

Barton County Prairies

Bethel Prairie Conservation Area
Comstock Prairie Conservation Area
Dorris Creek Prairie Conservation Area
Mo-No-I Prairie Conservation Area
Mon-Shon Prairie Conservation Area
Pa Sole Prairie Conservation Area
Redwing Prairie Conservation Area
Edward B. & Marie O. Risch Conservation Area
Treaty Line Prairie Conservation Area

Fifteen-Year Area Management Plan

FY2018-2032





Wildlife Division Chief

12 Oct 2017
Date

Barton County Prairies Management Plan Approval Page

PLANNING TEAM

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Southwest Region

RCT Chair



Signature

8/20/17
Date

Wildlife Division

Wildlife Management Chief



Signature

9/7/17
Date

OVERVIEW

The prairies in this plan are solely owned by the Missouri Department of Conservation (the Department) and all of them are located in Barton County, Missouri.

Area Name	Area Number	Year Acquired	Acreage	County	Administrative Responsibility	Maintenance Responsibility
Bethel Prairie Conservation Area (CA)	9702	1997	260	Barton	Wildlife	Wildlife
Comstock Prairie CA	9018	1990	320	Barton	Wildlife	Wildlife
Dorris Creek Prairie CA	8513	1985	160	Barton	Wildlife	Wildlife
Mo-No-I Prairie CA	9106	1991	302	Barton	Wildlife	Wildlife
Mon-Shon Prairie CA	8838	1988	80	Barton	Wildlife	Wildlife
Pa Sole Prairie CA	9131	1991	240	Barton	Wildlife	Wildlife
Redwing Prairie CA	8826	1988	160	Barton	Wildlife	Wildlife
Edward B. and Marie O Risch CA	8617	1986	162	Barton	Wildlife	Wildlife
Treaty Line Prairie CA	8912	1989	168	Barton	Wildlife	Wildlife

Statements of Purpose:

A. Strategic Direction

Manage areas for a diverse suite of native prairie plants and animals using a variety of grassland management techniques.

B. Desired Future Condition

The desired future condition is a functioning native prairie community where resource needs of a variety of plants and animals are met.

C. Federal Aid Statement

N/A

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

I. Special Considerations

Area Name	Priority Areas	Natural Areas
Bethel Prairie CA	Western Cherokee Grasslands Prairie Chicken Focus Area, Bethel Prairie – Grassland, Prairie, Savana Conservation Opportunity Area, Spring River Fisheries Priority Watershed, The Nature Conservancy’s Liberal Landscape Conservation Area	None

Comstock Prairie CA	Western Cherokee Grasslands Prairie Chicken Focus Area, Liberal Prairie – Grassland Prairie Savana Conservation Opportunity Area, The Nature Conservancy’s Liberal Landscape Conservation Area	None
Dorris Creek Prairie CA	Spring River Fisheries Priority Watershed, Stony Point/Golden Prairies – Prairie Chicken Focus Area, North American Bird Conservation Initiative – The Nature Conservancy’s Golden City Prairie Complex	None
Mo-No-I Prairie CA	Western Cherokee Grasslands Prairie Chicken Focus Area, Liberal Prairie – Grassland Prairie Savana Conservation Opportunity Area, Little Drywood Creek Fisheries Priority Watershed, The Nature Conservancy’s Liberal Landscape Conservation Area	None
Mon-Shon Prairie CA	Liberal Prairie – Grassland, Prairie, Savana Conservation Opportunity Area, Spring River Fisheries Priority Watershed, Western Cherokee Grasslands Prairie Chicken Focus Area, Prairie State Park Conservation Opportunity Area, The Nature Conservancy’s Liberal Landscape Conservation Area	None
Pa Sole Prairie CA	Spring River Fisheries Priority Watershed, The Nature Conservancy’s Golden City Prairie Complex, Stony Point/Golden Prairie Chicken Focus Area, North American Bird Conservation Initiative	None
Redwing Prairie CA	Liberal Prairie – Grassland, Prairie, Savana Conservation Opportunity Area, Western Cherokee Grasslands Prairie Chicken Focus Area, The Nature Conservancy’s Liberal Landscape Conservation Area	None
Edward B. and Marie O Risch CA	Liberal Prairie – Grassland, Prairie, Savana Conservation Opportunity Area, Western Cherokee Grasslands Prairie Chicken Focus Area, The Nature Conservancy’s Liberal Landscape Conservation Area	None
Treaty Line Prairie CA	The Nature Conservancy’s Golden City Prairie Complex, Stony Point/Golden Prairie Important Bird Area	None

II. Important Natural Features and Resources

Area Name	Species of Conservation Concern	Caves	Springs
Bethel Prairie CA	None observed	None	None
Comstock Prairie CA	None observed	None	None
Dorris Creek Prairie CA	Yes ¹	None	None
Mo-No-I Prairie CA	Yes ¹	None	None

Mon-Shon Prairie CA	Yes ¹	None	None
Pa Sole Prairie CA	Yes ¹	None	None
Redwing Prairie CA	Yes ¹	None	None
Edward B. and Marie O Risch CA	None observed	None	None
Treaty Line Prairie CA	Yes ¹	None	None

¹Species and/or communities 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.

III. Existing Infrastructure

Area Name	Parking Area #	Ponds
Bethel Prairie CA	2	1 non-stocked pond (0.23 acres)
Comstock Prairie CA	2	2 non-stocked ponds (2 acres)
Dorris Creek Prairie CA	1	3 stocked ponds (9.5 acres)
Mo-No-I Prairie CA	1	None
Mon-Shon Prairie CA	1	1 non-stocked pond (1.3 acres)
Pa Sole Prairie CA	1	1 fishless pond (0.5 acres), 1 stocked pond (1 acre)
Redwing Prairie CA	1	1 non-stocked pond (0.6 acres)
Edward B. and Marie O. Risch CA	1	2 non-stocked ponds (1 acre)
Treaty Line Prairie CA	1	1 fishless pond (0.25 acres)

IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations

Area Name	Deed Restrictions	Federal Interest	Ease-ments	Cultural Resources	Endangered Species	Boundary Issues
Bethel Prairie CA	None	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None
Comstock Prairie CA	None	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None
Dorris Creek Prairie CA	Yes ¹	Yes ²	None	None known	Yes ⁴	None
Mo-No-I Prairie CA	Yes ¹	Yes ²	None	None known	Yes ⁴	None
Mon-Shon Prairie CA	Yes ¹	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None
Pa Sole Prairie CA	None	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None
Redwing Prairie	None	Yes ²	Yes ³	None	None	None

CA				known	observed	
Edward B. and Marie O. Risch CA	None	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None
Treaty Line Prairie CA	None	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None

¹As part consideration for this deed and by acceptance thereof the Grantee agrees to erect and maintain at a prominent location on the above described premises a permanent plaque or other appropriate marker bearing the following statement: “This area was acquired with the assistance of The Nature Conservancy.”

²Federal 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.

³Underground gas pipeline (See Appendix 14).

⁴Endangered species are known from this area. Area managers should consult the Natural Heritage Database annually and review all management activities with the natural history biologist.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations

The dominant habitat on each of the conservation areas in this plan is native prairie. Native prairie is one of the rarest natural communities in Missouri. Management of these areas is focused on the maintenance, restoration, and reconstruction (where possible) of the prairie system, with emphasis on enhancing the full complement of species that utilize native prairie communities. Management tools include prescribed burning, haying, selective herbicide application, seed harvesting, and grazing. Preventing degradation of the prairie system, while increasing biotic diversity, is a priority. Non-prairie habitats are managed to complement the native prairie system.

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Control invasive species.
- 2) Manage woody vegetation.
- 3) Increase public awareness and value of native prairie systems.

