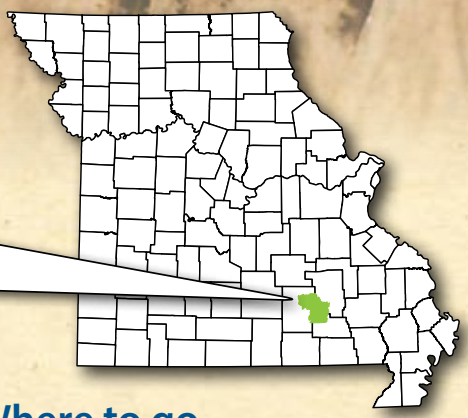
Elk are here!

Take a driving tour to see them.

Once common throughout most of Missouri, elk disappeared from our state about 150 years ago due to over-hunting and habitat loss. The Missouri Department of Conservation has reintroduced an elk herd to a large restoration zone between Ellington and Winona. Take a driving tour for a chance to see the herd!



Where to go

The 346-square-mile elk restoration zone includes Peck Ranch and Current River conservation areas. Both areas offer driving tours.

Call toll-free at 855–2–MDC–ELK or 855–263–2355 for more information. For more information on elk and other Missouri wildlife, visit mdc.mo.gov.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT MISSOURI

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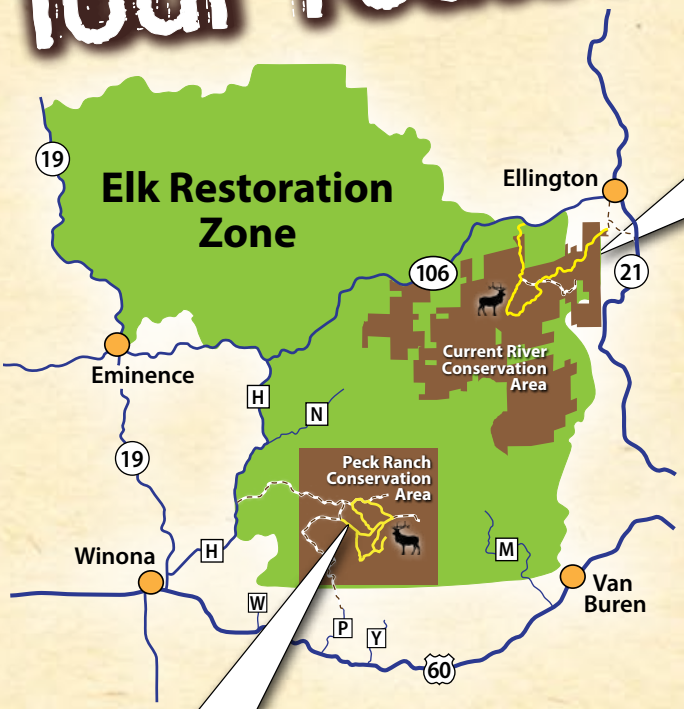
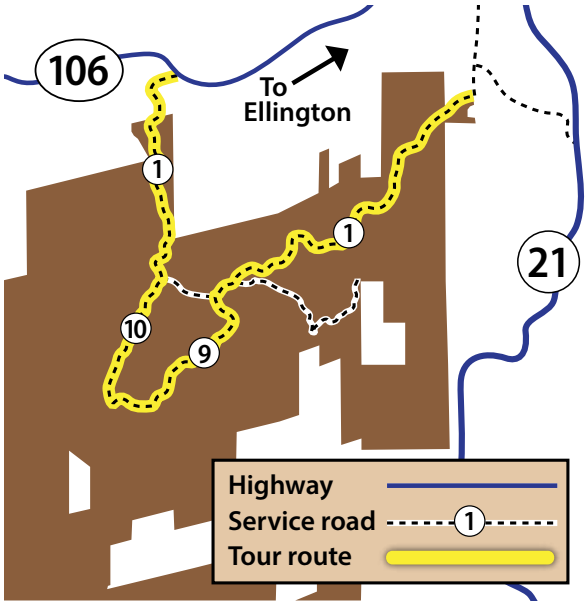
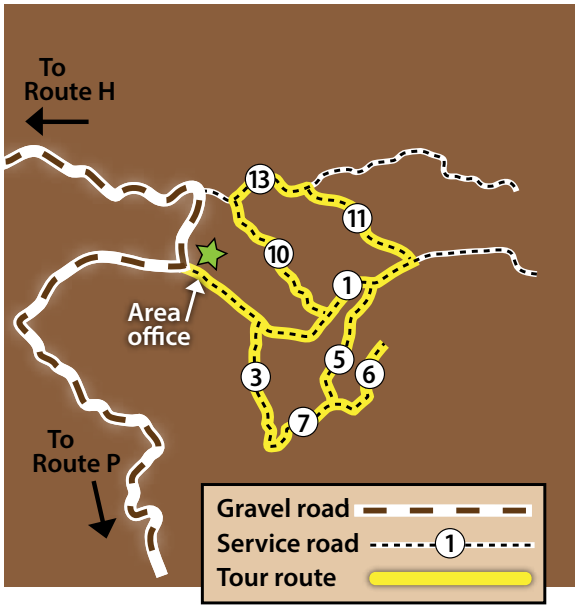
Tour routes





Current River Conservation Area

The driving tour runs from Highway 106 to South Road out of Ellington. The route includes roads 1, 10, and 9, passing the shooting range, the log cabin, and the fire tower.



Peck Ranch Conservation Area

The driving loop is marked. The loop begins at the office and runs along roads 1, 11, 13, and 10, with an additional driving route that runs along roads 3, 7, 6, and 5. Peck Ranch is periodically closed to driving tours. Contact Twin Pines Conservation Education Center at 573–325–1381 for more information.

As part of a research study with the University of Missouri, Missouri's restored elk are fitted with radio collars to help track their movements and get other information.

Tour Routes

- Conservation areas are open sunrise to sunset seven days a week.
- Elk tours are self-guided. No need to check in at area offices.
- Some roads in the area are closed to the public, and some roads may not be accessible to vehicles with low ground clearance.
- Some roads may be impassable at times due to high water at stream crossings or from flooding.
- Photographs are welcome, but please do not disturb elk or other wildlife in any way.

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