Hawn and Old Plantation Accesses

Fifteen-Year Area Management Plan FY 2018-2032



Wildlife Division Chief

22 FEB 2018

Date

Hawn and Old Plantation Accesses Management Plan Approval Page

PLANNING TEAM

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SOUTHEAST REGION

RCT Chair

WILDLIFE DIVISION

Wildlife Management Chief

Signature 1-29-2018
Date

Joel W. Poruth 2/13/2018
Signature Date

OVERVIEW

| Area Name | Area | Year | Acreage | County | Administrative | Maintenance |
|----------------|--------|----------|---------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| | Number | Acquired | | | Responsibility | Responsibility |
| Hawn Access | 8124 | 1981 | 81 | Bollinger | Wildlife | Wildlife |
| Old Plantation | 8504 | 1985 | 70 | Cape | Wildlife | Wildlife |
| Access | | | | Girardeau | | |

Statements of Purpose:

A. Strategic Direction

Provide stream access to Crooked Creek and Whitewater River while maintaining appropriate riparian corridors. These accesses also contain quality wildlife habitat that is managed to provide a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities.

B. Desired Future Condition

The desired future condition of these accesses is to provide bank access while maintaining appropriate riparian corridors along the Crooked Creek and Whitewater River.

C. Federal Aid Statement

N/A

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

I. Special Considerations

| Area Name | Priority Areas | Natural Areas | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------|--|
| Hawn Access | Crooked Creek Fisheries Priority Watershed | None | |
| Old Plantation Access | Whitewater Fisheries Priority Watershed | None | |

II. Important Natural Features and Resources

| Area Name | Species of Conservation Concern | Caves | Springs | Other |
|-----------------------|--|-------|---------|------------------|
| Hawn Access | None observed | None | None | Yes^2 |
| Old Plantation Access | Yes ¹ | None | None | Yes ³ |

¹Species 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.

²Hawn Access occurs in the Black River Ozark Border Subsection within the West Bollinger Oak-Pine Woodland/Forest Hills Landtype Association. This landtype association consists of moderately dissected hills lying partly in the headwaters of the Whitewater River watershed and partly in the Castor River watershed. Today, pasture is the dominate land use on uplands and alluvial bottoms, while the numerous ravines are still timbered with much less pine than was historically present (Nigh & Schroeder, 2002).

³Old Plantation Access occurs in the Inner Ozark Border Subsection within the East Bollinger Oak Woodland/Forest Hills Landtype Association. This landtype association consists of broad,

rolling uplands that give way to strongly sloping lands near streams with board valleys. Today, valley bottoms and broad ridges are mainly in pasture with occasional cropland with the balance in second-growth oak timber on rougher lands (Nigh & Schroeder, 2002).

III. Existing Infrastructure

| Area Name | Parking Lots | Other |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Hawn Access | 1 | None |
| Old Plantation Access | 2 | Yes ¹ |

¹Area to carry in and launch small canoes and boats. No concrete or gravel boat ramp.

IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations

| Area Name | Deed | Federal | Easements | Cultural | Endangered | Boundary |
|----------------|--------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------|
| | Restrictions | Interest | | Resources | Species | Issues |
| Hawn Access | None | Yes ¹ | None | None | None | None |
| | | | | known | observed | |
| Old Plantation | None | Yes ¹ | None | None | None | None |
| Access | | | | known | observed | |

¹Federal 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.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Monitor invasive species.
- 2) Maintain adequate riparian corridors.

Management Objective 1: Manage open land fields.

Strategy 1: Manage open lands in a mixture of crops, food plots, idled acres, and legume fields. (Wildlife)

Strategy 2: Reduce acres of open land and allow reforestation of those areas. (Wildlife, Forestry)

Management Objective 2: Monitor invasive species in open land and forested habitats.

Strategy 1: Monitor area for invasive species and treat as needed, using biological, mechanical, and chemical methods. (Wildlife)

Management Objective 3: Establish and maintain a riparian corridor of trees along all stream drainages.

Strategy 1: Plant bottomland tree species along streams, where needed, to widen the existing riparian corridor to a more functional and protective width. Establish a minimum riparian corridor width of 50 feet on first- and second-order streams and a minimum riparian corridor width of 100 feet on all other streams. (Wildlife, Forestry)

VI. Aquatic Resources Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

1) Prevent excessive stream bank erosion.