Management Objective 1: Maintain or increase vegetative diversity and structure of the native prairie habitat and provide critical habitat for grassland-dependent animals.

Strategy 1: Utilize disturbances, such as prescribed burning, conservation grazing, mowing, herbicide application, and haying, as management tools, where possible and when appropriate to achieve desired results. Conservation grazing started in 2016 with plans to continue through 2020, using a graze-three/rest-two-year rotation. (Wildlife)

Strategy 2: Reduce/eradicate invasive species without significantly harming native grasses and forbs. (Wildlife)

Strategy 3: Remove trees and other woody vegetation as needed. Woody vegetation removal techniques include prescribed fire, mechanical removal, and chemical application. Any mechanical removal of woody vegetation should be done with minimal soil disturbance. (Wildlife)

Strategy 4: Manage existing crop land under the Ag Crop Program. As native prairie seed becomes available this crop land is to be planted with a diverse prairie seed mix in order to establish high quality habitat for ground nesting birds and provide pollinator species. Harvest seeds to plant future prairie reconstructions. (Wildlife)

Management Objective 2: Work with adjoining landowners to increase the total acreage of diverse grasslands around the native prairies; reduce degradation by invasive species; and improve the habitat for species that utilize grassland systems.

Strategy 1: Work with adjoining landowners to address existing invasive species that threaten native prairies. (Wildlife, Private Land Services)

Strategy 2: Work with county road districts to control unwanted invasive species in road right of ways. (Wildlife, Private Land Services)

Strategy 3: Provide technical assistance to adjacent landowners willing to improve their habitat for grassland species. (Private Land Services)

VI. Aquatic Resource Management Considerations

Aquatic features on these prairies consist of small drainages, streams, and small impoundments. Stream sizes range from ephemeral headwater drainages to third-order streams. Land-use practices within the overall watersheds of these streams can influence stream stability. Most of the impoundments on these prairies are less than 1 acre and are not managed for fishing. Managed fishing ponds are located at Dorris Creek Prairie and Pa Sole Prairie conservation areas. These impoundments provide fishing opportunities for largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish.

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Prevent or mitigate stream channel instability and head-cutting.
- 2) Provide quality fishing opportunities for the public.

Management Objective 1: Maintain and/or enhance functionality and quality of headwater streams and ponds on these prairies.

Strategy 1: Continue to implement stream best management practices as outlined in the Department's *Watershed and Stream Management Guidelines for Lands and Waters Managed by Missouri Department of Conservation* (2009). (Wildlife, Fisheries)

Strategy 2: If grazing is used as a management tool, Wildlife and Fisheries staffs will develop a grazing plan prior to introduction of livestock. (Wildlife, Fisheries)

Strategy 3: Address channel instability as needed. (Fisheries)

Management Objective 2: Maintain or enhance fishing opportunities at Dorris Creek Prairie and Pa Sole Prairie conservation areas.

Strategy 1: Continue to monitor the largemouth bass and bluegill populations through periodic fish surveys and apply appropriate management techniques to maintain or enhance these populations. (Fisheries)

Strategy 2: Conduct supplemental stocking of channel catfish as needed to maintain the fishery. (Fisheries)

Strategy 3: Monitor the aquatic vegetation coverage and apply aquatic herbicides as needed. (Fisheries)

VII. Public Use Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Increase public awareness and use of these areas.

Management Objective 1: Maintain suitable public access at each area.

Strategy 1: Maintain parking areas that are aesthetically pleasing and inviting (Wildlife, Protection).

Management Objective 2: Continue to inform the public of the opportunities at these areas.

Strategy 1: Maintain signage at the parking areas according to Department policy (Wildlife).

Strategy 2: Highlight area resources via media outlets (Outreach and Education).

VIII. Administrative Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Consider land acquisition, when available.

Lands Proposed for Acquisition:

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

All strategies for this management plan are considered ongoing.

APPENDICES

Public Input Summary:

The draft Barton County Prairies Management Plan was available for a public comment period Feb. 1–28, 2017. The Missouri Department of Conservation received comments from four respondents (Appendix A). The Barton County Prairies 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 Barton County Prairies Management Plan public comment period.

Supports reconstructing diverse prairie vegetation on non-prairie areas.

Planting diverse grass and forb mixes on historic native prairie sites that have been plowed and converted to crops or non-native pastures is and will continue to be a priority management practice that the Department will continue to invest in. The amount of acres converted to these diverse native grassland plantings each year is dictated by the amount of seeds collected in our annual seed harvest on our own prairies and from purchase of local ecotype seed. Annually we convert 40-80+ acres in this District, and will continue to do this into the future. Possible plantings are at PaSole Prairie, Redwing Prairie, and Risch Prairie in current cropped areas.

Supports invasive species control.

Protecting the integrity and diversity of our native grasslands is a priority management objective. Controlling or eradicating invasive species such as sericia lespedeza, teasel, reed canary grass, Johnson grass, and several more by utilizing chemical treatments (spot spraying, boom spraying, and wicking/wiping commonly used) and timely prescribed fires to maintain plant diversity is an important management tool and will continue to be done annually on all priority sites.

Appreciates the Department's efforts to restore prairie chicken populations.

All prairie habitats in this plan are managed to be functioning native prairie systems. We have had prairie chickens utilize these prairies, but have not done any active prairie chicken releases on these areas in the past and currently do not have plans to do so in the near future.

Wonders if there is baseline inventory data and if monitoring has been conducted to evaluate potential degradation of the floral and faunal community.

For areas of high quality native prairie, baseline inventory was completed that evaluated the prairie natural community before or when the area was acquired. This inventory included a complete plant species list as well as documentation of rare/endangered plant species and their

numbers. Each high-quality native prairie area has been evaluated again in recent years as part of the Department's ongoing natural features inventory and natural features inventory updates. Areas of less diverse grassland or non-native vegetation (cool-season grass or crop) have not been inventoried but, through several new programs, the Department is working toward tracking all acres over time.

Wonders if small non-fishing ponds will be managed for wildlife such as amphibians, reptiles, and aquatic invertebrates.

Yes, small seasonally wet depressions and drainages on the areas are known to support a wide diversity of herptiles and the northern crawfish frog, which is a species of conservation concern. The larger ponds found on some areas provide habitat that better suits snakes and turtles.

Concerned that ponds at Dorris Creek CA no longer support a fishable crappie population. Commenter observed fish traps in pond and concerned traps affected crappie populations.

In regards to fish traps being in the ponds, the Department has never set any types of traps or nets in the ponds. We typically conduct electrofishing surveys every three years. Protection has been informed of this violation and will investigate further.

The ponds at Dorris Creek Prairie are not big enough to support a good crappie population. As both black and white crappie are valuable sport fish in larger bodies of water, crappie can cause problems in small impoundments because of generally high reproductive rates and high survival of young. This high recruitment of young crappie into the population will frequently lead to numerous, small, slow-growing crappie. A stunted crappie population also competes for food with bluegill and bass, compromising the quality of these populations. For these reasons, we typically do not recommend crappie in impoundments less than 100 acres in size. A combination of largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish provide the best overall fisheries in these ponds.

Suggests improving disabled user access to Pond 3 at Dorris Creek CA.

Dorris Creek was purchased in 1985 for the purpose of protecting and preserving the native prairie. Though the area has three ponds, and these ponds are managed to provide recreation opportunities, these ponds are not the priority management of the area. Building a disabled access to any of these ponds would include the construction of an all-weather road. Such a road would destroy a portion of native prairie on this area. Currently area staff mows trails from the parking area to the ponds and access points along the perimeter of the ponds to facilitate easier access for fishing. There are nearby disabled fishing opportunities at Shawnee Trail CA, Talbot CA, and Bushwhacker Lake CA with larger lakes that have properly engineered and developed disabled accesses for fishing.

