

Pinhook Access

Fifteen-Year Area Plan

FY 2017-2031




Fisheries Division Chief


Date

Pinhook Access Management Plan Approval Page

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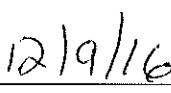
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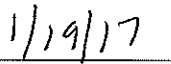

Signature


Date

FISHERIES DIVISION

Fisheries Management Chief


Signature


Date

OVERVIEW

- **Official Area Name:** Pinhook Access Area, #7401
- **Acquisition:** 1974
- **Acreage:** 4 acres
- **County:** Pettis
- **Division with Administrative Responsibility:** Fisheries
- **Division with Maintenance Responsibility:** Wildlife
- **Statement of Primary Purpose:**
 - A. Strategic Direction**

Pinhook Access is managed to provide public fishing access to Muddy Creek for bank anglers.
 - B. Desired Future Conditions**

The desired future condition of Pinhook Access is a protected wooded riparian corridor, maintained grass site, and a maintained 20-vehicle parking lot.
 - C. Federal Aid Statement**

N/A

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

- I. Special Considerations**
 - A. Priority Areas:** None
 - B. Natural Areas:** None
- II. Important Natural Features and Resources**
 - A. Species of Conservation Concern:** Species of conservation concern are known from this area. Area Managers should consult the Natural Heritage Database annually and review all management activities with the Natural History Biologist.
 - B. Caves:** None
 - C. Springs:** None
 - D. Other:** Occurs in the Lower Lamine River Woodland/Forest Hills Landtype Association. This landtype consists of broad gently rounded uplands that give way to steep slopes. Soils are deep, cherty silt loam. Historically, vegetation was oak savanna, woodland and forest with scattered glades (Nigh & Schroeder, 2002).
- III. Existing Infrastructure**
 - One parking lot

IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations

A. Deed Restrictions or Ownership Considerations: None

B. Federal Interest: Federal funds were used in the development of this area, or a portion thereof. The Missouri Department of Conservation (the Department) must maintain the developed project throughout its useful life. Federal funds may also be used in the management of this land. Fish and wildlife agencies may not allow recreational activities and related facilities that would interfere with the purpose for which the State is managing the land. Other uses may be acceptable and must be assessed in each specific situation.

C. Easements: None

D. Cultural Resources Findings: No known cultural resources.

E. Endangered Species: None Observed

F. Boundary Issues: None

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) The majority of the area is in forest cover which is beneficial for protection of the riparian corridor along Muddy Creek.
- 2) The forest on the area appears to be in overall good health with a wide range of age classes present. Tree species present on the area include American sycamore, silver maple, red elm, eastern cottonwood, hackberry, black walnut, honey locust, burr oak, Osage orange, and redbud. The small size of the area limits the practicality of most terrestrial management practices.

Management Objective 1: Manage riparian corridors to reduce potential soil erosion and deposition into Muddy Creek.

Strategy 1: Maintain forested cover on the area to provide protection to the riparian area and water quality. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: All management activities will follow the *Watershed and Stream Management Guidelines for Lands and Waters Managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation* (Missouri Department of Conservation, 2009). (Forestry, Wildlife)

Management Objective 2: Actively reduce invasive species.

Strategy 1: Monitor annually for invasive species. (Wildlife)

Strategy 2: Reduce invasive species using appropriate techniques including but not limited to chemical applications and mechanical thinning. (Wildlife)

VI. Aquatic Resource Management Considerations

The area lies within the Muddy Creek watershed. Fourth-order Muddy Creek runs along the area. However, there is not a boat ramp or any ponds on the area.

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) This area is small in size. Muddy Creek runs along the area with steep banks.
- 2) The riparian corridor is in good condition.

Management Objective 1: Maintain adequate riparian buffers for all stream channels.

Strategy 1: All management activities will follow the *Watershed and Stream Management Guidelines for Lands and Waters Managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation* (Missouri Department of Conservation, 2009). (Wildlife)

VII. Public Use Management Considerations:

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) The area has a long history of vandalism and trash dumping.
- 2) The area has limited bank fishing opportunities and does provide boat access to Muddy Creek.

Management Objective 1: Facilitate a good working relationship with neighboring landowners.

Strategy 1: Work with neighbors to minimize any boundary issues, trespass, or illegal activities as this would aid in the overall relationship between the Department and public. (Fisheries)

Strategy 2: Unless actively fishing, discourage public use on the area from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. with Protection patrols. (Protection)

Management Objective 2: Cooperatively patrol the area and report unauthorized activities.

Strategy 1: Regularly patrol and enforce the *Wildlife Code of Missouri*, with emphasis on vandalism, littering and response to public complaints. (Protection, Wildlife)

Management Objective 3: Inform public about area regulations.