Management Objective 1: Reduce occurrences of bank erosion.

Strategy 1: Evaluate riparian corridors and widen with tree plantings when necessary. (Wildlife, Fisheries)

Strategy 2: Monitor conditions of stream banks and consult with Fisheries and/or Stream Unit staffs for solutions to bank erosion issues. (Wildlife, Fisheries)

VII. Public Use Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Provide for safe public stream access to Crooked Creek and Whitewater River.
- 2) Provide for hunting and recreational opportunities.
- 3) Deter illicit public use of the area, such as littering, all-terrain vehicle trespass, horseback riding, vandalism, etc.

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. (Wildlife)

Management Objective 2: Provide area users diverse recreational opportunities on the area that are consistent with defined management objectives and sensitive to the natural communities and features of the area.

Strategy 1: Maintain accurate area information and regulations through the Atlas database, area brochures, posted information, and staff contacts with area users. (Wildlife)

Strategy 2: Maintain parking lots, bulletin boards, boundary lines, and service roads to promote a presentable appearance for area users. (Wildlife)

Strategy 3: Promote compatible safe uses of hunting, fishing, birding, hiking, and nature photography. (Wildlife)

Management Objective 3: Deter illicit public use of the area.

Strategy 1: Use county conservation agents to enforce area rules and regulations and deter any illicit public uses on the area, e.g., littering, all-terrain vehicle trespass, horseback riding, vandalism, etc. (Wildlife, Protection)

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 Hawn and Old Plantation Accesses Management Plan was available for a public comment period March 1–31, 2017. The Missouri Department of Conservation received comments from one respondent (Appendix A). The Hawn and Old Plantation Accesses 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.

<u>Department responses to themes and issues identified through the Hawn and Old Plantation Accesses Management Plan public comment period.</u>

Supports the existing area use restrictions for firearms and vehicles at Hawn Access.

This goes along with current regulations, and there are currently no intentions to change this regulation. Thanks!

References:

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

Appendices:

Appendix 1. Area Background of Hawn Access

Appendix 2. Area Map of Hawn Access

Appendix 3. Aerial Map of Hawn Access

Appendix 4. Topographic Map of Hawn Access

Appendix 5. Current Vegetation Map of Hawn Access

Appendix 6. Area Background of Old Plantation Access

Appendix 7. Area Map of Old Plantation Access

Appendix 8. Aerial Map of Old Plantation Access

Appendix 9. Topographic Map of Old Plantation Access

Appendix 10. Current Vegetation Map of Old Plantation Access

Additional Appendices:

Appendix A. Hawn and Old Plantation Accesses Management Plan Public Comments

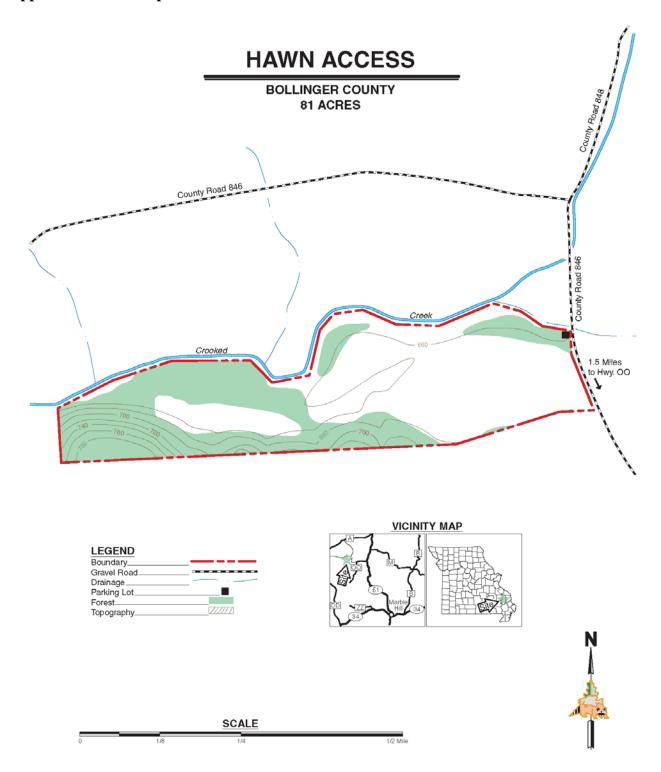
Appendix 1. Area Background of Hawn Access

Hawn Access is located in west central Bollinger County, about 10 miles northwest of Marble Hill. It lies adjacent to Bollinger County Road 846. Hawn Access was established in 1981 when Missouri Department of Conservation funds were used to purchase the land from a willing seller. The area provides access to the upper Crooked Creek along with protection of the riparian corridor.