Supports acquiring additional land with native prairie.

Private lands within Barton and Jasper counties that are offered to the Department for acquisition are evaluated for the habitat types present. Native prairie is a rare and declining habitat type and lands that are offered to the Department that have native prairies on them are looked at intensively, vegetation surveys are conducted, and this information along with many other factors are used to determine if the tract will be pursued. Many of the existing conservation areas were purchased due to the intact native prairies on them. The Department is committed to conserve and protect native habitats.

Appreciates the efforts made by the Department to conserve natural spaces.

The Department's mission is to protect and manage the fish, forest, and wildlife resources of the state; to facilitate and provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn about these resources. Thank you for your support!

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.

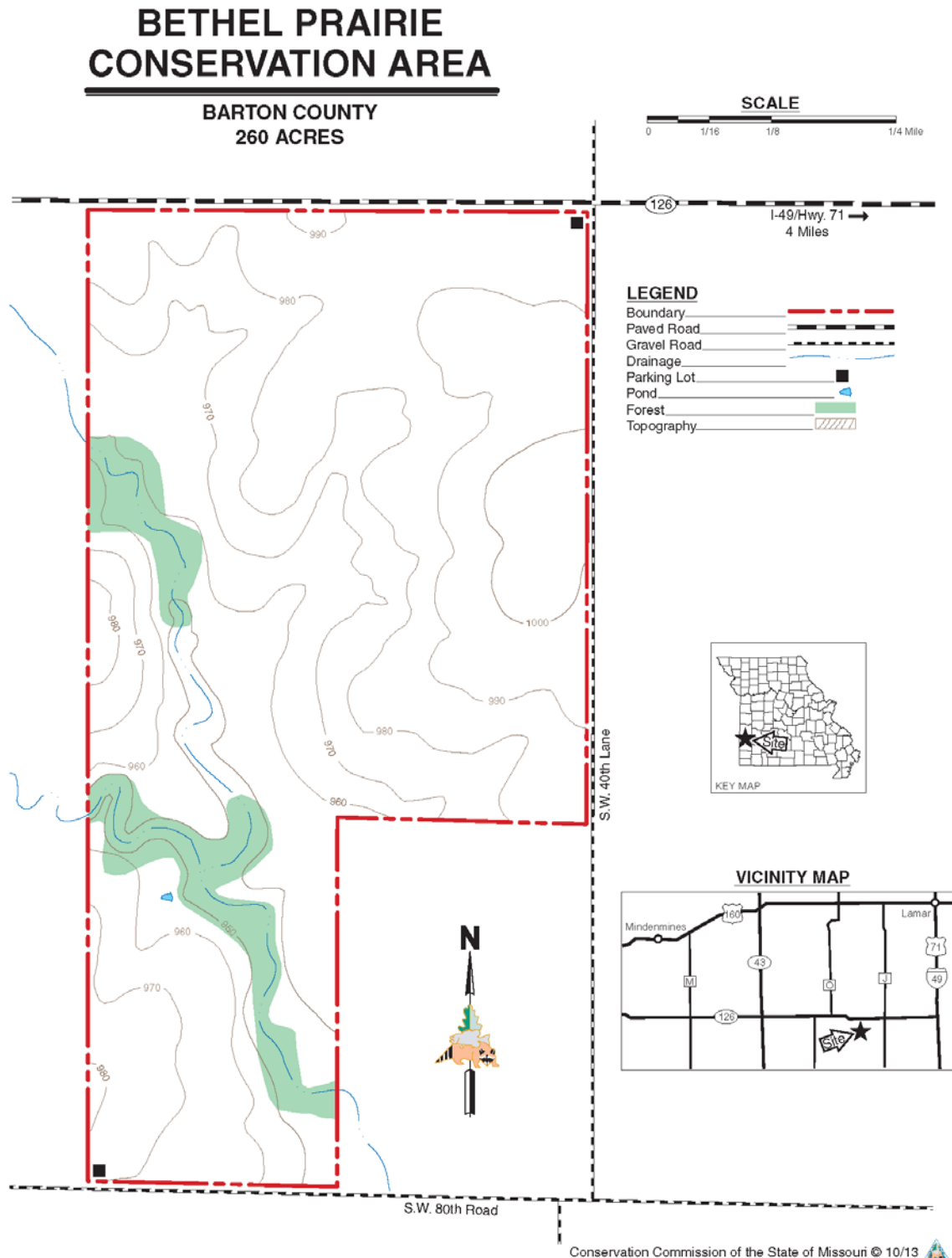
Appendices:

- Appendix 1. Bethel Prairie CA Map
- Appendix 2. Bethel Prairie CA Background
- Appendix 3. Comstock Prairie CA Map
- Appendix 4. Comstock Prairie CA Background
- Appendix 5. Dorris Creek Prairie CA Map
- Appendix 6. Dorris Creek Prairie CA Background
- Appendix 7. Mo-No-I Prairie CA Map
- Appendix 8. Mo-No-I Prairie CA Background
- Appendix 9. Mon-Shon Prairie CA Map
- Appendix 10. Mon-Shon Prairie CA Background
- Appendix 11. Pa Sole Prairie CA Map
- Appendix 12. Pa Sole Prairie CA Background
- Appendix 13. Redwing Prairie CA Map
- Appendix 14. Redwing Prairie CA Pipeline Location
- Appendix 15. Redwing Prairie CA Background
- Appendix 16. Edward B. and Marie O. Risch CA Map
- Appendix 17. Edward B. and Marie O. Risch CA Background
- Appendix 18. Treaty Line Prairie CA Map
- Appendix 19. Treaty Line Prairie CA Background

Additional Appendices:

Appendix A. Barton County Prairies Management Plan Public Comments

Appendix 1. Bethel Prairie CA Map



Appendix 2. Bethel Prairie CA Background

Bethel Prairie Conservation Area (CA) was purchased in 1997 in one complete 260-acre tract. Previous use was annual cow/calf grazing. Though the site was native prairie, fescue was the dominant grass. Cattle were removed upon purchase by the Missouri Department of Conservation (the Department); the site lay fallow and prescribed burns were conducted in following years. Subsequently, herbicide applications were conducted for two years (in late December) and were successful in reducing fescue at the area. Portions of the area were mowed, prescribe burned, hayed, put into a patch-burn grazing rotation for three years (as part of a patch-burn-grazing research project), rested for one year, and grazed for another year. Plant diversity steadily improved over this period. Grazing started again in 2016 with plans to continue through 2020 using a graze-three/rest-two-years rotation. A nearby landowner planted Caucasian bluestem (an exotic warm-season grass) and it has since encroached onto the prairie.

Legal Description: Township 31N, Range 31 West, Section 31

Area Location: Bethel Prairie CA is located in south central Barton County, Missouri on the south side of Highway 126, 1 mile west of Highway J on the west side of SW 40th Lane.

