

Jewel of the Prairie

Wetlands in your world

Depending on their location, wetlands can clean pollutants from water, add to precious groundwater supplies, prevent costly, even deadly flooding, stabilize banks and shorelines, reduce erosion, and provide nurseries for shellfish, and sport and commercial fish species.

In addition, you are experiencing firsthand the obvious benefits wetlands provide in the form of wildlife habitat and outdoor recreation opportunities such as birdwatching, hunting, nature photography, or just enjoying the miracles and music of nature.

As you continue along the Scenic Byway, you will notice other smaller wetlands. Just because they are small does not mean they are trivial. They may be a part of a large complex of wetlands with a significant cumulative impact to a watershed. Wetlands, large and small, are not wastelands. They are wonderful resources that give many beautiful and useful gifts to society.



Waterfowl Hunter
KDWPT Photo

Conservation Efforts

Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area exists as a direct result of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. No other continent retains as close to a complete compliment of native wildlife species. Hunting and angling are the cornerstones of the model. These activities continue to be the primary source of funding for wildlife and habitat conservation efforts in North America. Through a federal excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition, places like Cheyenne Bottoms were purchased, developed and continue to be operated and maintained for wildlife conservation.



Wildlife Restoration Logo



Birdwatchers, KDWPT

Motion and Change

Shortly, you will be leaving one of the world's great wetlands. Think about what it would be like if you and others never had the opportunity to experience it. Think what a poorer world it would be if it did not exist

in the future. Throughout the centuries, Cheyenne Bottoms has been a treasure for wildlife and humans. With proper management and public support, it will be a treasure for future generations.

