National Forests in Mississippi

1.2 million acres of the state’s most beautiful landscapes are within the National Forests in Mississippi, managed by the USDA Forest Service. Visitors can hunt, fish, camp, swim, canoe, hike, picnic, ride horses or simply enjoy some green space. Forests are teeming with wildlife, water, trees, flowers and interesting plants. The 2,000 acres of lakes and ponds, 600 miles of fishable streams and 90 miles of off-road trails add up to an amazing outdoor destination. Come for the wild and scenic areas. Hunt for white-tailed deer, bobwhite quail and wild turkey. Come play. Come relax. And enjoy the great outdoors at any of Mississippi’s six national forests—the Bienville, Delta, De Soto, Holly Springs, Homochitto and Tombigbee.

What is a national forest?

National forests are working forests. The plants, animals, clean water, timber and other natural resources are cared for by the Forest Service. While protecting the quality of the environment, land managers allow a variety of uses, including recreation and productivity. The health of each forest is just as important as its public use. Behind the scenes, a team of scientists and staff ensures that today’s beautiful forests will remain healthy and sustainable for generations ahead.

www.fs.usda.gov/main/mississippi
Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) are intensively managed for game species like white-tailed deer, wild turkey and bobwhite quail. The 14 WMAs are popular with hunters, and operated by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

Resource Management

Forest lands provide crucial habitat for many threatened, endangered and rare species, including migratory birds passing through each season. The National Forests in Mississippi supports high levels of biological diversity by restoring native ecological systems.

Habitat enhancement in water bodies helps to maintain a strong recreational fishing program, which appeals to the game fishing enthusiast and the hobby angler. Liming, fertilization, fish habitat improvement, aquatic weed control, angler access improvement, fish population management and pest animal control are essential to maintaining fishable streams and ponds for public enjoyment.

1.2 million acres of national forest land in Mississippi

Wildlife Management Areas are intensively managed for game species like white-tailed deer, wild turkey and bobwhite quail. The 14 WMAs are popular with hunters, and operated by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.