Current Land and Water Types:

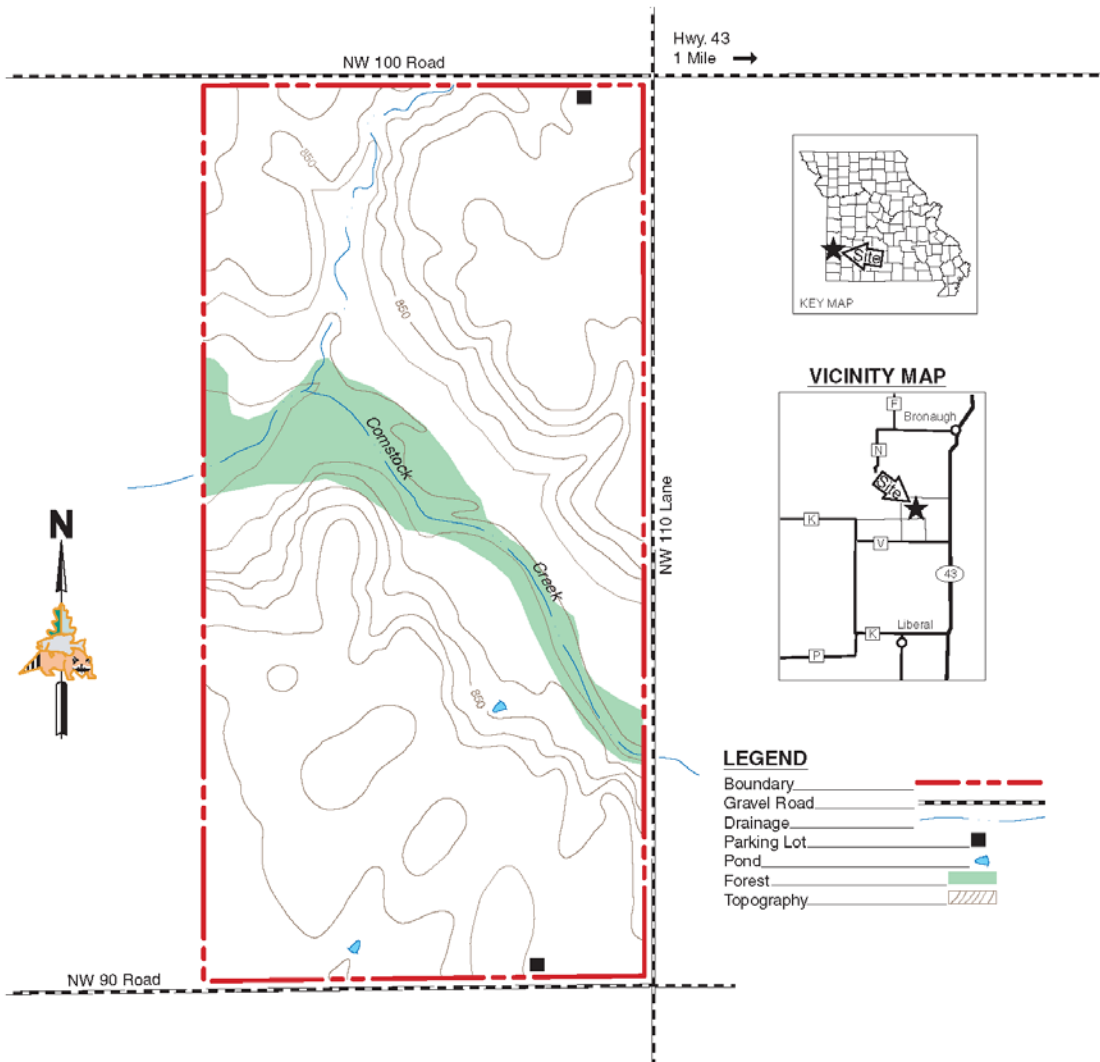
Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Native Prairie	230		88
Woodland	30		12
Ponds	<1		<1
Total	260		100
Stream Frontage		1.1	

Appendix 3. Comstock Prairie CA Map

COMSTOCK PRAIRIE CONSERVATION AREA

BARTON COUNTY
320 ACRES

SCALE



Appendix 4. Comstock Prairie CA Background

Comstock Prairie Conservation Area (CA) is named after the creek that traverses west to east across the central portion of the area. It was purchased by the Department in 1990. This is a 320-acre upland prairie with mature trees along the creek border and shrubby thickets scattered throughout the area.

Legal Description: Township 33N, Range 33 W, Section 1

Area Location: Comstock Prairie CA is in the northwest portion of Barton County along the Barton/Vernon county line. It is on the south side of NW 100th Road, 1 mile west of Highway 43.

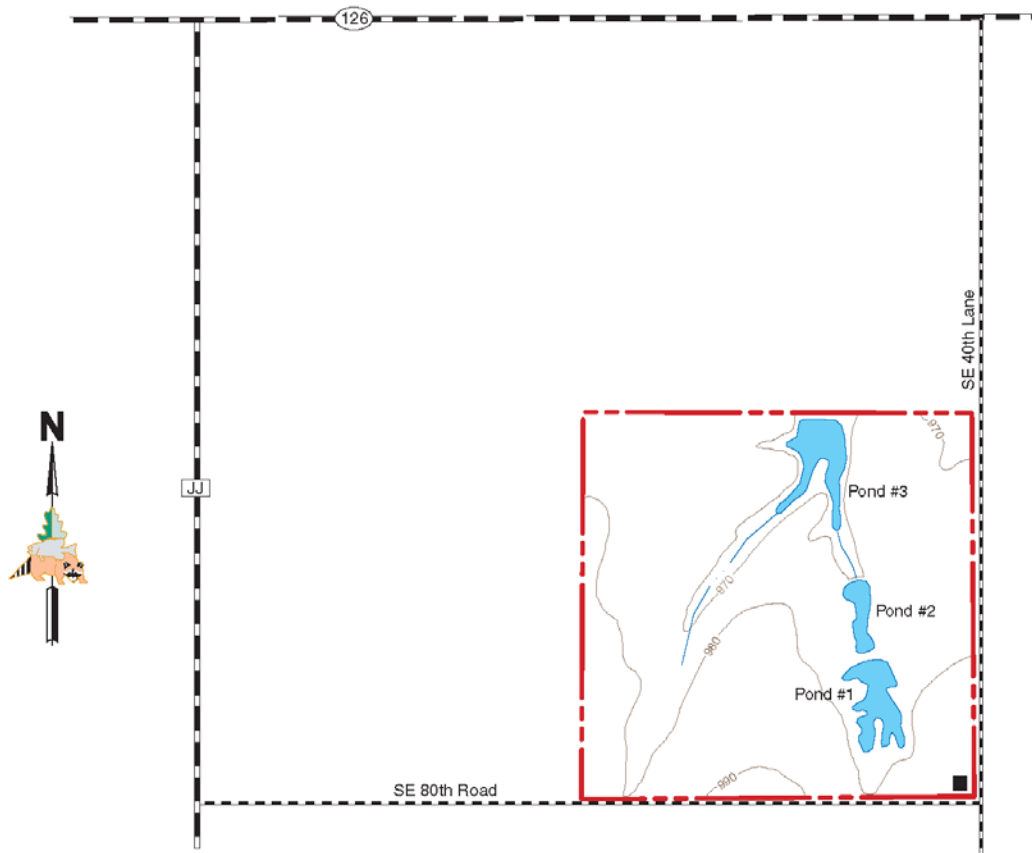
Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Native Prairie	296		93
Woodland	22		7
Ponds	2		<1
Total	320		100
Stream Frontage		1.2	

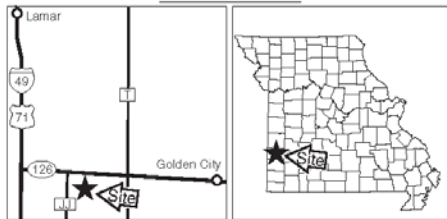
Appendix 5. Dorris Creek Prairie CA Map

DORRIS CREEK PRAIRIE CONSERVATION AREA

BARTON COUNTY
160 ACRES



VICINITY MAP



LEGEND

- Boundary: Red dashed line
- Paved Road: Black dashed line
- Gravel Road: Black solid line
- Drainage: Blue line
- Parking Lot: Black square
- Topography: Brown hatched area

SCALE



Appendix 6. Dorris Creek Prairie CA Background

Dorris Creek Prairie Conservation Area (CA) was purchased in 1984 by The Nature Conservancy. The Department purchased the area from The Nature Conservancy in 1985 as part of the prairie chicken restoration project. The area is named after the Dorris Creek School, which used to be located north of the area. This is a flat prairie with upland soils. There are three ponds (totaling 9.5 acres) located along the east drainage that were constructed prior to Department acquisition for the purpose of rearing catfish.

