

**John N. and Melba S. Anderson
Memorial Conservation Area
&
Pearl G. and John J. Sizemore
Memorial Conservation Area**

Ten-Year Area Management Plan
FY 2015-2024



Lisa B. Allen

Forestry Division Chief

8-24-15

Date

John N. and Melba S. Anderson Memorial Conservation Area & Pearl G. and John J. Sizemore Conservation Management Plan Approval Page

PLANNING TEAM

Rob Brandenburg, Conservation Agent (Retired)

Jeff Dierking, Private Land Conservationist

Mark Johanson, Resource Forester

Conrad Mallady, Outdoor Skills Specialist

ST LOUIS REGION

RCT Chair

Jennifer Lakes Aug 17, 2015
Signature Date

FORESTRY DIVISION

Forestry Management Chief

John Tuttle 8/24/15
Signature Date

OVERVIEW

Area Name	Area Number	Year Acquired	Acreage	County	Administrative Responsibility	Maintenance Responsibility
Anderson CA	200304	2003	341	Crawford	Forestry	Forestry
Sizemore CA	200305	2003	180	Crawford	Forestry	Forestry

Statements of Purpose:

A. Strategic Direction

The John N. and Melba S. Anderson Memorial Conservation Area (Anderson CA) and the Pearl G. and John J. Sizemore Memorial Conservation Area (Sizemore CA) will be managed to provide upland wildlife habitat in a portion of Missouri lacking public upland wildlife hunting opportunities. Management of the areas is focused on the eastern cottontail rabbit, but benefits a wide diversity of upland wildlife species.

B. Desired Future Condition

The desired condition of these areas is to improve the plant and animal diversity of the field and woodland habitats, while providing quality rabbit and other small-game hunting opportunities. Habitat management will provide open woodlands and diverse fields with ample brush and cover.

C. Federal Aid Statement

N/A

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

I. Special Considerations

Area Name	Priority Areas	Natural Areas
Anderson CA	Middle Meramec Conservation Opportunity Area, Meramec River Hills Priority Focus Landscape, Middle Meramec Watershed Important Bird Area, Upper and Middle Meramec River Watershed, Huzzah Creek Watershed	None
Sizemore CA	Middle Meramec Conservation Opportunity Area, Meramec River Hills Priority Focus Landscape, Middle Meramec Watershed Important Bird Area, Upper and Middle Meramec River Watershed, Huzzah Creek Watershed	None

II. Important Natural Features and Resources

Area Name	Species of Conservation Concern	Caves	Springs
Anderson CA	None	None	None
Sizemore CA	None	None	None

III. Existing Infrastructure

Area Name	Parking Lot	Other
Anderson CA	1	2 wildlife watering holes
Sizemore CA	1	N/A

IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations

Area Name	Deed Restrictions	Federal Interest	Ease-ments	Cultural Resources	Hazards	Endangered Species	Boundary Issues
Anderson CA	None	Yes ¹	Yes ²	Yes ³	None observed	None observed	Yes ⁴
Sizemore CA	None	Yes ¹	Yes ²	Yes ³	None observed	None observed	Yes ⁴

¹ Federal funds may 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.

² Electric easement

³ Yes, records kept with the Missouri Department of Conservation (the Department) Environmental Compliance Specialist. Managers should follow Best Management Practices for Cultural Resources found in the Department Resource Policy Manual.

⁴ Establishing accurate and identifiable boundary markers is a priority for this property.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) These areas have been owned by the Department since 2003. No baseline inventories of natural communities or forest resources have been conducted. This greatly limits the ability of land managers to prioritize land management activities.
- 2) There is a fair rabbit population established on the area. Overgrown fields limit the population expansion. However, the population of rabbits should respond quickly to the planned field renovations and woodland management.

Management Objective 1: Assess woodland communities available on the area to determine and prioritize woodland management activities.

Strategy 1: Complete a forest inventory in the woodlands and implement appropriate management prescriptions, accordingly (e.g., non-commercial thinning, prescribed fire). (Forestry)

Management Objective 2: Create 30 acres of open-land small-game habitat from existing old fields. Small-game habitat includes old fields with native herbaceous shrubby cover and woodland field edge enhancements.