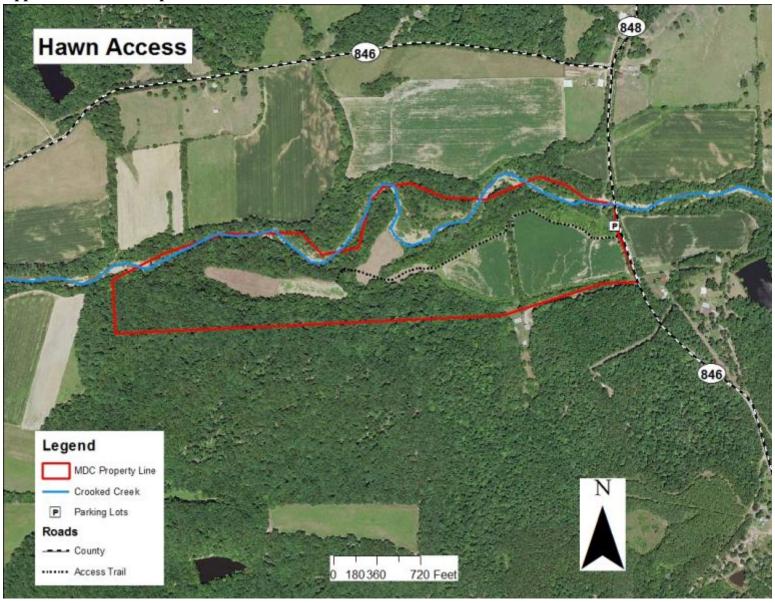
Current Land and Water Types:

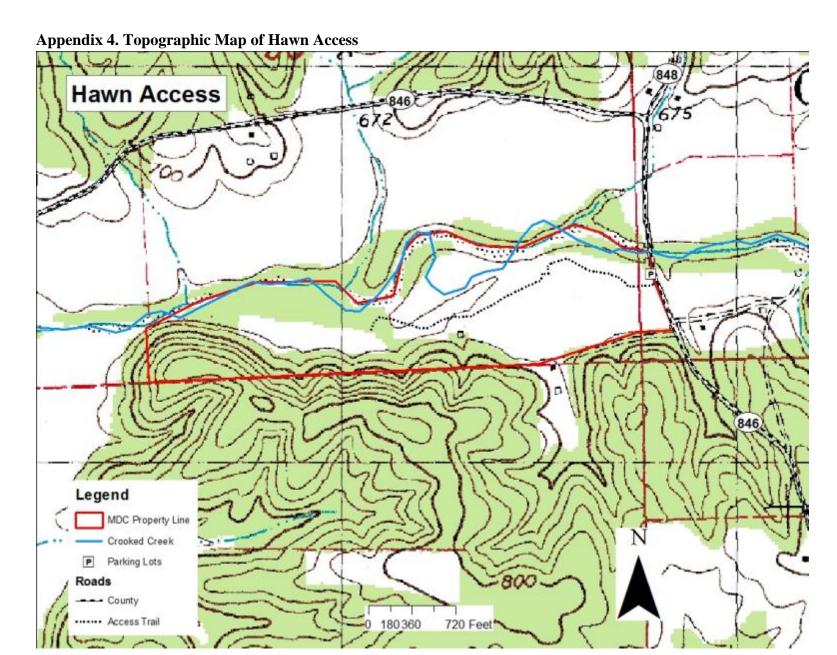
| Land/Water Type | Acres | Miles | % of Area |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Forest | 56 | | 69 |
| Open Land/ Food Plot | 21 | | 26 |
| Open Water | 4 | | 5 |
| Total | 81 | | 100 |
| Stream Frontage – Crooked Creek | | 1.1 | |