Legal Description: Township 31 N, Range 30 W, Section 33

Area Location: Dorris Creek Prairie CA is located in southeast Barton County northwest of the intersections of SE 40th Lane and SE 80th Road (0.5 miles south of Highway 126).

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Native Prairie	150		94
Ponds	10		6
Total	160		100
Stream Frontage		0.2	

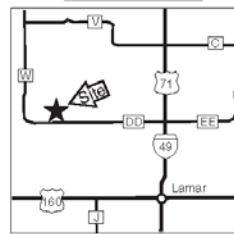
Appendix 7. Mo-No-I Prairie CA Map

MO-NO-I PRAIRIE CONSERVATION AREA

BARTON COUNTY
302 ACRES

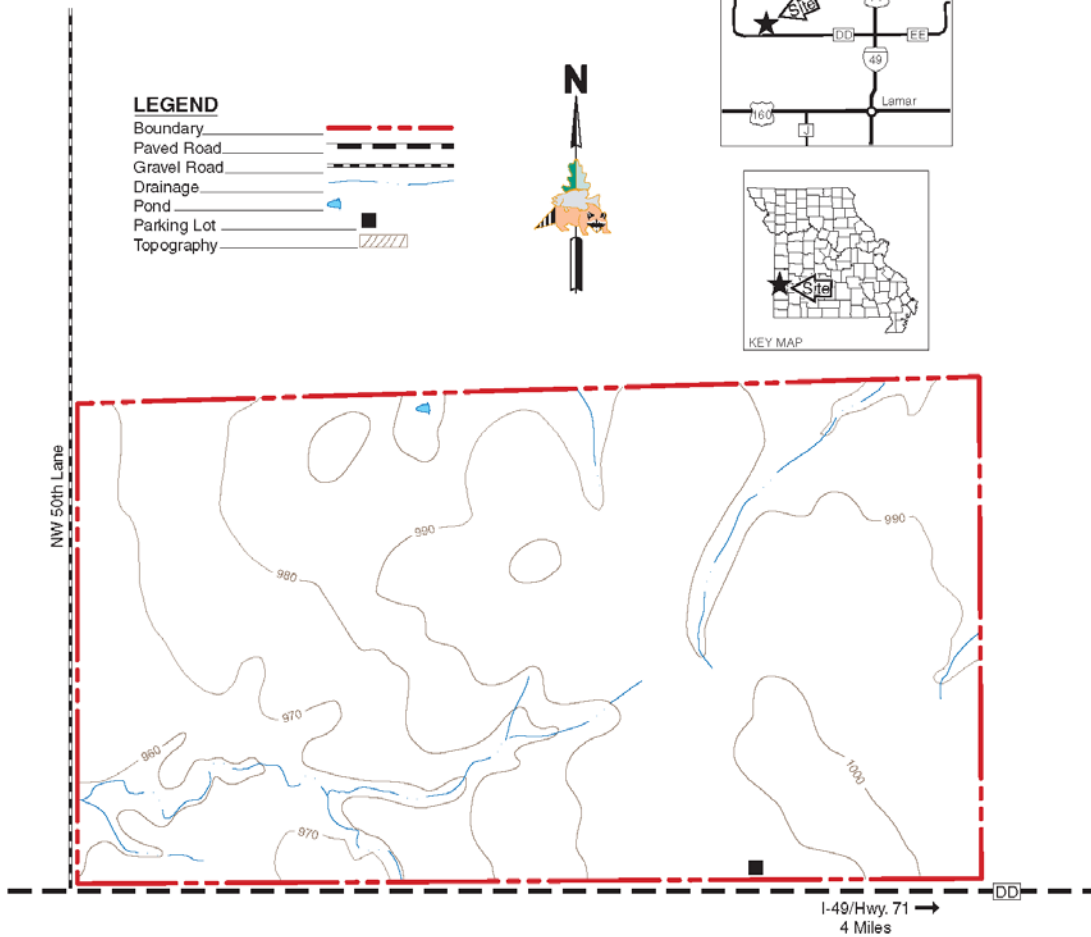


VICINITY MAP



LEGEND

- Boundary
- Paved Road
- Gravel Road
- Drainage
- Pond
- Parking Lot
- Topography



Appendix 8. Mo-No-I Prairie CA Background

Mo-No-I Prairie Conservation Area (CA) is named after the Osage Indian name for “prairie chicken.” This 302-acre prairie was purchased by The Nature Conservancy in 1990, and then later purchased by the Department later that same year. This is a flat to rolling upland prairie. The adjacent 320 acres to the north is in private ownership and is still native prairie, making this one of the few full sections of native prairie in the area.

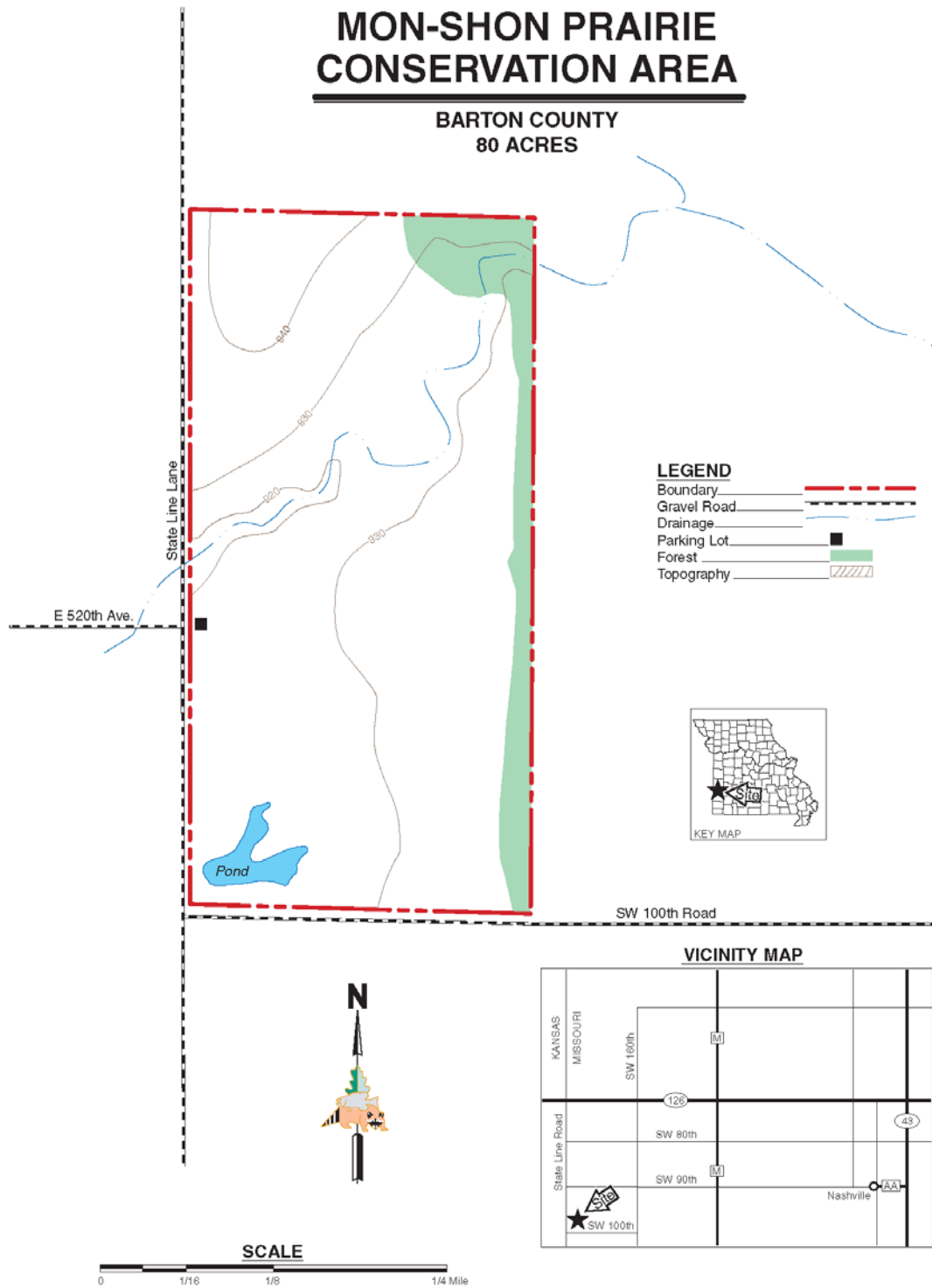
Legal Description: Township 32 N, Range 31 West, Section 6