Strategy 1: Evaluate current overgrown fields for management needs, prioritize management and begin renovations. Field renovations may include cedar removal, green browse establishment, edge feathering and the placement of brush piles for cover. (Forestry, Wildlife)

Strategy 2: Establish and implement prescribed fire units. Prioritize management of these units that will allow long-term management of old fields and woodland habitats. (Forestry)

Strategy 3: Control invasive plant species, such as Japanese honeysuckle, sericia lespedeza and tall fescue. (Forestry)

VI. Public Use Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) These conservation areas are small tracts of land that border residential properties.
- 2) The amount and type of public use is somewhat limited on these areas primarily due their small size.

Management Objective 1: Maintain the area in a way that invites the public to use the property.

Strategy 1: Mark and maintain boundary lines. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Keep area regulations posted on sign boards. Regularly pickup trash and keep the grass on the edge of the parking lots mowed. (Forestry)

Strategy 3: Conduct periodic enforcement patrols. (Protection)

VII. Administrative Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Potential boundary line issues with neighbors.

Management Objective 1: Resolve any boundary issues with neighbors.

Strategy 1: Work with neighboring landowners on boundary issues, as they arise. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Determine accurate and identifiable property boundary lines. Maintain them according to department guidance. (Forestry)

Lands Proposed for Acquisition/Disposal:

When available, adjacent land may be considered for acquisition from willing sellers. Tracts that improve area access, provide public use opportunities, contain unique natural communities and/or species of conservation concern, or meet other Department priorities, as identified in the annual Department land acquisition priorities, may be considered.

MANAGEMENT TIMETABLE

Strategies are considered ongoing unless listed in the following table:

	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
Terrestrial Resource Management										
<i>Objective 1</i>										
Strategy 1	X	X								
<i>Objective 2</i>										
Strategy 1		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Strategy 2		X	X		X		X		X	
Strategy 3		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Public Use Management										
<i>Objective 1</i>										
Strategy 1					X					

APPENDICES

Public Input Summary:

The draft Anderson and Sizemore Memorial Conservation Areas Management Plan was available for a public comment period April 1–30, 2015. The Missouri Department of Conservation received one comment (Appendix 9). The Anderson and Sizemore Memorial Conservation Areas 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 Anderson and Sizemore Memorial Conservation Areas public comment period

Suggests adding hiking trails.

The planning team recognizes the need to provide access to these areas for hiking as well as other uses. There are currently no plans to establish designated hiking trails on these areas, however we do maintain service roads allowing access for our staff to manage the areas. The service roads can be utilized by hikers to access these areas. The locations of the service roads will be added to future printings of area maps.