Appendix 2. Area Map of Hawn Access

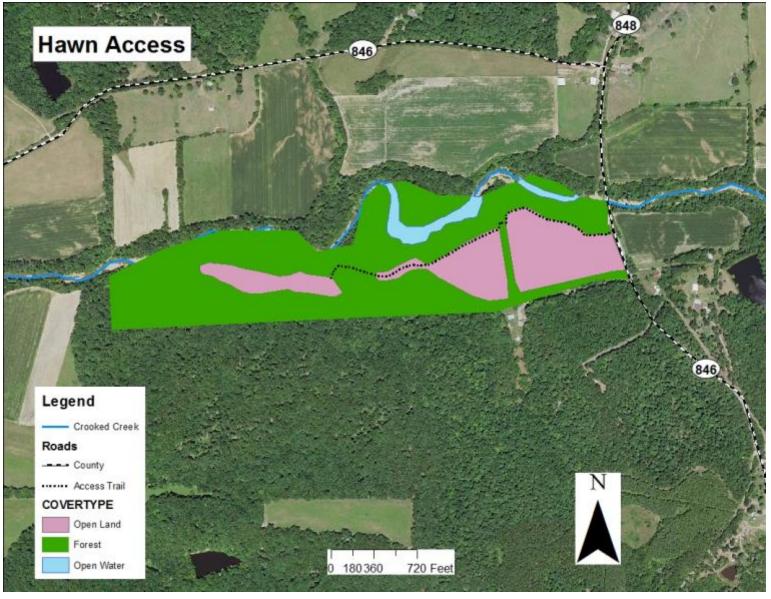


Appendix 3. Aerial Map of Hawn Access





Appendix 5. Current Vegetation of Hawn Access



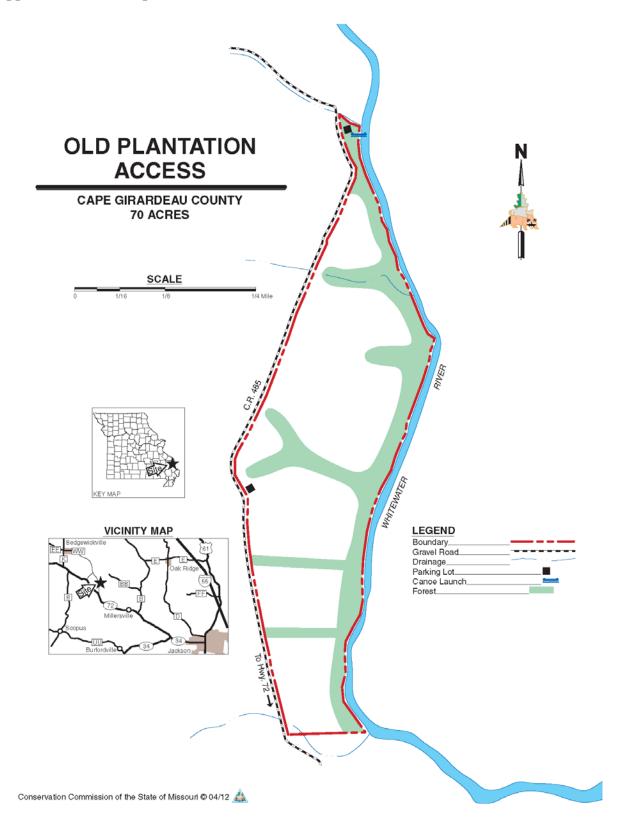
Appendix 6. Area Background of Old Plantation Access

