

Prime Forest Lands

September 2013 Update

USDA environmental compliance land use policy Department Regulation 9500-3 recognizes that continued conversion of prime forest land impair the Nations ability to produce wood to meet domestic needs and the demands of the export market. This is similar to the issue regarding conversion of prime farmland.

Texas has four National Forest areas within the state; the Angelina, Sabine, Davy Crockett, and Sam Houston. This federally owned land of 634,912 acres is located in East Texas scattered throughout 12 counties. The National Forest areas are administered by the US Forest Service and they are the contact for project located in or around these areas.

The definition of prime forest lands is not limited to National Forest. Department Regulation 9500-3 states, "Prime timberland is land that has soil capable of growing wood at the rate of 85 cubic feet or more/acre/year (at culmination of mean annual increment) in natural stands and is not urban or built-up land uses or water. Generally speaking, this is land currently in forest, but does not exclude qualifying lands that could realistically be returned to forest. Delineation of these lands will be in accordance with national criteria."

Projects located in are near prime forest land and outside of urban areas should consult with the nearest US Forest Service office. The definition of prime forest lands is complex enough that only experts can determine if a particular site meets the criteria. There is not a clear procedure to follow as with prime farmland and dealing with the NRCS with farmland conversions. If the US Forest Service makes recommendations regarding prime forest land, then the project's progress should proceed based on this information.

Most of Agency's projects in Texas are outside of prime forest lands. Those that are near forest are usually located within a city limits and already considered converted. Some projects in East Texas beyond the city limits may impact the forest land and for these few projects closer attention must be given to this issue. Contact the State Environmental Coordinator if the US Forest Service indicates that a project will impact prime forest lands.

This map is meant to serve as a general guide and does not show exact boundaries or all roads. It is the user's responsibility to know his or her location in the forest. Users should be aware that some private property exists within the Forest Service boundary. Please respect our neighbors' rights. Check with the Ranger District regarding special regulations or boundary locations.