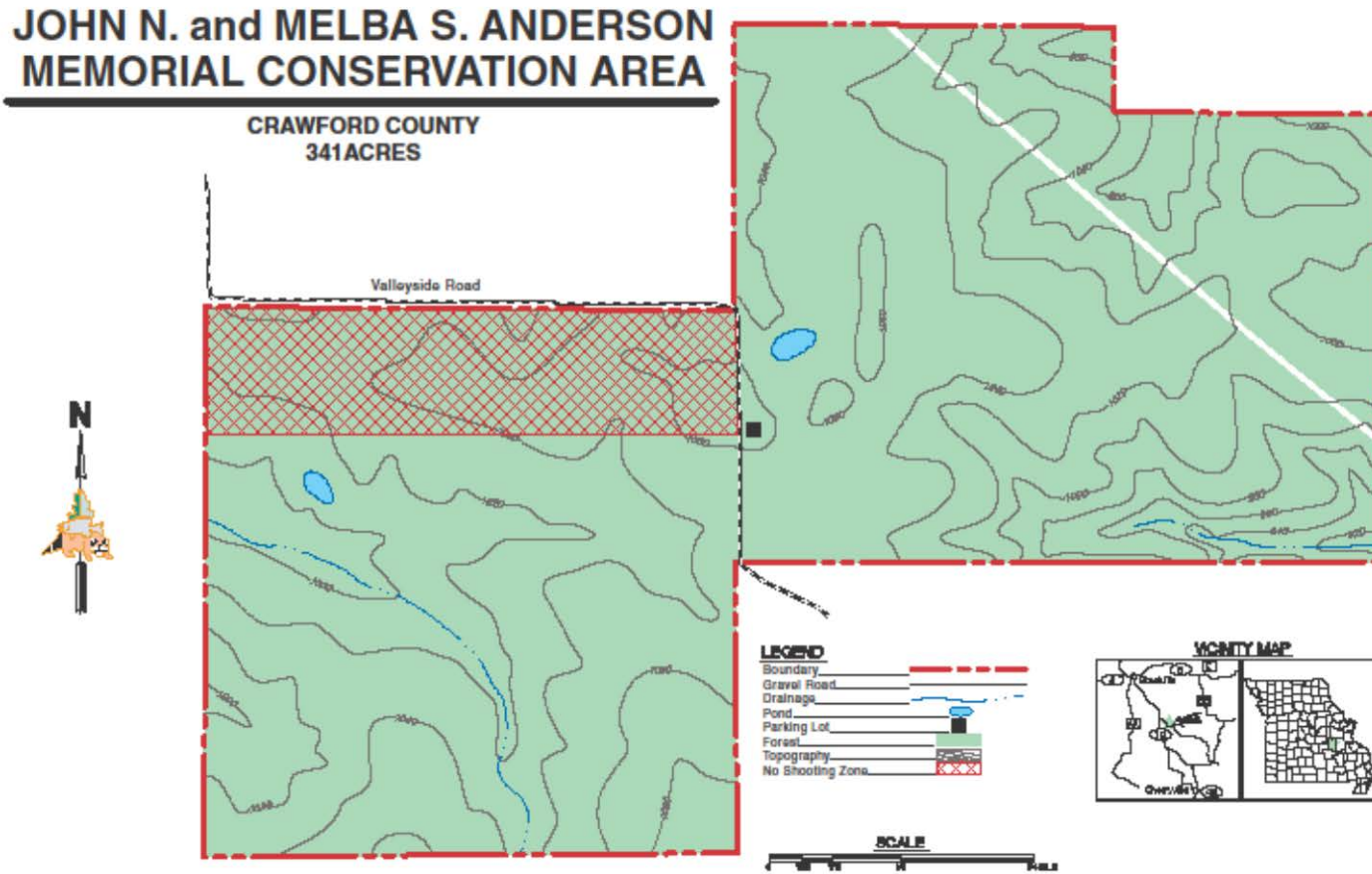
References:

