Guide to Evans County PFA

Located on a gently rolling 372-acre tract in Evans County, this PFA offers three lakes which vary in size from 8 to 84 acres for your fishing enjoyment. All lakes can be fished from the bank or by boat. Two of the lakes are fertilized and intensively managed to maximize fishing success. Crappie, bream, largemouth bass, channel catfish and hybrid striped bass are available to anglers. Public fishing areas are "perfect family areas," so visit Evans County PFA for a peaceful fishing or picnicking experience with friends and family.

Hours

Open year-round, 7 days/week, 24 hours/day

Facilities

- Concrete boat ramps
- Fishing piers
- Restrooms
- Covered pavilion
- Picnic tables
- Some facilities ADA accessible
- Full service RV and tent campground
- Boardwalk
- Fishing/nature trails
- Static & 3D archery range

Regulations

Public fishing areas have special regulations that are posted on site as well as published in the Georgia Sport Fishing Regulations. Anglers 16 years of age and older, except honorary license holders, must possess a current fishing license. For more information, visit www.gofishgeorgia.com or call (800) 366-2661.

Directions

From Claxton: Heading East of Claxton on U.S. Highway 280, travel 8.5 miles before turning south on Sunbury Road. Travel for one (1) mile on Sunbury Road then left on Area Line Road (dirt). The area is located 0.3 miles on the right (marked by a Wildlife Resources Division sign).

For more fishing information, visit the Georgia Wildlife Resources Division website at www.gofishgeorgia.com or call (478) 825-6151.

Trip Check List

- Check the current boating regulations about life jackets.
- Boats with enclosed areas that may trap gas or vapors are required to be equipped with a USCG approved fire extinguisher.
- Carry your current license and boat registration with you.
- Check your boat's trailer and navigation lights, and fuel before leaving home.
- Carry a first aid kit, insect repellent, sunscreen, extra clothing, food and drinking water.
- Be aware of and abide by all fishing regulations.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return. This PFA has poor cell service.

Be an Ethical Angler!

Ethical anglers fish responsibly, consider the rights of others, portray a positive image, and help to protect and conserve our natural resources. Be an ethical angler, the future depends on it.

- Know and obey the fishing regulations.
- Keep only the fish they can use and release all others.
- Pass on the tradition by taking a child fishing.
- Leave a place cleaner than it was found.
- Do not transfer fish or plants between bodies of water.
- Report violations and pollution.
- Do not litter!
- Dispose of fishing line properly.
- Do not trespass.
- Are courteous of others.
- Lend a helping hand.

T.I.P. (Turn in Poachers): To report game/fish law violations, fish kills or hazardous spills, call (800) 241-4113.

GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
WILDLIFE RESOURCES DIVISION

Major Fish Species & Fishing Tips

Largemouth bass • Bluegill • Channel catfish • Crappie • Redear sunfish (shellcracker) • Hybrid bass

Bidd Sands Lake, the largest lake (84 acres), is over 12 ft. deep near the dam and has extensive shallow water areas for spawning fishes. The upper end of the lake is shallow and heavily vegetated, offering great opportunities for bass in the warmer months. Flooded timber offers plentiful structure in the shallows. The shoreline opposite the fishing pier has blown down trees and piled up limbs that hold fish year-round. Presentations along the shoreline vegetation and trees can produce bites. In warmer months, lily pads will cover this area and other edges of the lake offering different fishing tactics. Remember, use heavier gear to pitch weed less baits. Bass will move out to the edge of these pads after spawning, and working flukes, rattletraps, crank and spinner baits along these edges will produce bites. Rattletraps offer reaction strikes when the lake blooms due to limited site distance underwater. Fish deeper water and ledges slowly for bass in the winter and move to the shallows as weather warms.

Crappie fishing is also popular on this lake with the best catches showing up mid- November through March. Live minnows are allowed and are the preferred bait for most anglers targeting crappie. Minnows and jigs suspended under floats and drifted behind the boat in open water produces good numbers of crappie during the cooler months while fishing the shallow becomes very effective during the spring warm-up.

Hybrid striped bass are also stocked in the 84-acre lake and are often landed by anglers targeting crappie. Deep diving crankbaits and rattletraps over deep water ledges can produce hybrid strikes.

