There is no cost to register.

Restrictions:

- Non-toxic shot is required.
- A plugged shotgun not capable of holding more than three (3) shells.
- All dove hunters are limited to 50 shells per day.
- All trash should be removed from the field after the hunt, including spent shotgun shells.
- Do not shoot up, down, or behind the shooting strips. Only shoot in front over the mowed flowers.
- No alcoholic beverages or other illegal substances are allowed in the fields.

Bag Limit:

- The daily bag limit is 15 mourning doves. The possession limit is 45 mourning doves.

Hunting Hours:

- Sept. 1-3: noon – 6 p.m.
- Sept. 4-6: noon to sunset
- Sept. 7 and on: half-hour before sunrise to sunset

Hunt Information:

The first two days of the dove season at Pigeon River FWA are by draw/reservation only. When applying to the 2023 Pigeon River FWA dove season hunt, you may choose from two hunt periods:

- Friday, Sept. 1, 2023
- Saturday, Sept. 2, 2023

To claim your reservation, you must check in at the property office before 11 a.m. ET (10 a.m. CT) on the day of your hunt. Each managed dove field at Pigeon River FWA will be marked with evenly spaced flags. Hunters who have been successfully drawn may choose their preferred field in order of their given draw number. Flags in each field are on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you do not claim your reservation by the time indicated above, your spot will be given to another hunter or forfeited entirely. You may bring one hunting partner with you during your hunt.

You must carry with you and return a one-day hunter access permit card that you will receive upon check-in at the office. Please fill out this permit card after your hunt to indicate the number of doves you harvested and any other additional information. Permit cards can be returned at the property office or any of the drop-boxes locations which can be found on the Pigeon River FWA map.

Area Information:

Pigeon River FWA provides quality outdoor recreational opportunities while maintaining 11,794 acres of land, 529 acres of lakes and impoundments, and 17 miles of free-flowing river. The property contains a mix of habitat, including hardwoods, wetlands, and upland fields. It is home to many endangered species of plants and animals. Each year, hunters successfully harvest several species including deer, turkey, and waterfowl.

The property has several managed dove fields available to hunters during the first two days of the season. Most of the fields can be accessed by a brief walk from a parking lot. We always attempt to leave standing cover near each flag for hunter concealment. The dove fields will differ in size and quality due to many factors that may affect the outcome of sunflower planting. Accurate field maps will be posted to the property webpage when we can determine the success of each field. Maps can be found approximately one month before the season opens here: <https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/properties/pigeon-river-fwa/>

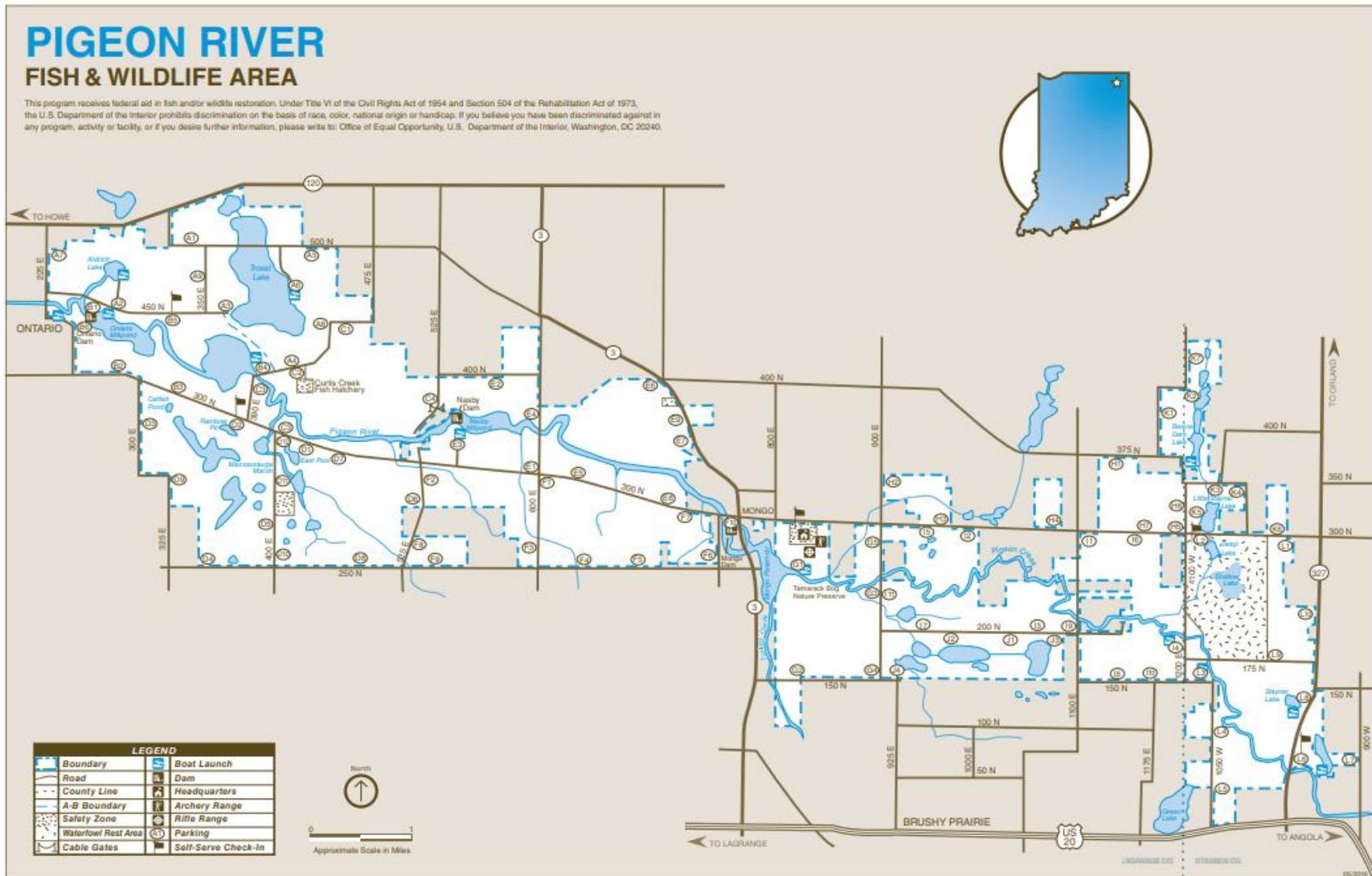
The first two days of dove season are very popular at Pigeon River FWA. We ask that each sportsman do their part to keep litter contained and showcase ethical hunting to help preserve our natural resources for generations to come.

If you have questions about property rules, accessing dove fields, or other specifics, please call or visit our main office.

Contact:

If you have further questions, please call the Pigeon River property office at 260-367-2164.

Address: 8310 E. 300 N. Howe, IN 46746



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