Elkhart Bog Nature Preserve

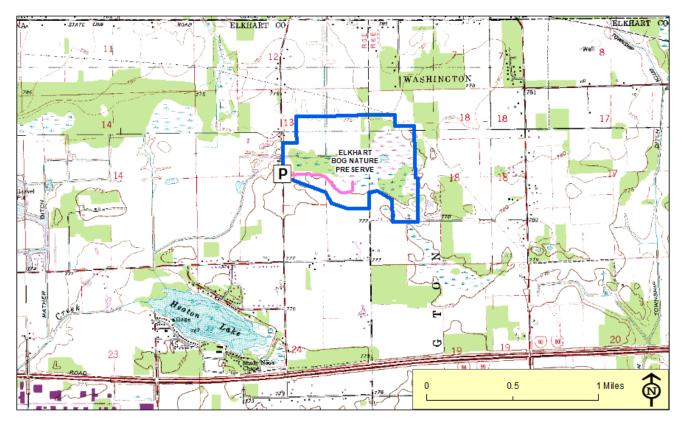
County: Elkhart Size: 228.48 acres

Ownership: Nature Preserves - IDNR

Location and Access

Parking and trails. From the stop light at Exit 96 for I-80/I-90 head west on County Road 4 for one half mile to a four-way stop. At the four way stop turn right and head north one half mile to the parking lot on the right. Drive slowly as it is easy to pass the parking lot entrance. An easy ADA grade trail extends nearly half a mile to the floating boardwalk.





Description: Elkhart Bog is a large wetland formed on top of an old glacial lake. A mat of sedges and sphagnum moss grew across the top of the glacial lake, creating a floating mat of peat, plants and plant roots. It occupies a large peat basin and contains a variety of plants that are uncommon or rare in Indiana. Small stands of tamarack trees are scattered throughout the bog. The tamaracks and many of the plants are boreal relicts in Indiana, meaning their normal ranges are farther north in the upper portions of Michigan and Wisconsin. An observation deck extends into the bog offering a vantage point for this unique site.

Further Information:

Division of Nature Preserves Northeast Regional Ecologist, Rich Dunbar: rdunbar@dnr.in.gov