



FISHER OAK SAVANNA NATURE PRESERVE

S 20 E, WOLCOTT, IN 47995
(765) 423-1605 • niches@nicheslandtrust.org

COUNTY: Jasper County

SIZE: 266 acres

OWNERSHIP: NICHES Land Trust
nicheslandtrust.org/jasper-county/
fisher-oak-savanna-nature-preserve

CLOSED IN NOVEMBER FOR DEER CONTROL HUNT.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION

Low rolling and flat trails; portions wet in spring

ACTIVITIES

Bird watching, fishing, trails, wildflowers

WHAT IS A SAVANNA?

Savannas are woodlands with 50 – 80% tree cover. The resulting understory receives abundant light for wildflowers, shrub layer and understory trees to grow.

The savanna and flatwoods core of Fisher Oak are natural remnants surviving despite the settlement, development, and agricultural land use surrounding them.

Interspersed and bordering the natural core are former agricultural fields that NICHES partnered with Spence Nursery to restore high diversity prairie and wetland communities.



LAND HISTORY

2003

NICHES acquired 130 acres including predominantly woods and 30 acres of fields. 130 acres IHT supported and dedicated as a State Nature Preserve.

2005

An additional 67 acres of agricultural fields added to the property.

2007

An additional 20 acres of low wet flatwoods added to the IHT supported State Nature Preserve.

2016

49 acres of farm land were added and restored in 2018.

NATIVE AMERICANS

Before the Fisher family settled in the area, the natural diversity of wildlife attracted Native Americans. The sand ridge, in particular, situated above the lower wetlands and prairies, made an excellent spot for encampments.

CONSERVING NATIVE FLORA

NICHES uses prescribed fire (controlled burn) as a natural process of ecosystem cycle of management. This allows native species to thrive, returns nutrients to the soil and kills invasive species.

Blueberry bushes, Lupines, Puccoon, and Orange Fringed Orchids, among many other native species benefit from their stewardship work.



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

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