Area Location: Mo-No- I Prairie CA is located in central Barton County northeast of the intersection of Highway DD and on the east side of NW 50th Lane. It is located approximately 2 miles northeast of Iantha, Missouri.

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Native Prairie	302		100
Ponds	<1		<1
Total	302		100
Stream Frontage		1.1	

Appendix 9. Mon-Shon Prairie CA Map



Appendix 10. Mon-Shon Prairie CA Background

Mon-Shon Prairie Conservation Area (CA) is named after the Osage term meaning “sacred earth.” This prairie was purchased by The Nature Conservancy in 1987 and then in 1988 by the Department. This is a flat upland prairie with a shrubby drainage that travels southwest from the northwest corner of the area, with a small pond in the southwest corner.

Legal Description: Township 30N, Range 33 W, Section 7

Area Location: Mon-Shon Prairie CA is located in the southwestern most corner of Barton County along the Kansas/Missouri state line and the Barton/Jasper county line. It is northeast of the intersection of SW State Line Road and SW 100th Road (3.25 miles west of Highway M).

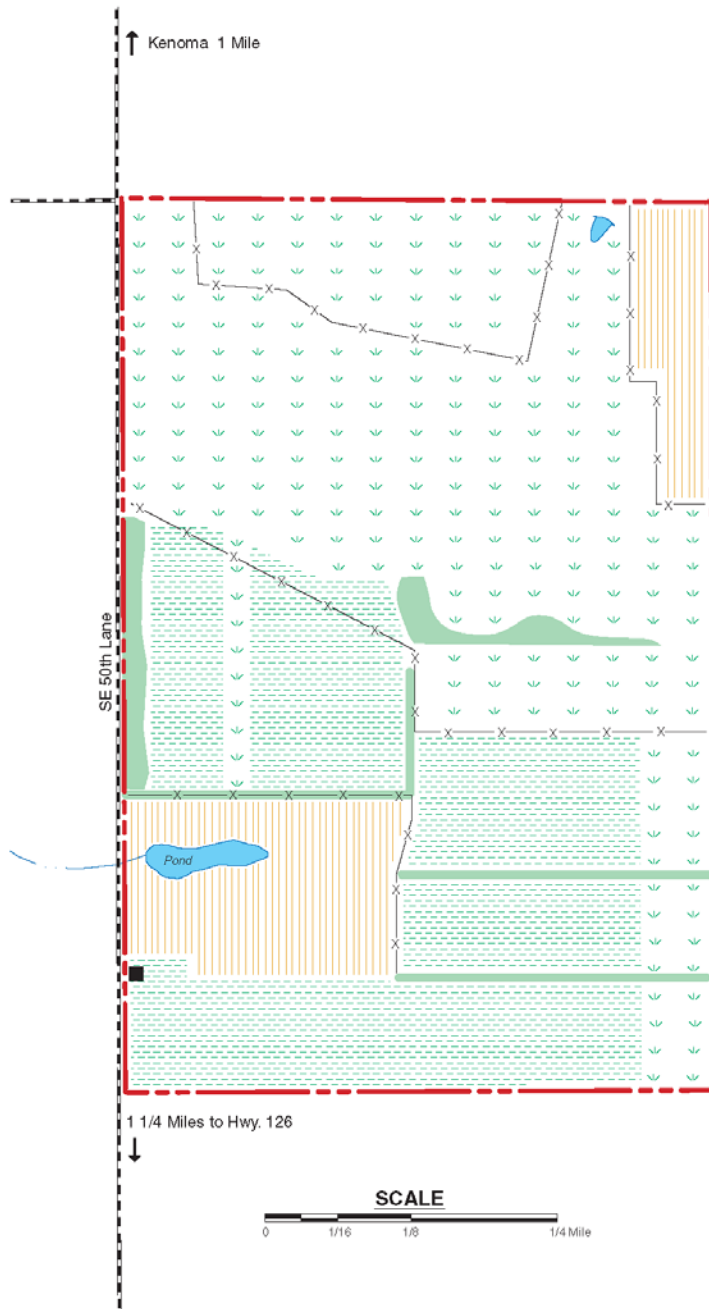
Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Native Prairie	76		95
Woodland	3		4
Ponds	1		1
Total	80		100
Stream Frontage		0.5	

Appendix 11. Pa Sole Prairie CA Map

PA SOLE PRAIRIE CONSERVATION AREA

BARTON COUNTY
240 ACRES



LEGEND

- Boundary
- Gravel Road
- Fence
- Drainage
- Parking Lot
- Pond
- Crops
- Prairie
- Shrubs
- Old Field



VICINITY MAP



SCALE



Appendix 12. Pa Sole Prairie CA Background

Pa Sole Prairie Conservation Area (CA) is named after the Osage term meaning “settlers on the hilltops,” for the hill on the north end of this area. This area was purchased in 1991 by the Department. The mound area of this prairie has outcroppings of sandstone while the low areas are often wet and have deep soils. The southern portion of the area has crop areas and plantings of native warm-season grasses. Conservation grazing started again in 2016 with plans to continue through 2020 using a graze-three/rest-two-year rotation. There are two small ponds on the area.

