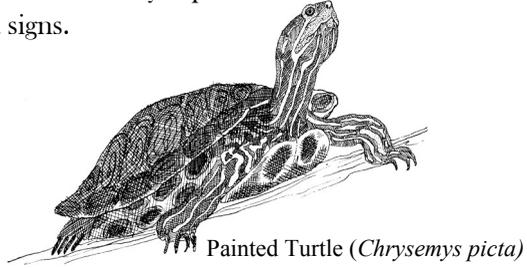


Ownership

The majority of the MVWA is owned by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The WDNR has managed this property through a long term cooperative agreement since 1940. Small tracts of private property lie within the project boundary. The MVWA boundary is posted with State Wildlife Area signs.



Painted Turtle (*Chrysemys picta*)

Location

Located between Tomah and Babcock, MVWA is about two hours driving time north from Madison. It is 25 miles southwest of Wisconsin Rapids, and 20 miles north of Mauston.

Meadow Valley Wildlife Area

Property Headquarters:

Located 1 mile west of Babcock on Highway X.
For further information call or write:

Sandhill-Meadow Valley Work Unit
1715 County Hwy. X, P.O. Box 156
Babcock, WI 54413
715-884-2437

Website

dnr.wi.gov

search: Meadow Valley Wildlife Area

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Meadow Valley Wildlife Area

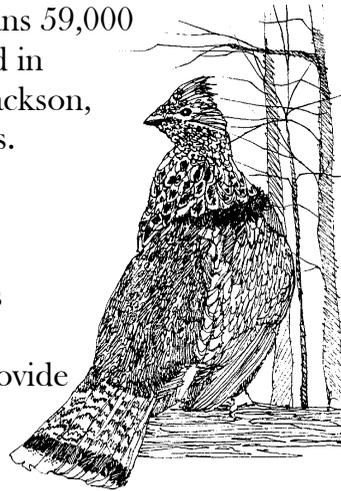


- Meadow Valley is the largest of three adjoining State Wildlife Areas which comprise the Sandhill-Meadow Valley Work Unit.

These properties represent the largest block of state-managed wildlife lands in Wisconsin, totaling nearly 90,000 acres.

- Meadow Valley spans 59,000 acres, and is located in Juneau, Monroe, Jackson, and Wood counties.

- Meadow Valley is managed to sustain wildlife populations and natural communities, and to provide a range of outdoor recreational uses.



Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*)

Yesterday

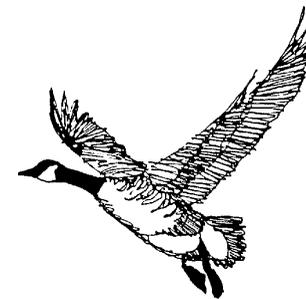
Meadow Valley Wildlife Area (MVWA) lies within the bed of old Glacial Lake Wisconsin, an area characterized by large expanses of wetlands interspersed with forested uplands located in central Wisconsin.

Native societies existed in the region for thousands of years before European settlers arrived in the mid-1800s. In the late 1800s, settlers logged the large white and red pine that dominated the uplands. By the early 1900s, hundreds of miles of drainage ditches were dug in an attempt to farm the area. However, unpredictable growing seasons accompanied by poor soils, and high water tables made farming nearly impossible. By the late 1930s and early 1940s high drainage taxes and the Great Depression left many of the farms tax delinquent and abandoned.

The federal government then purchased much of the tax-delinquent land under the Jones-Bankhead Farm Tenant Act. In 1940, the US Fish and Wildlife Service and WDNR entered into a long term cooperative agreement which gave WDNR management authority on the MVWA. Flowages were constructed during the 1950s and 60s for wildlife habitat and the management of water levels in the area. Many of those flowages are still being used today.