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

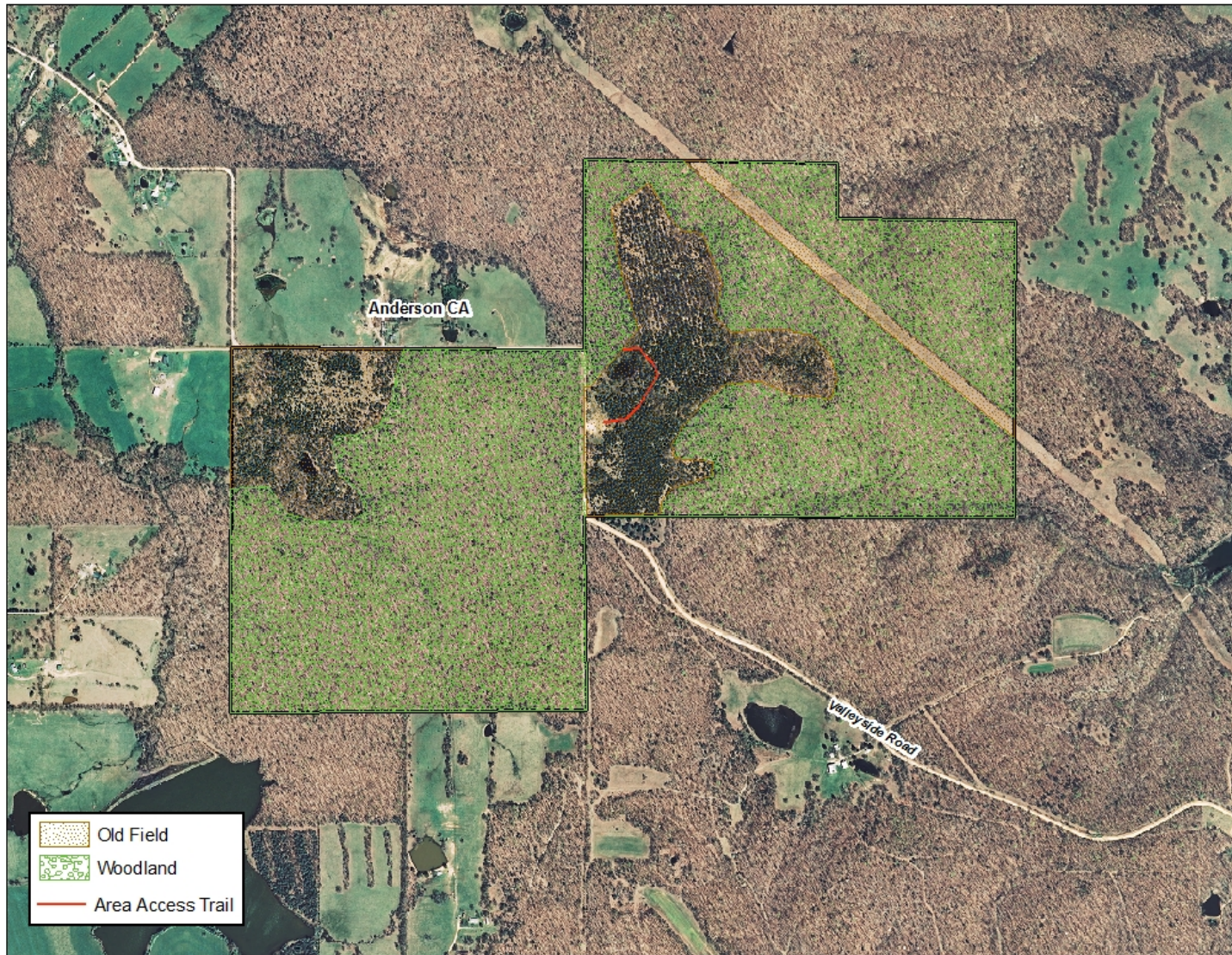
Appendices:

- Appendix 1. Anderson CA Area Map
- Appendix 2. Anderson CA Current Vegetative Map
- Appendix 3. Anderson CA Area Background
- Appendix 4. Sizemore CA Area Map
- Appendix 5. Sizemore CA Current Vegetative Map
- Appendix 6. Sizemore CA Area Background
- Appendix 7. Aerial Map of Anderson and Sizemore CAs
- Appendix 8. Topographical Map of Anderson and Sizemore CAs
- Appendix 9. Anderson and Sizemore Conservation Areas Management Plan Public Comments

Appendix 1. Anderson CA Area Map



Appendix 2. Anderson CA Current Vegetative Map



Appendix 3. Anderson CA Area Background

Anderson Conservation Area was donated to the Missouri Department of Conservation in 2003 as part of the estate of Melba Anderson. The land is managed as a “Natural Wildlife Area” in memory of John N. and Melba S. Anderson. The area opened for public use in 2007.