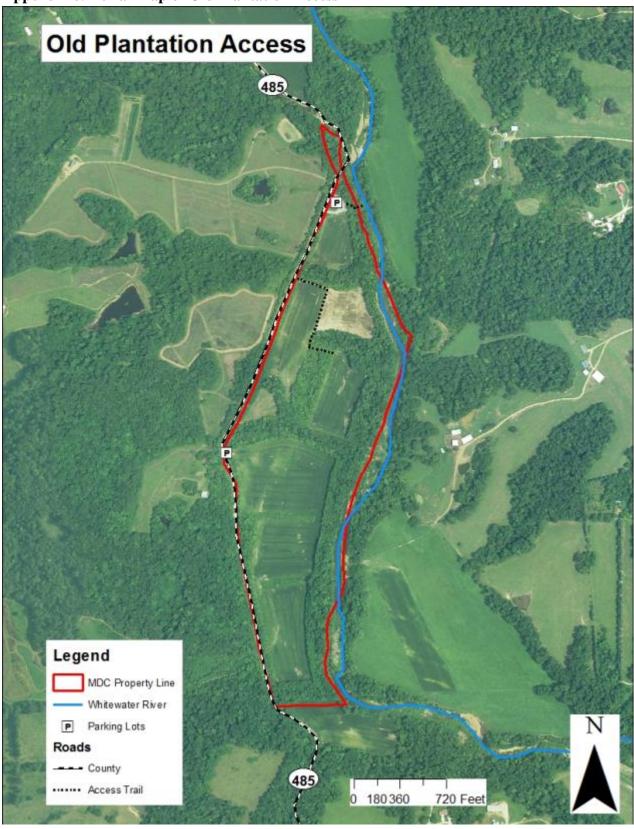
Old Plantation Access is located in west central Cape Girardeau County, about 4 miles northwest of Millersville. It lies adjacent to Cape County Road 485. Old Plantation Access was established in 1985 when Department funds were used to purchase the land from willing sellers. The area provides access to the upper Whitewater River along with protection of the riparian corridor.

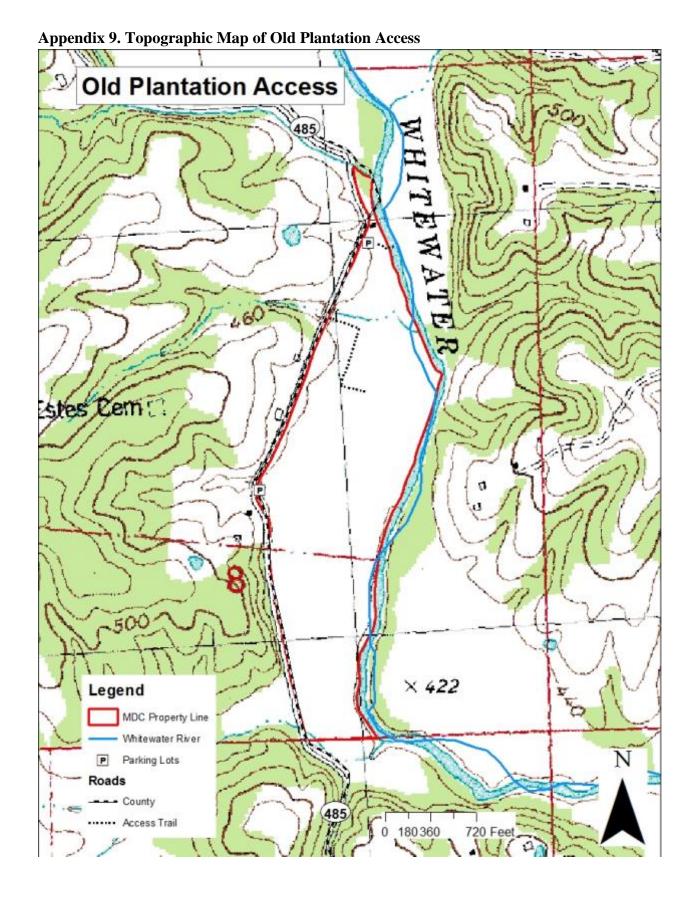
Current Land and Water Types:

| Land/Water Type | Acres | Miles | % of Area |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Open Land/ Food Plot | 36 | | 51 |
| Forest | 31 | | 44 |
| Old Field | 2.5 | | 4 |
| Infrastructure | 0.5 | | 1 |
| Total | 70 | | 100 |
| Stream Frontage – Whitewater River | | 0.9 | |

Appendix 7. Area Map of Old Plantation Access







Appendix 10. Current Vegetation of Old Plantation Access Old Plantation Access Legend - Whitewater River Roads --- County ····· Access Trail COVERTYPE Open Land Forest Infrastructure

0 175350

700 Feet

Old Field

Appendix A. Hawn and Old Plantation Accesses Management Plan Public Comments

Received during public comment period (March 1–31, 2017):

Please keep the existing use restrictions with respect to firearms and vehicles in place on the Hawn area.