

Salato Wildlife Education Center Hiking Trails



Remains of Luttrell Family root cellar (pre-Civil War)



Old dam, probably built by Luttrell family in 1800's



Stone seats where trail crosses a stone wall.



Fallen chimney, mid-late 1800's

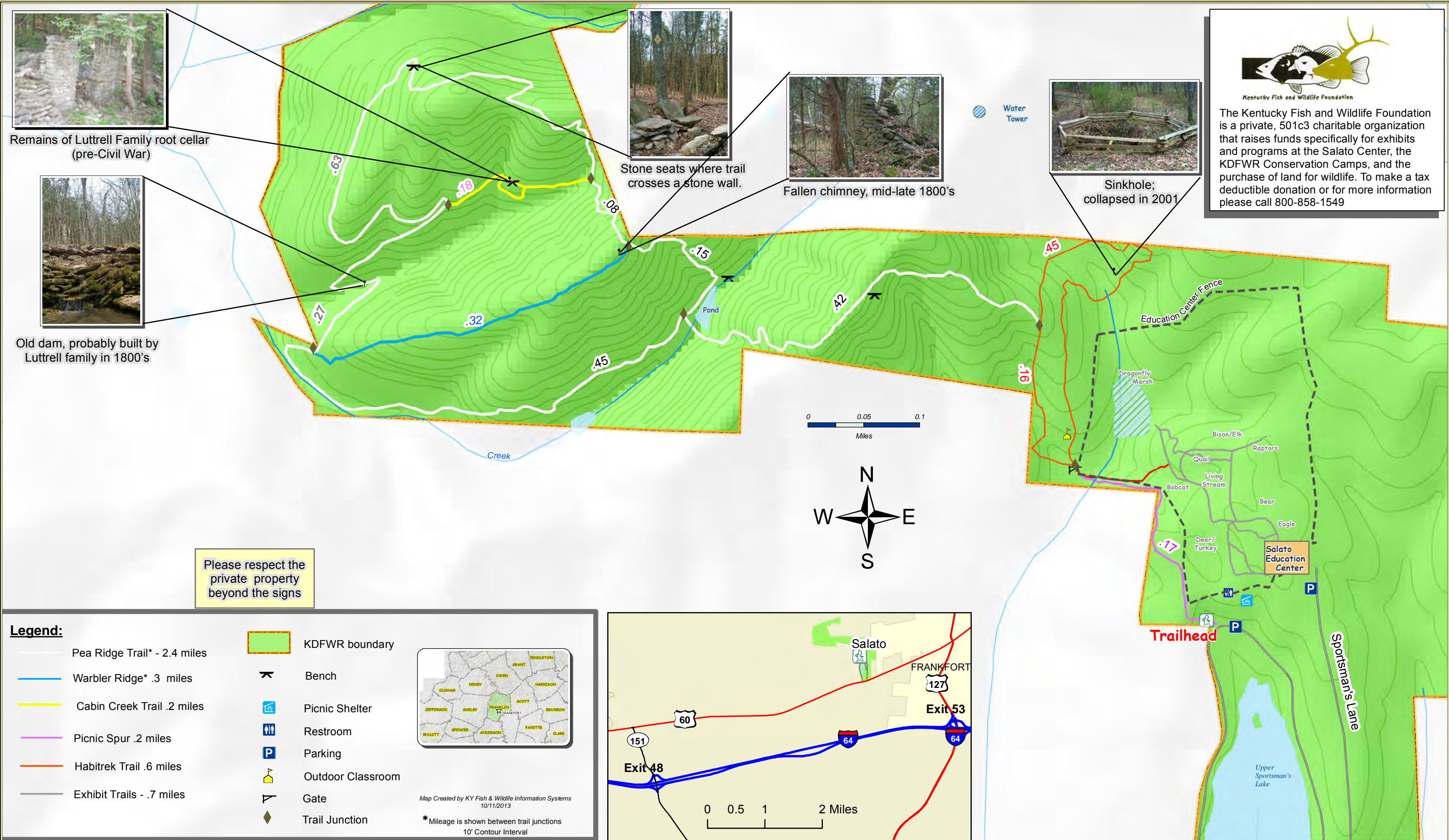


Sinkhole; collapsed in 2001



Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Foundation

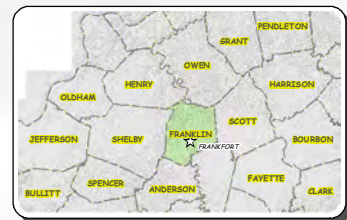
The Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Foundation is a private, 501c3 charitable organization that raises funds specifically for exhibits and programs at the Salato Center, the KDFWR Conservation Camps, and the purchase of land for wildlife. To make a tax deductible donation or for more information please call 800-858-1549