Stephen F. Austin
Experimental Forest

GUY
BLOUNT

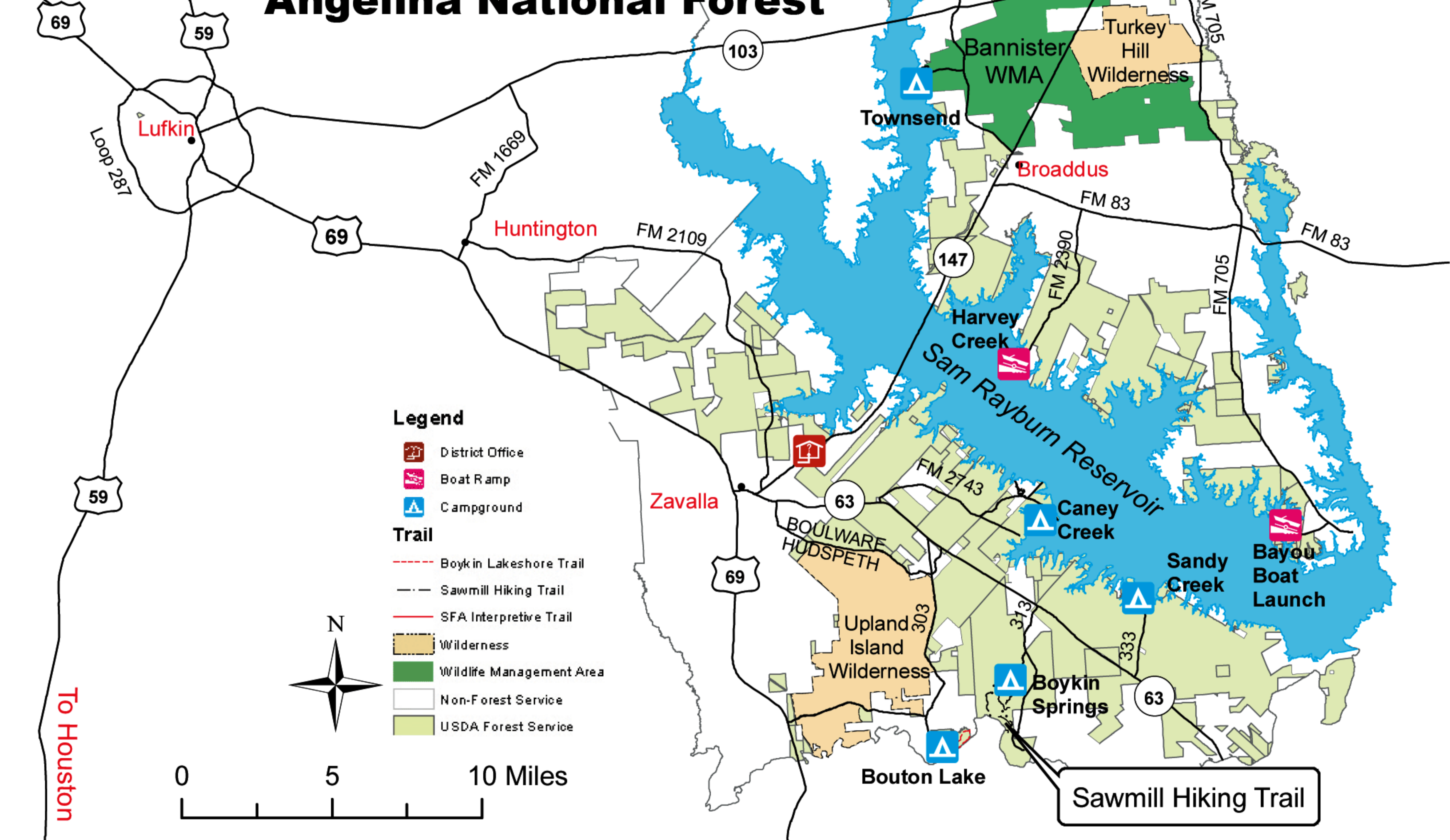
To Nacogdoches

SFA
Interpretive
Trail



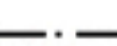




Angelina National Forest

To San Augustine

To Milam



Legend

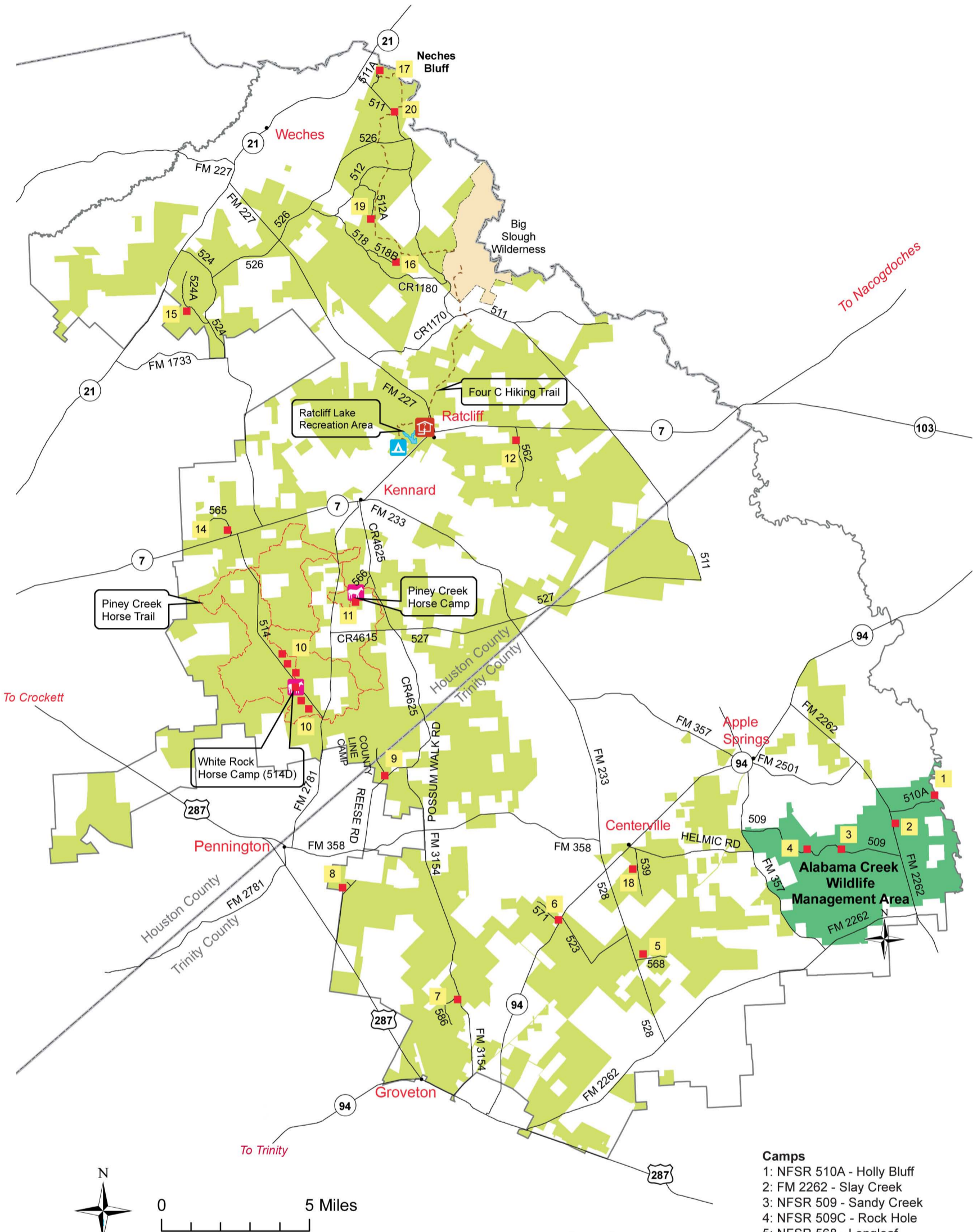
-  District Office
-  Boat Ramp
-  Campground
- Trail**
-  Boykin Lakeshore Trail
-  Sawmill Hiking Trail
-  SFA Interpretive Trail
-  Wilderness
-  Wildlife Management Area
-  Non-Forest Service
-  USDA Forest Service



Sawmill Hiking Trail

Davy Crockett National Forest

Ratcliff Lake Recreation Area is closed due to storm damage



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Legend

- District Office
- Designated Camp
- Campground (Fee Area)
- Horse Camp (Fee Area)
- FOUR C (4C) Hiking Trail
- Piney Creek Horse Trail
- Wilderness
- Wildlife Management Area
- USDA Forest Service
- Administration Boundary

Camps

- 1: NFSR 510A - Holly Bluff
- 2: FM 2262 - Slay Creek
- 3: NFSR 509 - Sandy Creek
- 4: NFSR 509C - Rock Hole
- 5: NFSR 568 - Longleaf
- 6: NFSR 571 - Piney
- 7: NFSR 586 South Possum Walk
- 8: NFSR 557 - Pennington
- 9: NFSR 516 - County Line Camp
- 10: NFSR 514
- 11: NFSR 566 - Piney Creek Horse Camp
- 12: NFSR 562 - Bushy Creek
- 13: Ratcliff Recreation Area - **CLOSED**
- 14: NFSR 565 - Raines Morgan
- 15: NFSR 524A - Pine Springs
- 16: NFSR 518B - Merkel Creek
- 17: NFSR 511A - Neches Bluff
- 18: NFSR 539 - Centerville
- 19: NFSR 512A - Pond Camp
- 20: NFSR 511 - Neches Bluff #2

Sabine National Forest

Legend

- District Office
- Boat Ramp
- Campground
- Trail Between the Lakes
- Wilderness
- Forest Service
- Private