Strategy 1: Maintain signs according to Department policy. (Wildlife)

Strategy 2: Maintain accurate and timely information on the Department's Atlas database. Review information annually. (Fisheries)

Management Objective 4: Maintain the facilities to a standard that invites public use.

Strategy 1: Maintain current levels of area maintenance. Keep area mowed and keep parking lots clean and mowed. (Wildlife)

Strategy 2: Create and maintain a foot path following the appropriate best management practices outlined in the *Missouri Watershed Protection Practice booklet and the appropriate standards per the Watershed and Stream Management Guidelines for Lands and Waters Managed by Missouri Department of Conservation* (Missouri Department of Conservation, 2009) to allow access to the bank for fishing. (Fisheries)

VIII. Administrative Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Maintain area infrastructure at current levels with one parking lot.

Management Objective 1: Maintain area infrastructure at current levels.

Strategy 1: Maintain area infrastructure in accordance with Department guidelines and at currently identified maintenance level (1). (Wildlife)

APPENDICES

Area Background:

Pinhook Access was acquired in 1974 as a result of a donation from William Bunn. Due to its small size (less than 4 acres), public use activities are limited.

The primary objective of this area is to provide access to Muddy Creek. Of equal importance is the protection of the riparian corridor along the north bank of Muddy Creek.

There is a Pettis County Historical Marker on the area that commemorates St. Helena, which was the first Pettis County seat.

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Forest	3		75
Grasslands	1		25
Total	4		100
Stream frontage		0.1	

Public Input Summary:

The draft Pinhook Access Management Plan was available for a public comment period June 1–30, 2016. The Missouri Department of Conservation received three comments from two respondents (Appendix A). The Pinhook Access Conservation Area Planning Team carefully reviewed and considered these ideas as they finalized this document. A brief summary of public input themes, including how they were incorporated or why they were not, can be found below. Rather than respond to each individual comment, comments are grouped into general themes and are addressed collectively.

Department responses to themes and issues identified through the Pinhook Access public comment period.

Supports controlling invasive species.

Thank you for your support. We agree controlling invasive species is important. We strive to promote healthy native plant communities. Invasive exotic species are a constant threat, and we will continue our efforts to control these invasive species where possible.

Supports maintaining healthy riparian corridor.

Thank you for your support. We agree that maintaining healthy riparian corridors is important.

Concerned about illegal activity on the area. Suggests closing the access.

As with any remote public use area, Pinhook Access receives some vandalism and illegal activity. If you see any illegal activity please report violations to the Operation Game Thief Hotline at 800-392-111 or local law enforcement. There are no plans to close the area.

References:

Missouri Department of Conservation. (2009). *Watershed and stream management guidelines for lands and waters managed by Missouri Department of Conservation*. Jefferson City, MO: Missouri Department of Conservation.

Nigh, T. A., & Schroeder, W.A. (2002). *Atlas of Missouri ecoregions*. Jefferson City, MO: Missouri Department of Conservation.

Maps:

Figure 1: Area Map

Figure 2: Aerial Map

Figure 3: Topographic Map

Figure 4: Current Vegetation Map

Additional Appendices:

Appendix A. Pinhook Access Management Plan Public Comments

Figure 1: Area Map

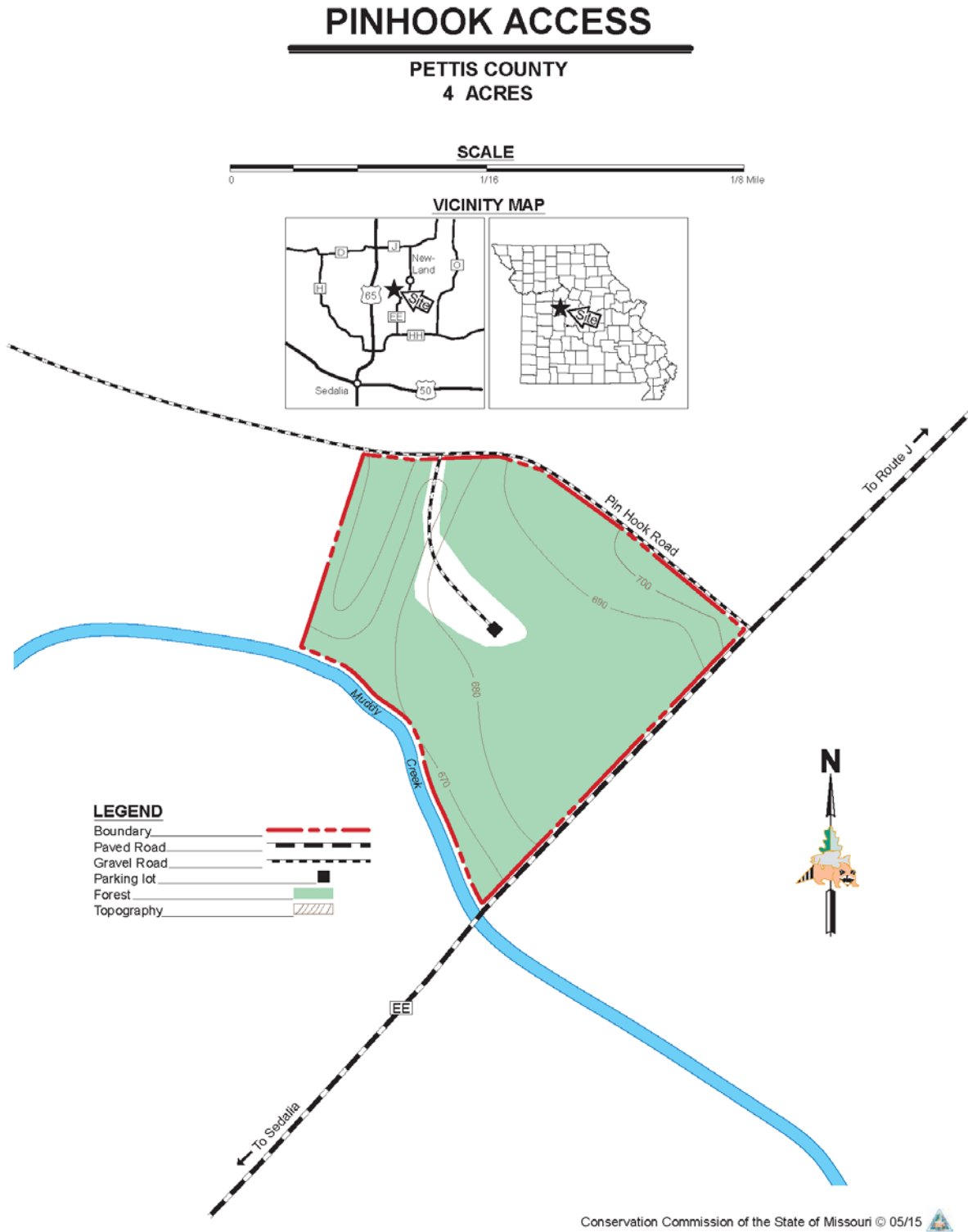


Figure 2: Aerial Map



Legend



-  Muddy Creek
-  Area Boundary

Figure 3: Topographic Map



Legend



-  Muddy Creek
-  Area Boundary

Figure 4: Current Vegetative Map

Pinhook Access



Legend

-  Forest
-  Parking Lot
-  Maintained Grass
-  Area Boundary

Appendix A. Pinhook Access Management Plan Public Comments

Received during public comment period (June 1-30, 2016):

I am currently a candidate for Eastern Pettis County Commissioner. If I am elected, the Pinhook Access will fall within my area of oversight in the county. I have reviewed the draft plan, and agree with your focus and goals. Concentration on invasive species and maintaining a healthy riparian corridor is imperative. I am also well aware of the issue with dumping, vandalism and "partying" at this site. If I can be of any assistance in contacting landowners and securing their help in monitoring at Pinhook, please let me know. As an avid outdoorsman, fisherman and volunteer with stream team 2800 and LMVP I understand the importance of protecting water quality and the watershed from human activities while still allowing full enjoyment of the outdoor opportunities an area such as Pinhook has to offer.

Thank your to allowing comments. My property and home are adjacent to the Muddy Creek Fishing access and I have lived here for over 20 years. During that time there has been little use of the area and as stated in the management statements it is a site that has litter problems, plus parties, drinking, and probably drug related exchange. Add to that shooting and fireworks. It also invites trespass across the road to my property. I must admit it is not as bad as it was, but I don't appreciate the litter that sometime is left. This area was called the Ruins and historically it was a party place. That is not nearly the problem it was in the past, but at times there is noise well past 10 o'clock.

There are few fishermen and few people attending and actually appreciating the area. At times people do trespass to the west on my property but I have never seen anyone fishing. Usually, it is to look for arrowheads I believe.

The four acres were originally party of my property and if it were being used as it should be I would be pleased, but there is little usage and what there is, most is not appropriate. The previous owner gave the 4 acres to MDC.

Well, thanks for letting me relay my opinions and I hope all is well for you and the department.
Respectfully

Recently I respond to the management plan and had few issues and statements. I agree with the problems MDC recognized and added a couple of other issues. I am not sure if I indicated my recommendations for the area. So, even if I am not to recommend I hope you will not take it as a negative to anyone.

It is my opinion based on the little used access for fishing and just relaxing, plus the constant upkeep that is never ending. Too much litter, drugs and fire arms and fire works. I live up on the hill and if any fires starts below it will not be easy to stop.

Close the access and I doubt there will be little back comment.

Thanks for the opportunity to speak and I hope good things for MDC and you.

Respectfully