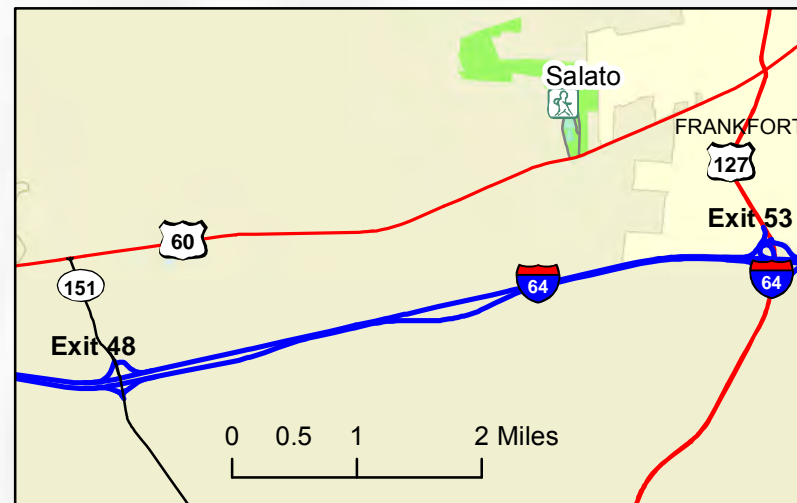
Please respect the private property beyond the signs

Legend:

- Pea Ridge Trail* - 2.4 miles
- Warbler Ridge* .3 miles
- Cabin Creek Trail .2 miles
- Picnic Spur .2 miles
- Habitrek Trail .6 miles
- Exhibit Trails - .7 miles
- KDFWR boundary
- Bench
- Picnic Shelter
- Restroom
- Parking
- Outdoor Classroom
- Gate
- Trail Junction



Map Created by KY Fish & Wildlife Information Systems 10/11/2013
*Mileage is shown between trail junctions
10' Contour Interval



TRAIL RULES

The hiking trails at the Salato Center are intended for wildlife viewing. Activities that may frighten wildlife or destroy habitat are prohibited.

- Open dawn to dusk (may be closed periodically for special events, or for safety)
- Hike at your own risk
- Children must be accompanied by an adult
- Stay on marked trails
- No pets
- No mountain bikes, ATV's, or other wheeled recreational vehicles
- If you pack it in, pack it out
- No camping or campfires
- No hunting, trapping, or fishing
- No collecting of plants, animals, artifacts, or other materials

SAFETY

To assure your own safety, and that of others, please use common sense and follow these guidelines:

- **Know what you're getting into.** Some trails are easy, but others are more strenuous, especially if you are out of shape or have a limiting physical condition such as asthma or heart trouble.
- **Never hike alone.**
- **Be prepared!** Carry a map, wear good shoes, and take along plenty of water.
- **Stay on the marked trails.**
- **Tell a friend or family member** where you're going and what time you intend to return.
- **If you are lost or injured** stay right where you are and call **502-564-7863** for assistance. If Salato is closed, call **800-252-5378**. For true emergencies, dial **911**.

TRAIL RATINGS AND TRIP TIME

Trail ratings assume that the hiker is in relatively good physical condition. People who are very physically fit will find the trails an easy, pleasant hike. People who are less physically active or who suffer from a condition that

limits physical mobility will find the trails more challenging. Distances are shown on the front of this map and reflect the beginning of the trail to its end point. They do not count the return trip. The times listed below are approximate and will vary from person to person.

Trail	Rating	Time
Picnic Spur	easy	5 min
HabiTrek Trail	easy	20 min
Prairie Trail	easy	10 min
Pea Ridge Loop	moderately strenuous	1.5 hr
Warbler Ridge	easy	15 min

HISTORY

Evidence of human settlement can be seen in many areas along the trail. Though mostly forested now, this land has been cleared many times in the past. Timber was cut to build log cabins, for firewood, and for sale. Fields were cleared for crops and livestock. Fences were built, water was channeled and roads were cut.

Earliest records indicate that this land was homesteaded by the **Luttrell Family** sometime before the Civil War and inhabited until sometime in the 1920's or 30's. Ancestors of the Luttrell's still live in this area.