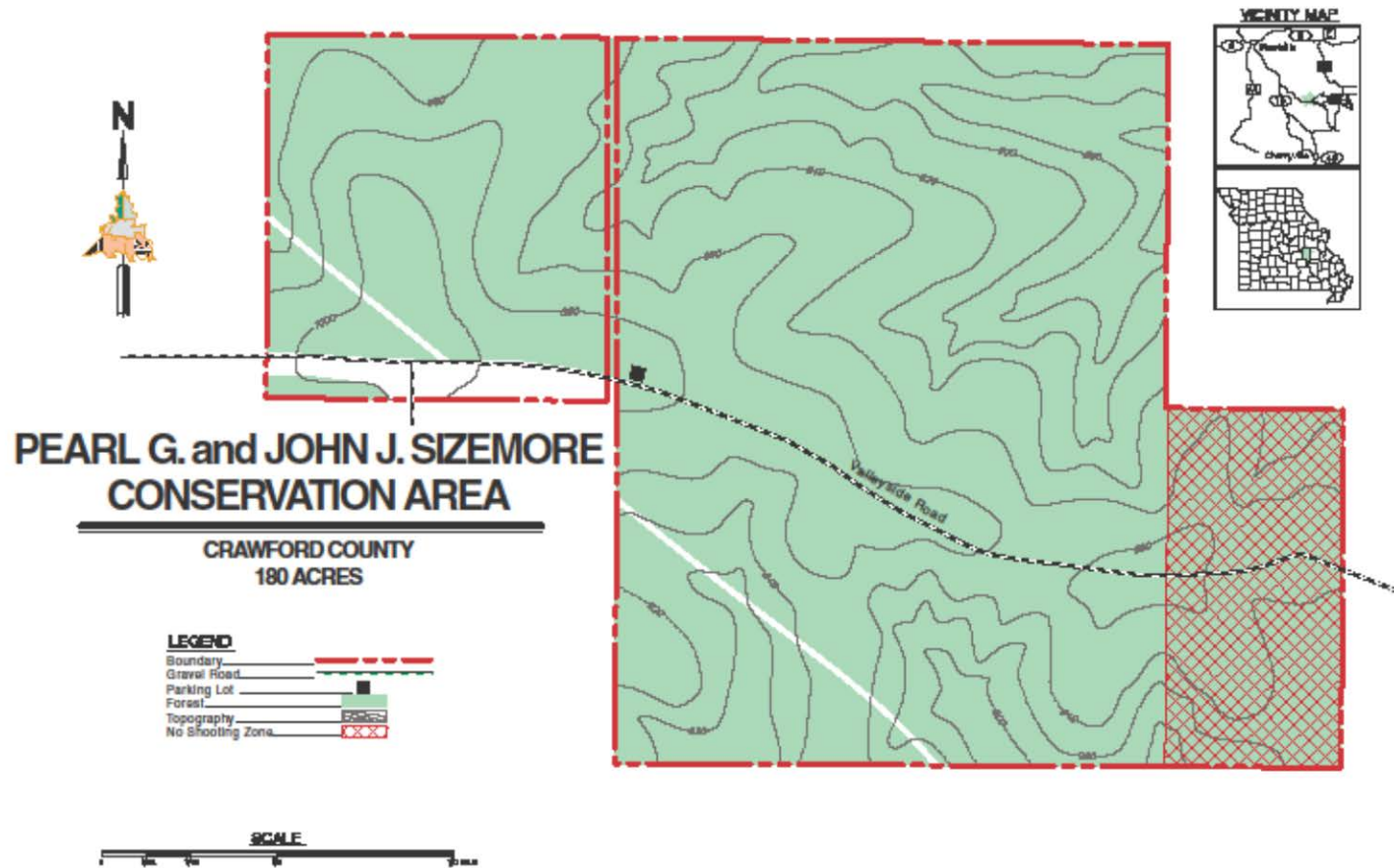
Prior to being deeded to the Missouri Department of Conservation, this farmstead was a representative example of semi-subsistence agriculture typical of the Missouri Ozarks, growing crops ranging from grains to fruit and for raising livestock.

Currently, the area is covered by post oak woodlands and old fields. Most of the old fields have been overtaken by eastern red cedar and provide limited rabbit hunting opportunities. These areas do support a fair population of deer, turkey, and squirrel and also provide a variety of nature viewing opportunities.