Today

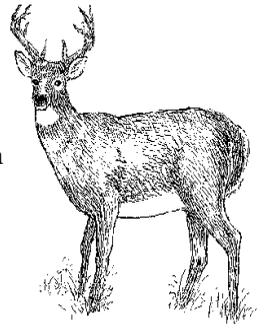
Current management focuses on:



Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*)

Wetlands: Fifteen flowages (8600 acres), are managed to provide critical habitat for migrating and resident wildlife populations. Flowages are managed using water level manipulations, burning, and mechanical disturbance to maintain productivity. Flowages are drawn down on regular cycles to encourage various wetland plants which benefit waterfowl and other species. Common resident species which benefit from this management include Mallards, Wood Ducks, Ring-necked Ducks, Blue-winged Teal, Canada Geese, and many non-game species.

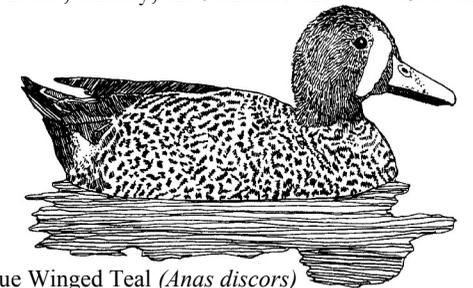
An 1100-acre wildlife refuge is located on the Meadow Valley Flowages. The refuge is closed to entry from Sept 1 through Dec 31 except during regular gun and muzzle-loader deer seasons. Trapping is allowed after Dec 31.



White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

Forests: Maintaining a good mix of forest types and age classes across the landscape is an important forest management objective. This is achieved primarily by commercial timber sales. Aspen, oak, pine, and mixed forest are the primary forest types on the property. Special emphasis is placed on maintaining a high proportion of young forest to benefit species such as Ruffed Grouse, American Woodcock, White-tailed Deer, and many non-game species. See the Ruffed Grouse management areas on map.

Barrens: Barrens are a mixture of open to dense plant communities that occur on sandy soils dominated by grasses, low shrubs, small trees, and scattered large trees. Management of these communities relies on burning, mowing, and soil disturbance at specific intervals to mirror historic fire cycles. Barrens are essential to numerous listed species (e.g. threatened/endangered) or species being considered for listing. These species include the Karner Blue Butterflies, Redheaded Woodpeckers, and Blanding's Turtles. Game species associated with barrens habitat include White-tailed Deer, turkey, and American Woodcock.



Blue Winged Teal (*Anas discors*)



Wisconsin Department
of Natural Resources
PUB-WM-011 2014

Public Use

MVWA is attractive to hunters and trappers because of its remote landscape. In addition to excellent hunting, the size and diversity of the property provides opportunities for hiking, berry picking, bird-watching and observing wildlife in a natural setting. Other public uses include photography, fishing, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling (restricted to marked trails). Canoeing and boating are allowed but no motors are allowed on any waters within MVWA.



Wild Turkey
(*Meleagris gallopavo*)

Primitive camping is permitted at designated sites, free of charge during the spring turkey seasons and Sept 1 through Dec 31. Campers are required to self-register. Some of the camp sites have pit toilets (see map). Campers must bring their own water and **all garbage must be removed from the campgrounds.**

All vehicular travel on interior access roads and dikes is prohibited. ATVs are not allowed on the MVWA. However ATV use is permitted on some township roads within the MVWA. While at the camping areas, ATVs must remain on the trailer.