Bream (Bluegill and shellcracker) fishing on the area can be outstanding in all three lakes, to include Bidd Sands. Live worms suspended under floats generate many shellcracker, while crickets and small beetle-spins produce numerous bluegill. Mid-spring through June is the best times to target bream

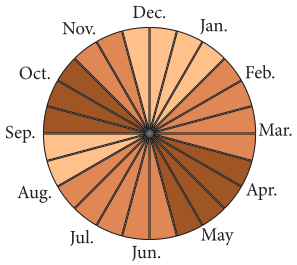
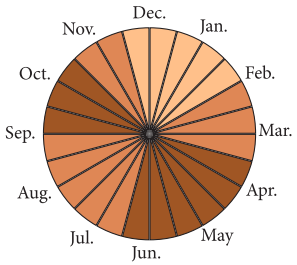
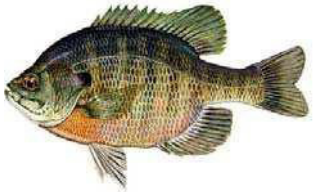
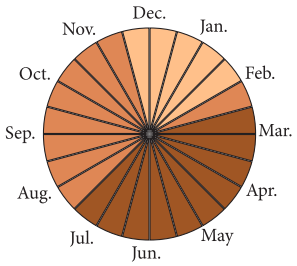
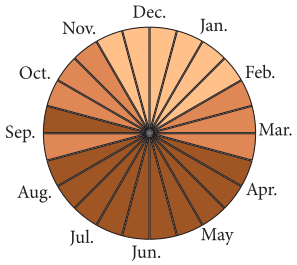
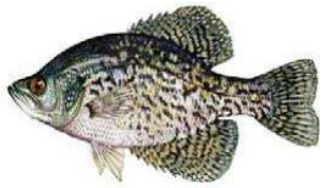
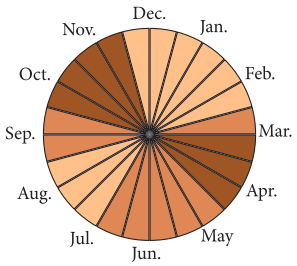
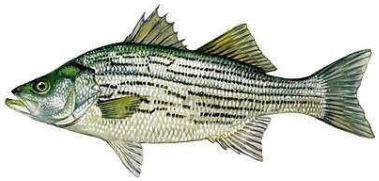
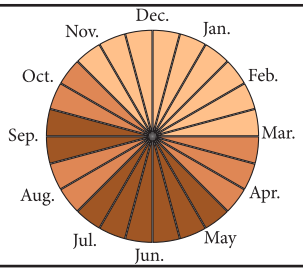
Lake Longleaf (8 acres) is now being managed for Channel Catfish. Fishing for channel catfish is productive in this lake throughout the year. Chicken livers, live worms and manufactured dough-style baits are effective. Although the pond is managed for catfish, good numbers of bream are still present in this pond. There are very few bass are in this lake as they are removed in order to maintain healthy catfish populations.

Lake Woody (30 acres) is not intensively managed for its fisheries, but does contain healthy natural populations of bluegill, catfish, red-ear sunfish and largemouth bass. A concrete boat ramp is also located on the lake. Lake Woody is also managed for waterfowl (Quota) hunts for the youth and adults during waterfowl season.

Evans County PFA Fish by Lake

Lake	Acres	Large-mouth Bass	Redear Sunfish	Bluegill	Channel Catfish	Black Crappie	Hybrid Bass
Bidd Sands	84	■	■	■	■	■	■
Woody	30	■	■	■		■	
Longleaf	8		■	■	■		

Evans County Fish Guide

Fish Species	Biology	Best Fishing Times
Largemouth Bass	Bass spawn from February to May. Occupy a variety of habitats in reservoirs and rivers. Feed both day and night motivated by hunger or striking. Females are typically larger and more aggressive than males. Bait: Crankbaits, plastic worms & jigs	
Redear Sunfish	"Shellcracker" feed primarily on aquatic insects including midge larvae to snails. Unlike bluegill, shellcracker typically do not stunt. Fast growth, larger size and good flavor make these a desirable fish. Bait: Crickets, Red Wigglers & small top water lures	
Bluegill 	Most likely the first fish caught by children. They aggressively guard nest during spawns. Bluegill are hard fighters, hit a variety of baits, and are abundant in most rivers and lakes. Known as a tasty panfish. Bait: Crickets, Red Wigglers & small top water lures	
Channel Catfish	Channel catfish are a highly adaptable and desirable fish that are easily caught. They can reach Sizes up to 20 lbs and use their barbells for taste. Larger individuals are often confused with Blue catfish. Bait: Chicken livers, worms, "stink bait" & crickets	
Black Crappie 	Has a preference of clear water, and associated with vegetation during spawns. Young prefer insects, switching to fish as it matures. Black crappie commonly reach 2 lbs in size, and the current world record is 5 lbs. An extremely popular game fish in Georgia. Bait: Minnows, jigs & red wigglers	
Hybrid Bass 	Hybrid bass grow rapidly and will aggressively attack bait in spring and early fall. When biting they are easy to catch and can be caught in large numbers. Hybrids are hard figthers and typically found in open water habitats. Bait: Minnows, deep-diving crank baits & rattletraps	