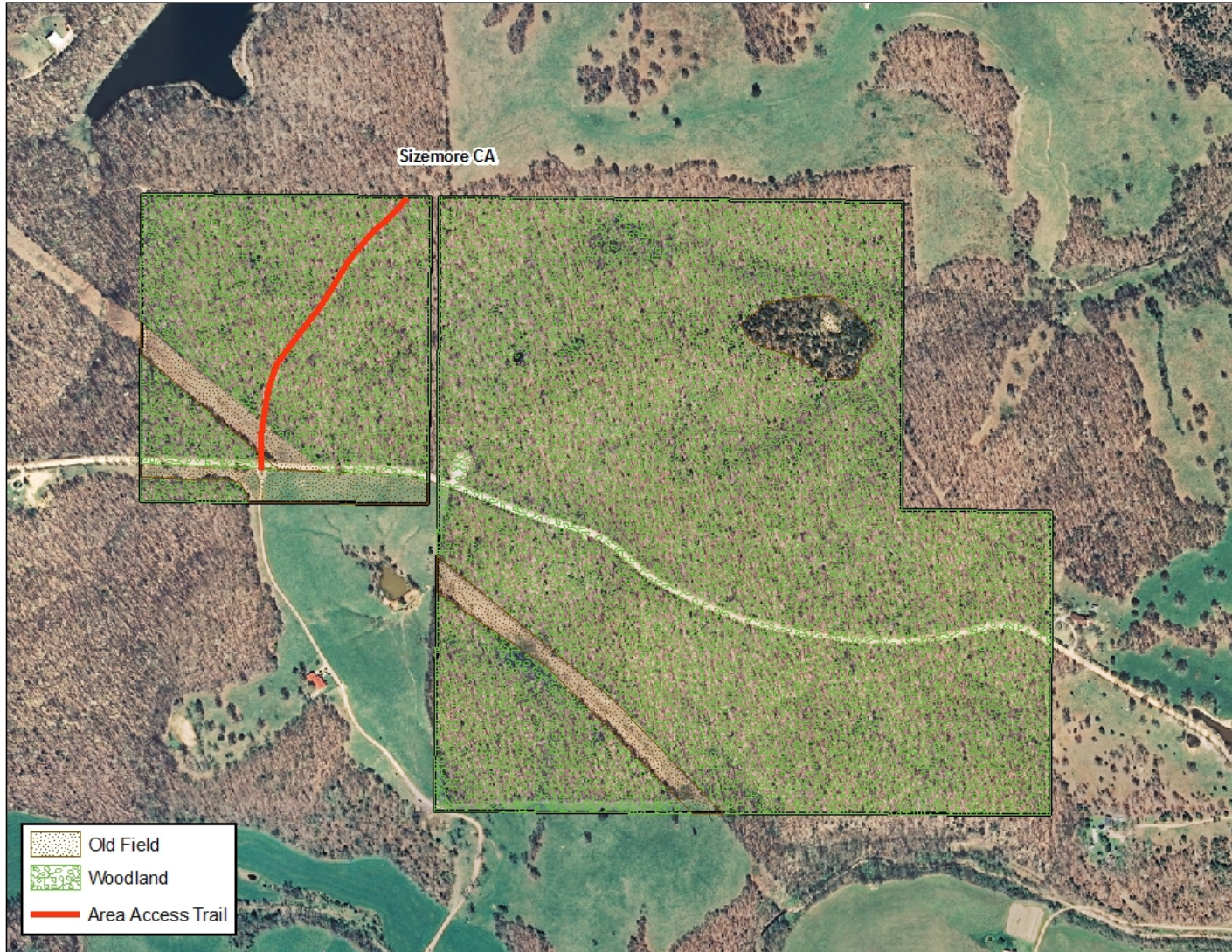
Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	% of Area
Woodland	258	76
Old Field/Eastern Red Cedar	83	24
Total	341	100

Appendix 4. Sizemore CA Area Map



Appendix 5. Sizemore CA Current Vegetative Map



Appendix 6. Sizemore CA Area Background

Sizemore Conservation Area was donated to the Missouri Department of Conservation in 2003 as part of the estate of Melba Anderson. The land is managed as a “Natural Wildlife Area” in memory of Pearl G. and John J. Sizemore. The areas opened for public use in 2007.

Prior to being deeded to the Missouri Department of Conservation, this farmstead was a representative example of semi-subsistence agriculture typical of the Missouri Ozarks, growing crops ranging from grains to fruit and for raising livestock.

Currently, the area is covered by post oak woodlands and old fields. Most of the old fields have been overtaken by eastern red cedar and provide limited rabbit hunting opportunities. These areas do support a fair population of deer, turkey, and squirrel and also provide a variety of nature viewing opportunities.