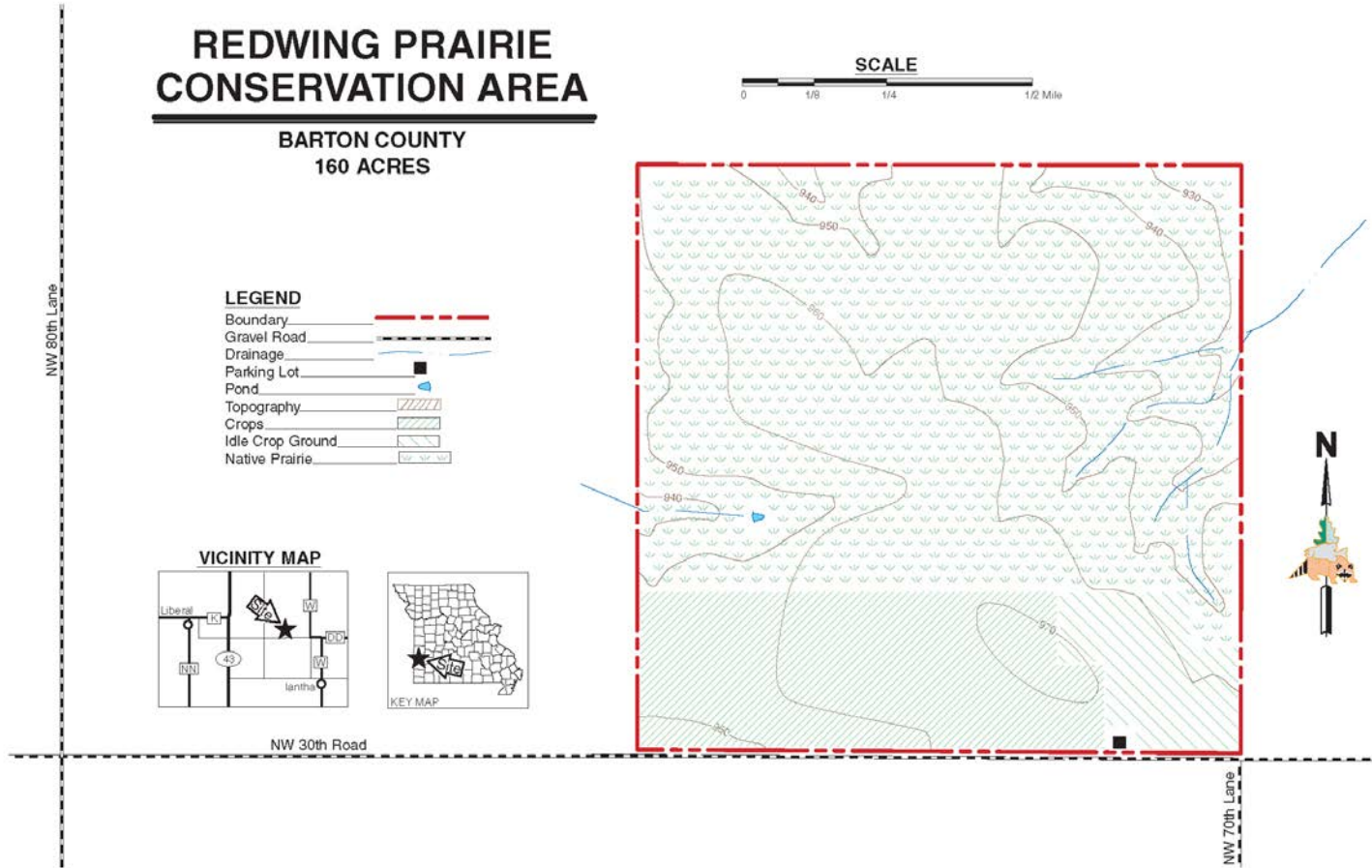
Legal Description: Township 31 N, Range 30 West, Section 23

Area Location: Pa Sole Prairie CA is located in the southeast portion of Barton County, southeast of the intersection of SE 50th Lane and SE 50th Road (1.25 miles north of Highway 126).

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Native Prairie	85		35
Crop	76		32
Planted Grasslands (Native Warm-Season Grass)	49		20
Old Field	29		12
Ponds	1		<1
Total	240		100
Stream Frontage		0	

Appendix 13. Redwing Prairie CA Map



Appendix 14. Redwing Prairie CA Pipeline Location

Redwing Pipeline Easement



Appendix 15. Redwing Prairie CA Background

Redwing Prairie Conservation Area (CA) was named for the large concentration of redwing blackbirds that were observed around the pond area. This 160-acre area was purchased in 1987 by the Department. This upland prairie is flat with a few shallow drainages on the area. There is a pond and cropland on the south side. An underground gas pipeline traverses the area from the west side to the northeast (see Appendix 14), Magellan Pipeline Company, Tulsa, Oklahoma).

Legal Description: Township 32 N, Range 32 W, Section 3.

Area Location: Redwing Prairie CA is located in the west central portion of Barton County, northwest of the intersection of NW 70th Lane and NW 30th Road (2.5 miles west of Highway 43).

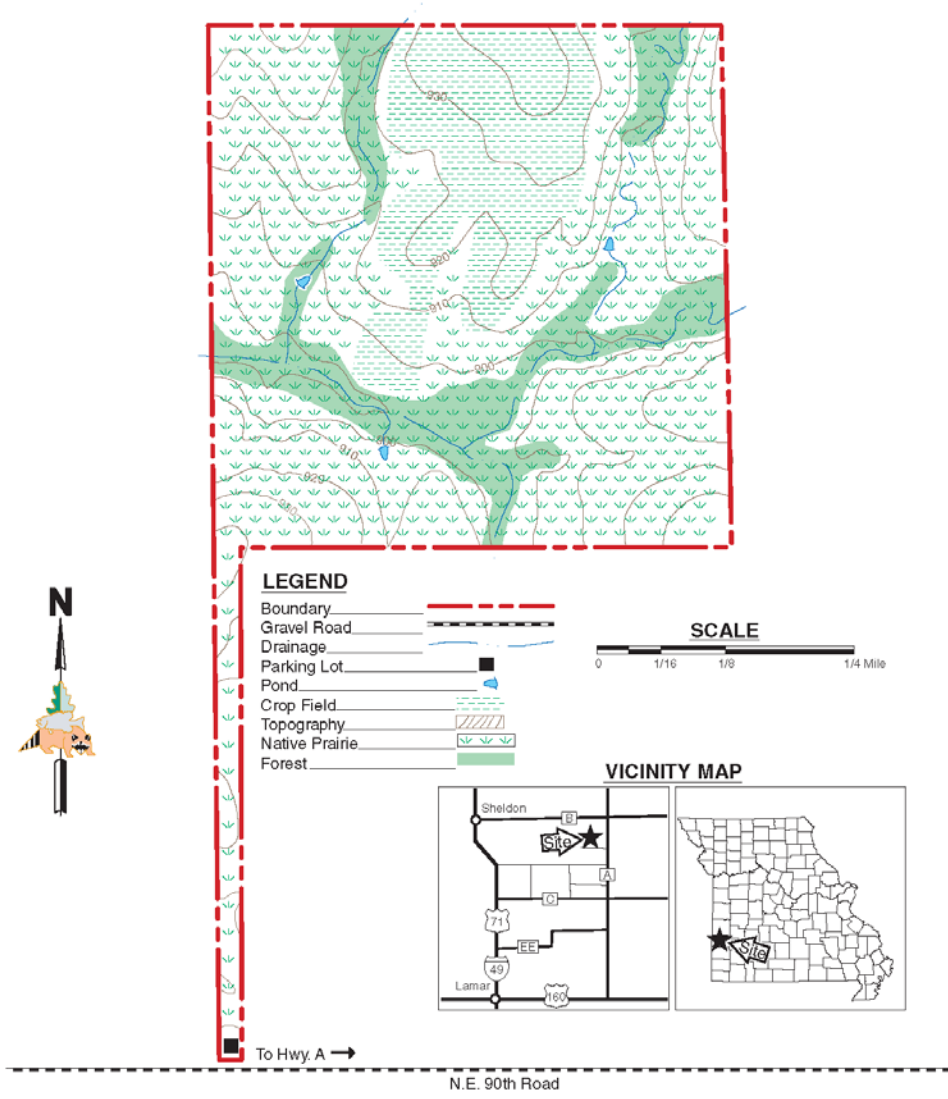
Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Native Prairie	116		73
Crop	34		21
Old Field	9		6
Ponds	<1		<1
Total	160		100
Stream Frontage		0.1	

Appendix 16. Edward B. and Marie O. Risch CA Map

EDWARD B. AND MARIE O. RISCH CONSERVATION AREA

BARTON COUNTY
162 ACRES



Appendix 17. Edward B. and Marie O. Risch CA Background

The Edward B. and Marie O. Risch Conservation Area (CA) prairie site was donated to the Missouri Department of Conservation in 1986 and is named after the donors of the area. This area is a rolling to hilly upland prairie with a branch of the Clear Creek traversing the area. There are two ponds on the area and one crop field on the area.

