

The Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area (TFSWA) encompasses about 40,000 acres. The diverse topography, vegetative cover and water resources offer a wide variety of hunting and trapping opportunities. Animals you might see include: deer, bear, ruffed grouse, woodcock, turkey, snowshoe hare, raccoon, coyote, bobcat, red fox, mink, beaver, otter, fisher, muskrat and a variety of waterfowl.

HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

The TFSWA offers five trails designated for hiking, and four of those trails offer hunting opportunities — Hidden Rivers Nature Trail (hiking only); Little Turtle Hunter Walking Trail (Mercer Cross Country Ski Association [MECCA] partners with the DNR to maintain these trails); Big Island Hunter Walking Trail; Wilson Hills Hunter Walking Trail; and Deadhorse Hunter Walking Trail (Deadhorse Ruffed Grouse Management Demonstration Area). In the back country, you will also find several miles of old logging roads.

All general hunting and trapping regulations apply within the TFSWA. Please take special note of the following regulations before hunting or trapping on this or other state properties. For more information, see the section “State-owned and State Managed Lands” in the latest deer hunting regulations.

- The TFSWA is located in Deer Management Unit-Iron County; Bear Zone-A, Turkey Zone-7, and the Northern Zones for fisher, otter, waterfowl and bobcat.

PRIVATE VS. PUBLIC LANDS

Many areas of private land lie scattered within the TFSWA. Care should be taken to stay on state-owned land, and not trespass on adjacent lands without the permission of the landowner. Maps showing the location of public and private land within the TFSWA are available at the Mercer Ranger Station, and also in map boxes located at a number of boat access sites and trailheads throughout the property. You can also explore public lands and identify property boundaries using the DNR’s free Hunt Wild Wisconsin App.

TRAIL ACCESS POINTS

Most trail access points are gated. Please do not park in front of the gates. Access to these gated trails is needed for emergency rescue activities, fire suppression and wildlife management operations.

PRACTICE HUNTER SAFETY

The TFSWA is used by many recreationalists at all different times of the year, hunters should be especially aware of gun and bow safety while hunting. Hunting within 100 yards of a designated trail (not hunter walking trails) or a TFSWA campsite is prohibited.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For questions about TFSWA, contact the property manager at **715-476-7846**.

In case of emergency, call the Iron County Sheriff at 1-800-243-2131 or dial 911.

In case of non-emergency (or to report a hunting violation), call the Warden Tip Line at 1-800-847-9367.

Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area



BIG ISLAND TRAIL

Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

Wisconsin DNR Call Center
(toll-free 7 a.m.-10 p.m.) **1-888-936-7463**

Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area • Big Island Trail



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

Big Island Trail is located completely within the biggest island on the Turtle Flambeau Flowage — Big Island. Many wildlife openings are offered along with some quick views of the flowage at the start of the trail.

This trail begins at the bridge to Big Island. From County Highway FF, go south on Popko Circle West about 3.6 miles, and turn right on a woods road heading west toward Big Island. There is a gravel parking area for two or three vehicles about 100 yards before the bridge. There are 8.8 miles of trails on the island.



Photo Credit: Kelly Martinko / Mercer, Wisconsin