To Jasper

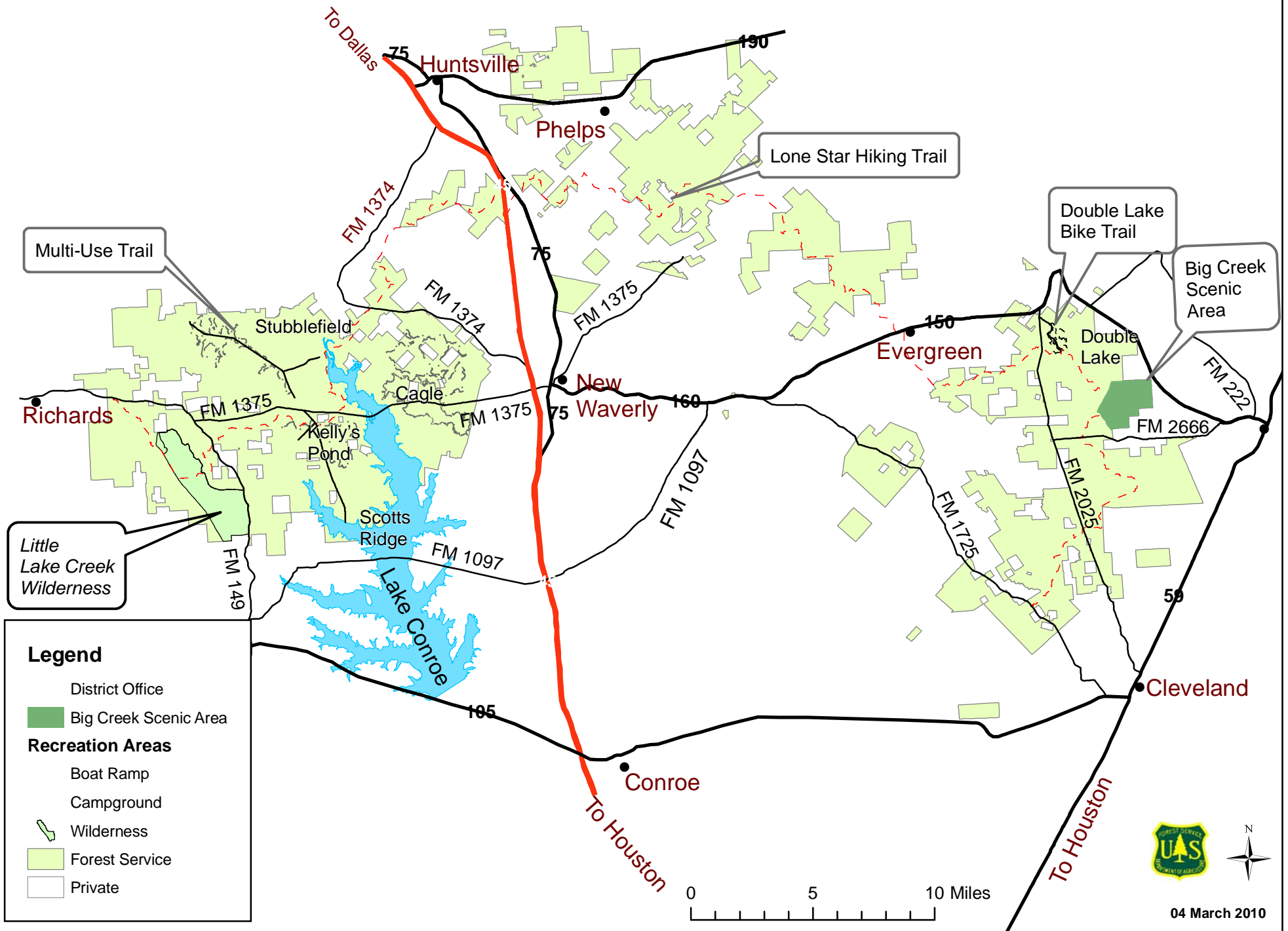
Trail Between The Lakes



04 March 20010



Sam Houston National Forest



Multi-Use Trail

Lone Star Hiking Trail

Double Lake Bike Trail

Big Creek Scenic Area

Little Lake Creek Wilderness

Legend

- District Office
- Big Creek Scenic Area
- Recreation Areas**
- Boat Ramp
- Campground
- Wilderness
- Forest Service
- Private



04 March 2010

