Recreational fishing has always been a popular activity on the Francis Marion National Forest. Rivers, creeks, swamps, lakes and ponds draw the interest of all kinds of anglers.

The Santee River borders the northeast edge of the forest and offers good fishing, especially for those with boats. Bream, bass, striped bass, crappie, catfish and shad are favored species.

The lower portion of the Santee River along Awendaw Creek and the Intracoastal Waterway provide saltwater fishing for species such as red drum, spot and catfish.

Wambaw Creek is best toured by canoe or kayak, as are Chicken and Echaw creeks. All are popular with local anglers. Huger, Nicholson and Turkey creeks are worth trying to catch some of the large shellcrackers found in these waters.

Guilliard Lake, an old oxbow off the Santee River, offers 10 acres of fishing for a variety of species similar to those found in the river.

A number of small ponds provide good fishing for bass, bream and catfish across the district. Please refer to the vicinity map on the reverse of this page for their locations.

Official maps of the Francis Marion National Forest may be purchased at the district office and at Sewee Visitor Center or you may order online at http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/scnfs/maps-pubs.

A South Carolina fishing license is required, and creel limits are in effect unless otherwise posted.

Only electric motors may be operated on any pond or lake on the Francis Marion National Forest.

Hunting and fishing in South Carolina is regulated by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. Visit www.dnr.sc.gov for more about the SCDNR and for hunting and fishing regulations in South Carolina.

Directions: Please refer to the vicinity map on the reverse of this page.

Safety: Passage on many creeks can be obstructed by fallen trees. Please take a current tide chart with you if you plan to boat areas influenced by tides.

For More Information:

Francis Marion Ranger District
2967 Steed Creek Road
Huger, SC 29450
Phone: (843) 336-3248
Fax: (843) 336-2250
Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center
5821 US Highway 17 North, Awendaw, SC 29429
Phone: (843) 928-3368
Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fish Ponds
Francis Marion National Forest

Disclaimer: The USDA Forest Service makes no warranty, expressed or implied, regarding the data displayed on the map, and reserves the right to correct, update, modify, or replace this information without notification.

April 2013