

Unit Highlights

Visitors to this Ranger District can enjoy the recreation serenity of an upland pine ecosystem, the historic past of Gum Springs Recreation Complex, and float along the bottomland hardwood forest of scenic Saline Bayou National Wild and Scenic River.

Surrounding Areas

Located in an area of hilly terrain and natural springs, Gum Springs Recreation Complex exhibits recreation design from the Civilian Conservation Corps era of the 1930’s and offers basic recreation opportunities of picnicking and camping, and is close to Gum Springs Horse Camp and Trail. Approximately 21 miles of Saline Bayou was designated a National Wild and Scenic River because of its unique qualities. It is a peaceful setting where bald cypress and other hardwoods growing along the banks are often reflected in the bayou’s quiet water. The bayou can flow over its banks during high water making the journey hazardous. Check with the Winn Ranger District about water conditions. Cloud Crossing Recreation Complex lies directly on the banks of Saline Bayou and is an ideal put-in/take-out point for boating or canoeing.

For More Information

Winn Ranger District
12319 U.S. Highway 84 West
Winnfield, Louisiana 71483-9501
Phone: (318) 628-4664
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Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. M-F

Winn Ranger District
Kisatchie National Forest



Saline Bayou



Recreational Information

General

This District encompasses 164,000 acres of Winn, Natchitoches, and Grant Parishes. It is in close proximity to the Winnfield area.

Developed Recreation

The District administers two developed recreation complexes: Gum Springs and Cloud Crossing Recreation Complexes. The Gum Springs campground is a designated fee area.

Day Use Fees: Free

Camping Fees:

Gum Springs Campground: \$10/night
Gum Springs Horse Trailhead Camp: \$10/single site/night

The District offers over 20 miles of canoeing along Louisiana’s only National Wild and Scenic River, Saline Bayou, and over 29 miles of hiking, biking, and horseback trails.

REPORT WOODS ARSON:
(855) 452-5323
24 HOURS

Recreational Opportunities and Facilities on the Winn Ranger District



		Day-Use Picnic Area	Group-Use Picnic Area	Trailers and Campers	Recreational Vehicles	Tents	Water Hookups	Electrical Hookups	Sanitary Dump Station	Fire Rings/Grills	Swimming	Bank Fishing	Pier Fishing	Water Skiing	Non-motorized Boating	Motorized Boat Launch	Non-Motorized Boat Ramp	Hiking	Biking	Interpretive	Off Road Vehicles	Horse	Flush Toilets	Vault Toilets	Shower's	Drinking Water	Trash Disposal
Cloud Crossing Recreation Complex																											
Cloud Crossing Day-Use Site	Free	✓									✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		✓
Cloud Crossing Group-Use Site	Free		✓								✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		✓
Cloud Crossing Campground	Free			✓	✓	✓					✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓			✓
Saline Bayou Recreation Trail	Free																		✓	✓							
Gum Springs Recreation Complex																											
Gum Springs Day-Use Area	Free	✓									✓															✓	✓
Gum Springs Campground (1)	\$10			✓	✓	✓					✓														✓	✓	✓
Gum Springs Horse Camp and Trail Note: Fee is for overnight camping only - trail day-use is free.																											
Gum Springs Horse Camp	\$10	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				✓								✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
Saline Bayou Wild and Scenic River																											
Saline Launch Area	Free												✓			✓	✓	✓	✓								
Cloud Crossing Launch Area (1)	Free			✓									✓			✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		✓	✓
Pearfield Launch Area	Free												✓				✓	✓									
Goldonna Launch Area	Free												✓			✓	✓	✓						✓			
Sand Point Launch Area	Free												✓				✓	✓									
Other Recreation Areas																											
Highway 472 Camp	Free				✓	✓	✓																		✓		

(1) Recreational vehicles allowed but must be self-contained.

Saline Bayou National Wild and Scenic River Corridor

The Saline Bayou corridor is located west of Louisiana Hwy 1233. The northern boundary is north of Louisiana Hwy 126 and the southern border is Saline Lake.

There are various woods’ roads and highway entry points to the bayou, where a visitor can launch a canoe or take a pleasant hike within this healthy southern ecosystem. A visitor should watch for wood ducks, pileated woodpeckers, otters, and many other unusual wildlife species. This meandering bayou supports a wide variety of wildlife and plant species, and offers a rare opportunity to experience a range of ecosystems ranging from upland pine forest to cypress tupelo swamps.

Gum Springs Horse Trail

The Gum Springs Horse Trail is a tremendously popular destination not only for Louisianans, but for cowboys from Oklahoma, Nebraska, and other states. This is a great forest ride for cowboys and cowgirls and the trail is wide enough to accommodate wagons. Plan your next trail ride on the Gum Springs Horse Trail.

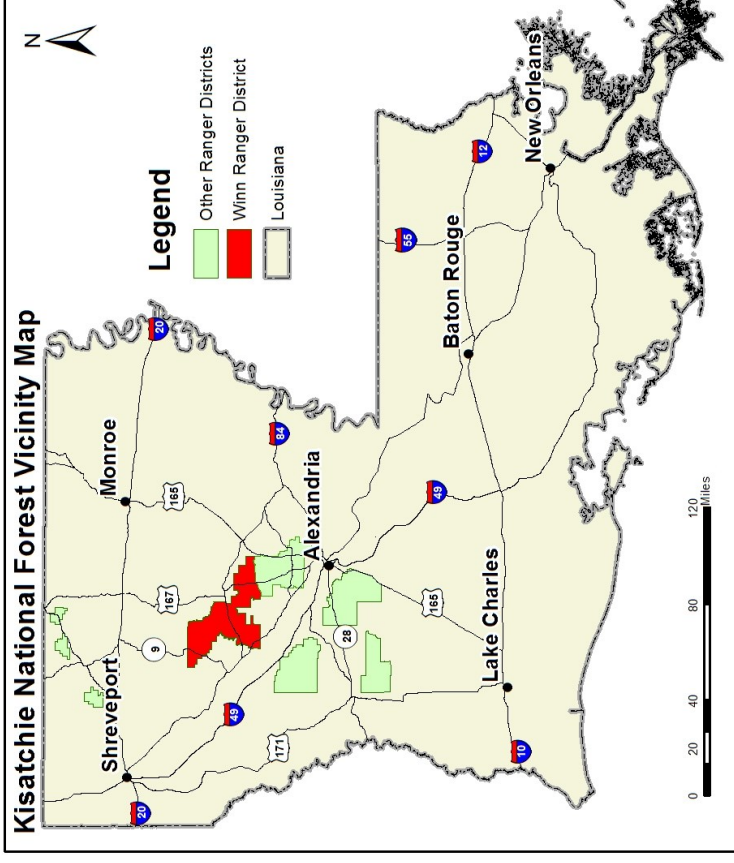
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