



M. BARNETT LAWLEY FOREVER WILD FIELD TRIAL AREA

The M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild Field Trial Area, named in honor of the former Department of Conservation and Natural Resources commissioner, consists of 2 acquisitions (Nos. 63 and 65) in Hale County covering 3,342 acres. The tracts are blackbelt prairie habitat that include a mix of prairie and pine-hardwood forest situated between drainages of Big German Creek.

These acquisitions provide for habitat restoration opportunities of prairie grasslands, as well as numerous recreational opportunities that include field trial sites and handicap hunting stations.

For public fishing and youth hunt dates, please call (334) 624-9952 for availability and youth hunt registration.

Directions:

From Demopolis, take US 80 East to AL-69. Turn left onto AL-69 and travel approximately 10.2 miles. The gate to the tract will be located on the left hand side of the road.

From Selma, take US 80 West to AL-69. Turn left onto AL-69 and follow the above directions to the tract.

Coordinates to the entrance on AL-69:

N 32.641279
W -87.647168

The native prairie habitats found on the M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild Field Trial Area are being restored through the use of prescribed burning and herbicide treatments. These efforts help control exotic plants such as Fescue, Johnson and Bermuda grass. This will allow the native forbs, such as bluestem, coneflower and gammagrass, to become more prevalent.



Wild Garlic

Remnant pockets of blackbelt prairies still exist in Alabama, though they are much degraded due to agricultural practices. Restoration efforts are underway in several areas to help restore this unique habitat. These grassy prairie sites act as a cover for many game and fowl species.



Green Treefrog



Pinnate Coneflower