Best Fishing Times Key

Excellent Good Fair

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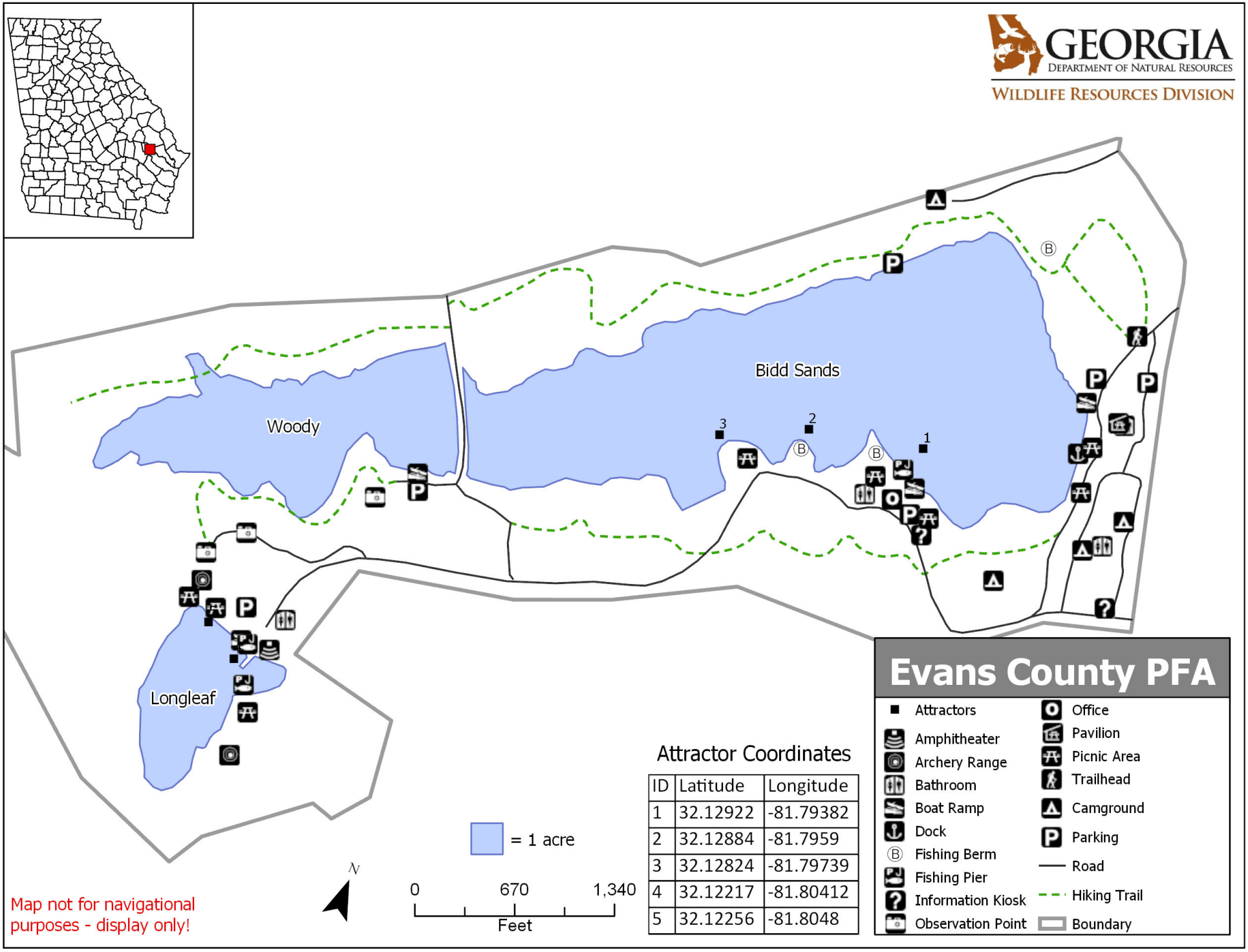
Fish images: Duane Raver/USFWS



Attractor Coordinates

ID	Latitude	Longitude
1	32.12922	-81.79382
2	32.12884	-81.7959
3	32.12824	-81.79739
4	32.12217	-81.80412
5	32.12256	-81.8048