Legal Description: Township 33N, Range 30W, Section 4

Area Location: Edward B. and Marie O. Risch CA is located in the northeast portion of Barton County along the Barton/Vernon county line. The access to this area is on NE 90th Road, 1.5 miles west of Highway A.

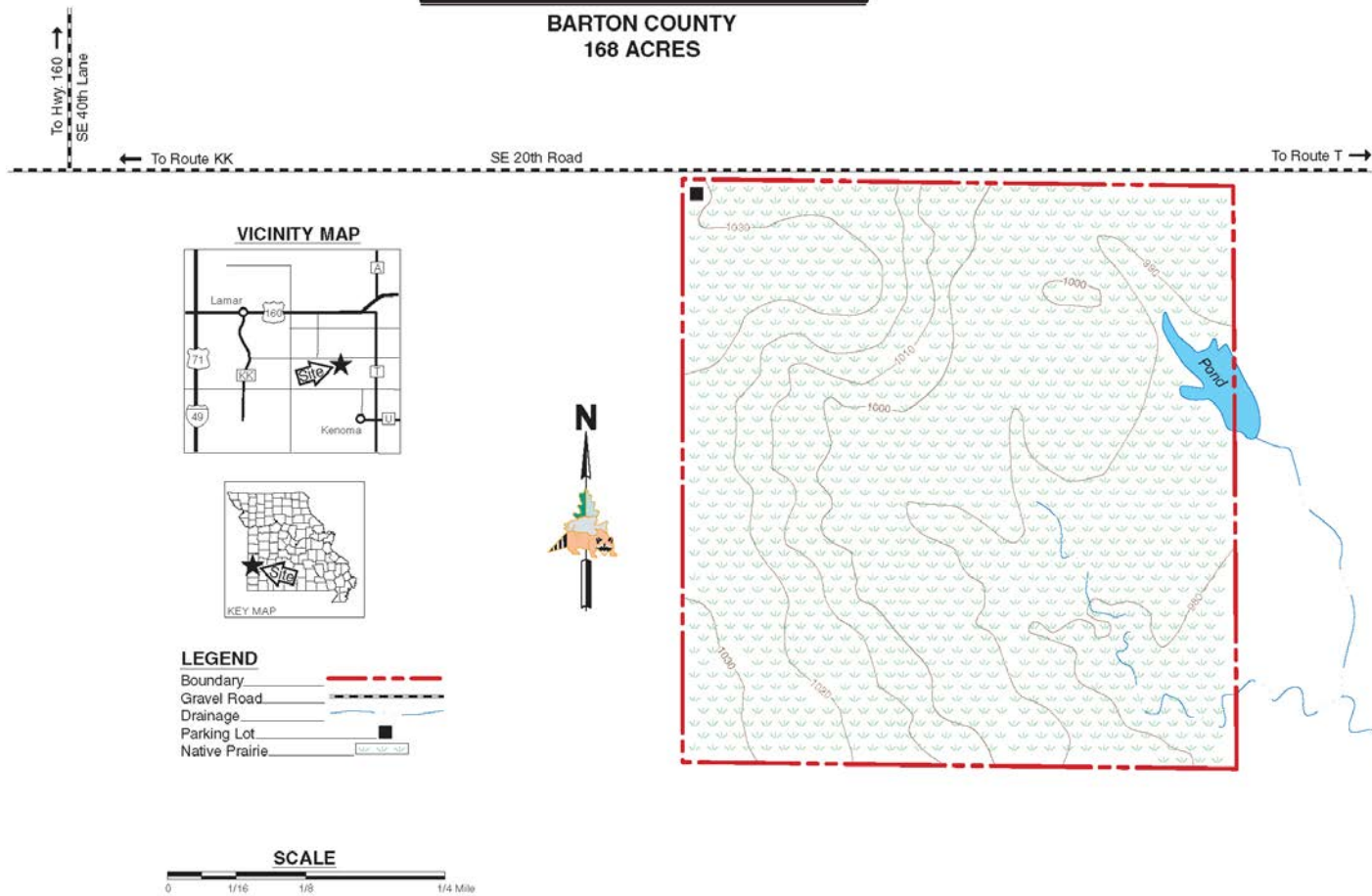
Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Native Prairie	132		81
Crop	29		18
Ponds	1		<1
Total	162		100
Stream Frontage		1.6	

Appendix 18. Treaty Line Prairie CA Map

TREATY LINE PRAIRIE CONSERVATION AREA

BARTON COUNTY
168 ACRES



Appendix 19. Treaty Line Prairie CA Background

Treaty Line Prairie Conservation Area (CA) is named after the treaty of 1808, in which the Osage Indians ceded all lands east of the line from Fort Osage to Fort Smith Arkansas. The Department purchased this prairie in 1988. This rolling upland prairie has a shrubby drainage that traverses the area and there is a pond on the east boundary of the area.

Legal Description: Township 31N, Range 30W, Section 3

Area Location: Treaty Line Prairie CA is located in the southeast portion of Barton County along SE 20th Road 1 mile west of Highway T.

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Native Prairie	168		100
Ponds	<1		<1
Total	168		100
Stream Frontage		0.4	

Appendix A. Barton County Prairies Management Plan Public Comments

Received during public comment period (Feb. 1-28, 2017):

<p>This is great, as a lifelong Missouri resident I've always appreciated the care and planning that goes in to making our natural spaces last forever. Thank you for continuing your efforts on behalf of mine and future generations. Cheers.</p>
<p>dorris creek needs a handicapped access to pond 3 long walk from parking lot to pond 3</p>
<p>for years I have went to dorris creek and caught all the cappie I could have just over a year ago I found fish traps in the pond now you can not catch a fish where they your traps.</p>
<p>I own 200 A just east of Mo-No-I conservation area. This with the half section north represent a beautiful sq mile of prairie. This fall I had a pair of Prarie chickens on the west portion of my property that a saw on several occasions. Theses were the first ones I have since since I have had this farm (10 years). I was very excited to see this. I appreciate the work you have done to get rid of the trees the hawks use to wait to hunt the chickens. I am so glad this section has been protected. I hope st some point the north half of the section is obtained by the conservation dept. I am happy to work with your staff in management concerns of my adjoining property. Keep up the good work.</p>
<p>(Emailed comment received 3/14/17): Comments from the Missouri Prairie Foundation on Barton County Prairie Management Plan Submitted 13 March 2017 We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the management of MDC's prairies in Barton County. Your 'Statements of Purpose' highlighting diverse suites of prairie flora and fauna, and functioning native prairie communities are excellent. Terrestrial Management Considerations, objectives and strategies are well thought out and complete. We like the ideas reconstructing diverse prairie vegetation on non-prairie areas, the emphasis on controlling invasive and exotic species, working with adjoining landowners and controlling invasive species on adjoining road right of ways, and maintaining vegetative diversity and habitat for grassland-dependent animals. It is especially encouraging that under considerations it states that preventing degradation of the system is a priority. We do have a question on what kinds of baseline inventory data is available, and what monitoring will be done to evaluate if there is any degradation of the floral and faunal community? Aquatic Resource Management Considerations look good. It is good to see the emphasis on the headwater prairie streams given their extreme rarity. We do have a question about the small, non-fishing ponds, and if they will be managed for wildlife like herps and aquatic invertebrates? And finally, for land acquisition we would like to encourage that if adjoining lands with native prairie become available from a willing seller, that the tract would be considered for acquisition. Thank you very much for this opportunity and all the effort and thought used to develop it.</p>