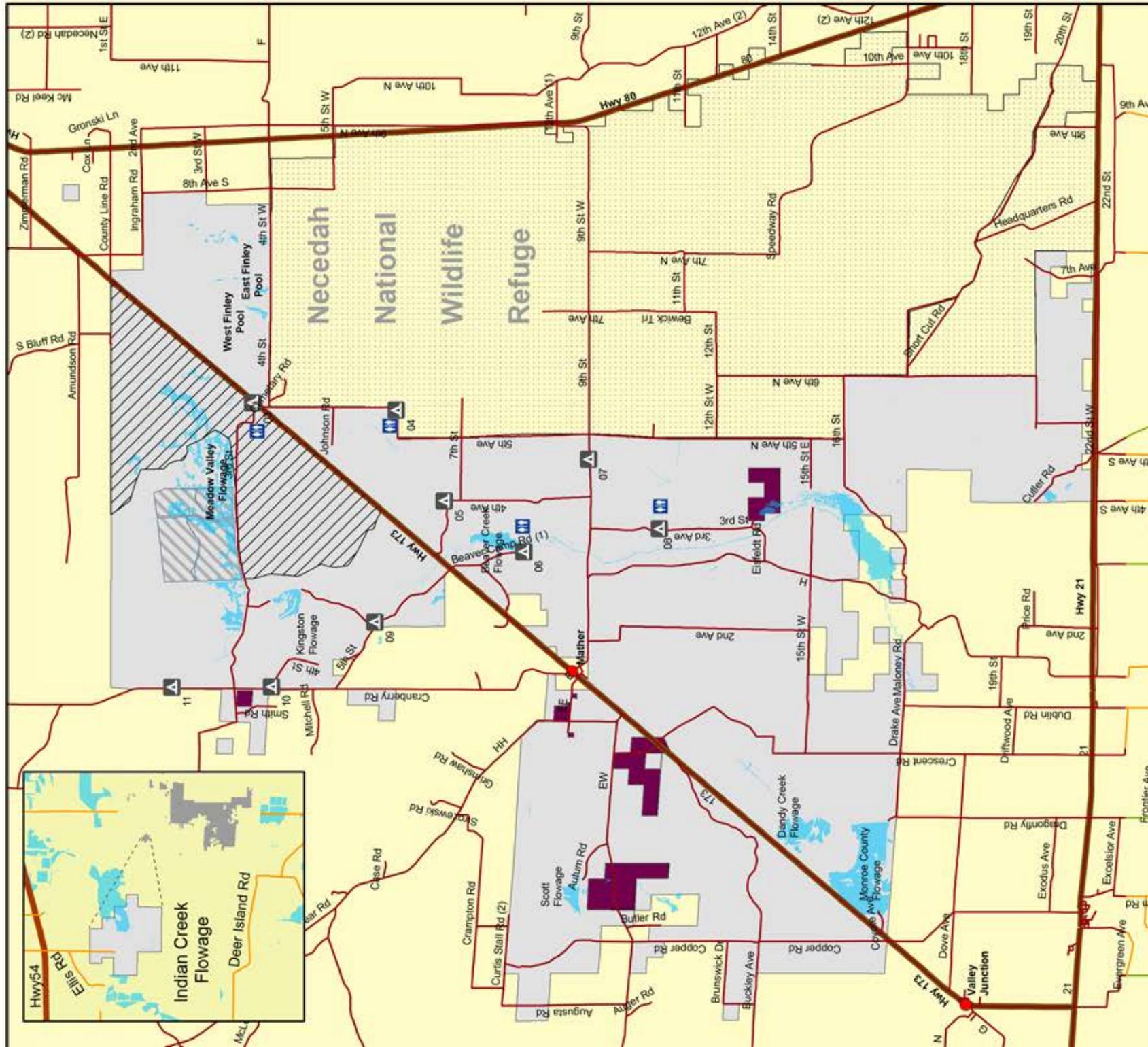
Funding

Management of the Meadow Valley is funded largely by hunting license sales and Pittman-Robertson (PR) funds. The PR funds are generated from the federal excise tax on firearms and ammunition. It is important to recognize that over three-fourths of the operating

budget on Meadow Valley comes from these two sources, and ultimately from those who purchase hunting licenses and hunting equipment. Additional funding for habitat work comes from the sale of species stamps (such as state waterfowl and turkey stamps), grants, and the Stan Plis Sportsman's League, a local organization.



Federal Aid Project
funded by your purchase of
hunting equipment



**Meadow Valley
Wildlife Area**

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles

Legend	
	Toilets
	Camping
	Bull/Goose Mgmt Area
	MV Flowage Refuge
Property	
	MVWA
	Private
	Necedah Refuge