

## **Choctaw National Wildlife Refuge**

This 4,218-acre refuge lies 80 miles north of [Mobile](#) on the Tombigbee River in [Mobile County](#). The refuge was established in 1964 from land associated with the Coffeeville Lock and Dam and is a mixture of lowland lakes, sloughs, and bottomland hardwoods. The primary purpose of the refuge is to provide habitat for nesting wood ducks and to serve as a protected wintering area for migratory waterfowl. More than 10,000 ducks and geese winter here, and each year some 200 broods of wood ducks are successfully reared. The lowlands are important habitat for numerous neotropical migrant and wading birds. Most of the refuge is susceptible to annual spring flooding from the Tombigbee River, and a large portion of the refuge is accessible only by boat. Bald eagles sometimes nest in the refuge, and wood storks spend the summer months raising young there. Resident animals include white-tailed deer, turkeys, raccoons, American alligators, and beavers.