

Mountain Longleaf National Wildlife Refuge

This 9,000-acre refuge near [Anniston](#), in [Calhoun County](#), was established in 2003 on the grounds of the former [Fort McClellan](#) army base after the military installation was closed. The refuge protects old-growth and second-growth [longleaf pine](#) forests, which normally are found only in the [Coastal Plain](#). The protected nature of the base and the frequent fires from artillery have allowed a remnant of the original longleaf pine forest to thrive on the slopes of the refuge's Choccolocco Mountain, one of the highest ridges in Alabama at 2,063 feet.