Over time, history becomes habitat

The remains of a log cabin can be found at the eastern intersection of the Warbler Ridge and Pea Ridge trails. A standing chimney, cistern, and fence posts remain. Behind the chimney you will find two **vernal pools**. These pools formed in the depressions left by an old outhouse and storage building. Both now serve as a drinking spot for wildlife and egg-laying habitat for amphibians and insects. Vernal pools are critical wildlife habitat.

Along HabiTrek, Pea Ridge, and Warbler Ridge you will see low **rock walls**. What once served as fences or boundary lines now provides homes and basking sites for many reptiles, insects, and small mammals.

If you turn west on the Pea Ridge Loop at the pond, watch the opposite bank of the stream below for several short **stone columns**. These may have held a wooden "raceway" to channel water from the pond to pastures or crops further downstream. Other water-control structures can be seen as the eastern section of Pea Ridge Loop descends beyond the Luttrell's chimney. These massive **stone piles** were created when rocks from the clearing of land for agriculture were piled along "washes," probably to slow the rush of floodwaters during a heavy rain. Like the stone fences, the columns and rock piles now provide needed cover for many species of wildlife.

Though most of the trees in the forest are young, there are a number of old growth trees. These trees were left along fencerows or in the middle of pastures to provide shade and to break high winds. Often they were used as "living fence posts," onto which wire fencing

was nailed. **Wolf trees** are older, living trees that have been damaged by wind or ice, or the passage of time, but remain standing. Wolf trees and standing, dead **snags** provide nesting habitat for cavity-dwelling wildlife like owls, woodpeckers, and flying squirrels. They are also visited by insect-eating animals, which search for larvae among the dead wood and bark.

SEASONAL WILDLIFE VIEWING OPPORTUNITIES

The hiking trails at the Salato Center can offer an array of wildlife viewing and wildflower watching all year long. Remember to respect all wildlife from a safe distance for the well-being of all animals and to ensure high-quality viewing opportunities in the future for everyone. For the best wildlife viewing opportunities wear earth-toned colors, be quiet as possible, bring a sense of adventure, and be patient! Below is a list of viewing opportunities during the seasonal months:

SPRING:

Wildflowers – Sessile Trillium, Dwarf Larkspur, Wild Ginger, Virginia Bluebells, Star Chickweed, Trout Lilies, Fire Pink, Wild Geranium, Jacob's Ladder, Blue Phlox, Wild Columbine, and Morel mushrooms fruit

Wildlife –

- Squirrels and raccoons are born
- Spring peepers begin sounding
- Turkeys begin gobbling
- Hummingbirds arrive
- Canada geese nest
- American Gold Finches, Orioles, Tufted-tit Mouse, Cedar Waxwings, Northern Cardinals, and Carolina Wrens begin singing

SUMMER:

Wildflowers – Annual Fleabane, Wild Bergamot, Black-Eyed Susan, Iron Weed, Pokeweed, Rattlesnake Master, Passionflower, Dense Blazing Star, Cardinal Flower, Purple Coneflower, and Butterfly Weed bloom

Wildlife –

- Whitetail fawns are born
- Box and snapping turtles lay eggs in early summer and hatch during late summer
- Gray fox pups begin hunting
- Black racers, king snakes, and rat snakes lay eggs
- Cicadas chorus by day
- Offspring of bats, many of them endangered, begin flying

FALL:

Wildflowers – Asters, White Snakeroot, Goldenrod, Brown-Eyed Susan, Tickseed Sunflower, Prairie Dock, Sunflowers, Joe-Pye Weed, Mist Flower, Great Blue Lobelia, Rough Blazing Star, and look for Persimmons after the first hard frost

Wildlife –

- Elk begin bugling
- Deer shed velvet, look for rubbings on tree bark and the mating season (rut) peaks
- Box Turtle eggs hatch
- Chimney swifts, Wood Ducks, and Ospreys migrate south
- Waterfowl migrate into state
- Sandhill cranes fly over
- Fox, Raccoon litters scatter
- Snakes move to hibernation sites

WINTER:

Wildflowers - While most plants are dormant, watch for evergreens, like Red Cedar, White Pine, American Holly, and Partridge Berry. Also, note that beech and oak trees keep most of their leaves through the winter and shed them in spring when new leaves emerge.

Wildlife –

- Whitetail bucks begin antler drop in late winter
- Migrating Bald Eagle numbers peak
- Groundhogs awaken in January
- Skunks roam in February in search of mates
- Great Horned Owls begin incubating eggs
- Wood Ducks look for nest sites in February
- Screech Owls start calling



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The Salato Center, operated by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, is funded by the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and donations to the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Foundation. You can support Salato and conservation in Kentucky by purchasing a license.