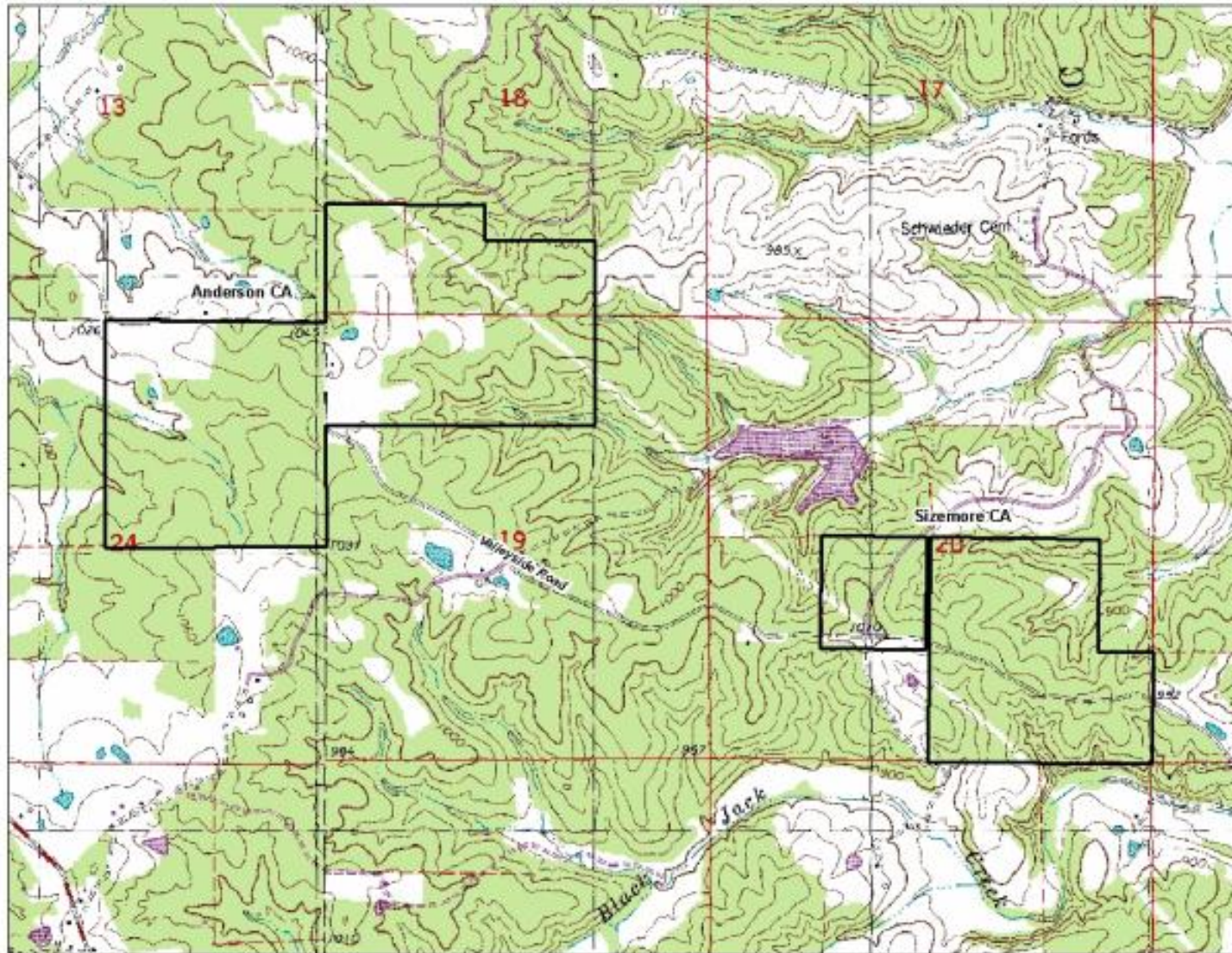
Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	% of Area
Woodland	168	93
Old Field/Eastern Red Cedar	12	7
Total	180	100

Appendix 7. Aerial Map of Anderson and Sizemore CAs



Appendix 8. Topographical Map of Anderson and Sizemore CAs



**Appendix 9. Anderson and Sizemore Memorial Conservation Areas Management Plan
Public Comments**

Received during public comment period (April 1-30, 2015):

Even though the focus seems to be on hunting for these two areas, hiking trails should be added. If nothing else it would give hunters a clear path from the parking lot, but it may also encourage other visitors.