

Nature Trail

Trail is open 7 days a week,
daylight hours only.

The **Byron Hatchery Watchable Wildlife Area (WWA)** offers a 1/2 mile self-guided trail through 3 natural areas.

- ◆ Cattail Marsh
- ◆ Cottonwood Swamp

Trailside features include:

- ◆ Cattail Marsh Pier
- ◆ 2 Observation Blinds
- ◆ Barn Owl House
- ◆ Chimney Swift Tower
- ◆ Bat House

Look Up! Look Down!

There are **silhouettes** around the trail of 10 common wildlife species in their specific habitat. How many can you

- 7-10 You must have eagle eyes!
- 4-6 Not bad! Come back again!
- 0-3 Come back when it's day-

Whose **tracks** do you see along the trail? Answers are below:

1. Deer; 2. Raccoon; 3. Armadillo; 4. Coyote; 5. Rabbit; 6. Squirrel; 7. Skunk.



Nature Center

The Nature Center is used by volunteers to conduct wildlife education programs for school groups and is open during scheduled events. To schedule a field trip and/or a hatchery tour, call Byron Hatchery at 580.474.2663, Monday through Friday,

For information on scheduled events go to:
www.wildlifedepartment.com

State Fish Hatchery

In 1929, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation established Byron State Fish Hatchery to produce sportfish for statewide distribution. Besides raising sportfish, the hatchery's operation and management provide habitat for a diversity of wildlife species.



The **Byron Hatchery WWA** is owned and maintained by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. It is a destination on the **Salt Plains Loop** of the **Great Plains Trail of Oklahoma**, a road-based wildlife viewing Trail that includes 13 driving loops in western Oklahoma.

For more information go to:
www.greatplainstrail.com

Getting There

LOCATION OF BYRON HATCHERY WWA	
Hwy. 58	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-right: 10px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Byron Hatchery </div> <div> ⇨ (Turn west at first intersection) </div> </div>
⇨ Alva	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cherokee </div> <div> Hwy. 38 ⇩ Jet (15 mi.) </div> </div>
	Hwy. 11
	23 mi. to Medford ⇨



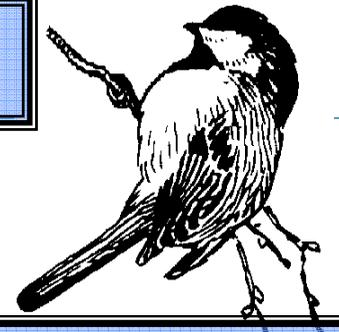
Byron Hatchery Watchable Wildlife Area



"Come take a closer look at Oklahoma's mixed-grass prairies and its wildlife"



Watchable Wildlife by Season



Spring (March, April, May)

Spring comes with a rush, stirring dormant plant and animal life to renewed activity. Colorful birds are moving northward and resident birds are defending nesting sites.

BIRDS

- Great Blue Heron
- Little Blue Heron
- Canada Goose
- Blue-winged Teal
- Wood Duck
- Turkey Vulture
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Barn Owl
- Northern Bobwhite
- Mourning Dove
- Killdeer
- Downy Woodpecker
- Red bellied Woodpecker
- Northern Flicker
- Carolina Chickadee
- Tufted Titmouse
- Carolina Wren
- Cedar Waxwing
- Eastern Bluebird
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
- Yellow-rump Warbler
- Northern Cardinal
- Field Sparrow
- Song Sparrow
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Eastern Meadowlark
- American Goldfinch

MAMMALS

- Fox Squirrel
- White-tailed Deer
- Eastern Cottontail
- Muskrat

FLOWERING PLANTS

- Chickasha Plum
- Sensitive Briar
- Daisy Fleabane
- Cattail

OTHER WILDLIFE

- Red Admiral (Butterfly)
- Mourning Cloak (Butterfly)
- Cricket Frog
- Tadpoles

Summer (June, July, August)

Wildlife are most active in the morning and evenings to avoid the heat. Cicadas sing lustily in the trees and lizards scamper out of the way.



BIRDS

- Great Blue Heron
- Canada Goose
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Killdeer
- Chimney Swift
- Northern Bobwhite
- Barn Swallow
- Western Kingbird
- Eastern Phoebe
- Downy Woodpecker
- Red-bellied Woodpecker
- Carolina Chickadee
- Tufted Titmouse
- Carolina Wren
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- Warbling Vireo
- Red-eyed Vireo
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird
- Yellow Warbler
- Eastern Bluebird
- Common Nighthawk
- Dickcissel
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Eastern Meadowlark
- Baltimore Oriole
- American Goldfinch

MAMMALS

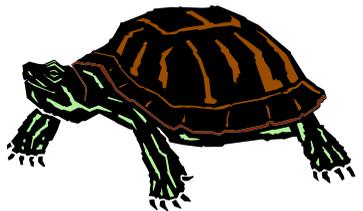
- Fox Squirrel
- White-tailed Deer
- Eastern Cottontail
- Muskrat

FLOWERING PLANTS

- Sunflower
- Illinois Bundleflower
- Buttonball bush (swamp)

OTHER WILDLIFE

- Ornate Box Turtle
- 3-Toed Box Turtle
- Cicada
- Common Wood Nymph (butterfly)
- Bullfrog



Fall (Sept., Oct., Nov.)

Yellow and purple are the colors of fall in the prairie. Migration and preparations for winter are the main wildlife activities.

BIRDS

- Great Blue Heron
- Canada Goose
- Killdeer
- Northern Harrier
- Sandhill Crane
- American White Pelican
- Mourning Dove
- Downy Woodpecker
- Red-bellied Woodpecker
- Northern Flicker
- Carolina Chickadee
- Tufted Titmouse
- Carolina Wren
- Blue Jay
- American Crow
- Eastern Bluebird
- Northern Cardinal
- Field Sparrow
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Eastern Meadowlark
- American Goldfinch

MAMMALS

- Fox Squirrel
- White-tailed Deer
- Eastern Cottontail
- Muskrat

FLOWERING PLANTS

- Little Bluestem
- Maximilian Sunflower
- Indian Grass
- Heath Aster
- Goldenrod

OTHER WILDLIFE

- Monarch
- Field Crickets
- Grasshoppers
- Green Darner Dragonfly
- Wolf Spider
- Spider Webs
- Texas Horned Lizard

Winter (Dec., Jan., Feb.)

This is a good time of year to take a walk, since the trees are bare. Fruits, summer nests and wildlife are easier to observe. Raptors and wintering birds premier this season.

BIRDS

- Great Blue Heron
- Canada Goose
- American Kestrel
- Northern Harrier
- Ring-billed Gull
- Great Horned Owl
- Downy Woodpecker
- Red-bellied Woodpecker
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- Golden-crowned Kinglet
- Cedar Waxwing
- Blue Jay
- American Crow
- Northern Cardinal
- Carolina Chickadee
- Tufted Titmouse
- Carolina Wren
- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- Harris's Sparrow
- White-crowned Sparrow
- White-throated Sparrow
- Dark-eyed Junco
- Spotted Towhee
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Eastern Meadowlark
- House Finch
- American Goldfinch

MAMMALS

- Fox Squirrel
- White-tailed Deer
- Eastern Cottontail
- Muskrat

FRUITS

- Hackberry
- Greenbrier
- Eastern Redcedar
- Sumac

Count the number of summer nests seen: