



“All Wildlife” Conservation in Missouri

Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy



The Missouri Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy is not a compilation of species plans.....

..... a process for conservation planning and implementation that makes habitats that support species of greatest conservation need a high priority.

- 1 - Identify priority geographies
- 2 - Integrate conservation initiatives
- 3 - Promote conservation partnerships to increase conservation action



forests



woodlands



savannas



prairies



glades

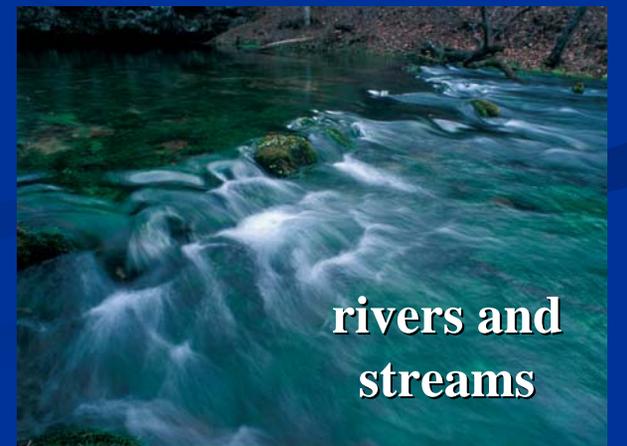


wetlands



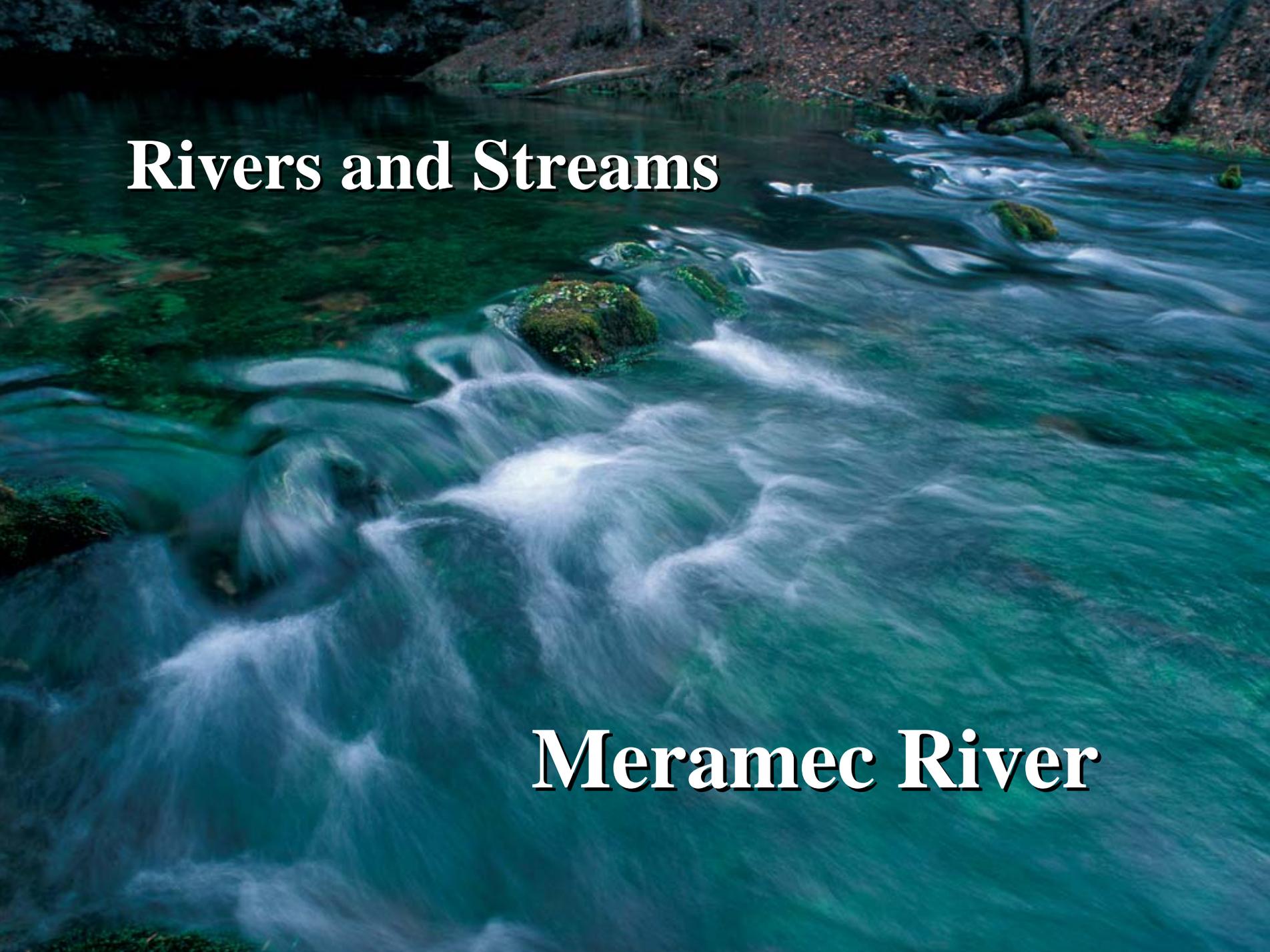
caves

Habitats of Missouri



**rivers and
streams**

The emphasis of our CWS is functioning habitats, natural communities and restored habitats, and healthy landscapes.



Rivers and Streams

Meramec River







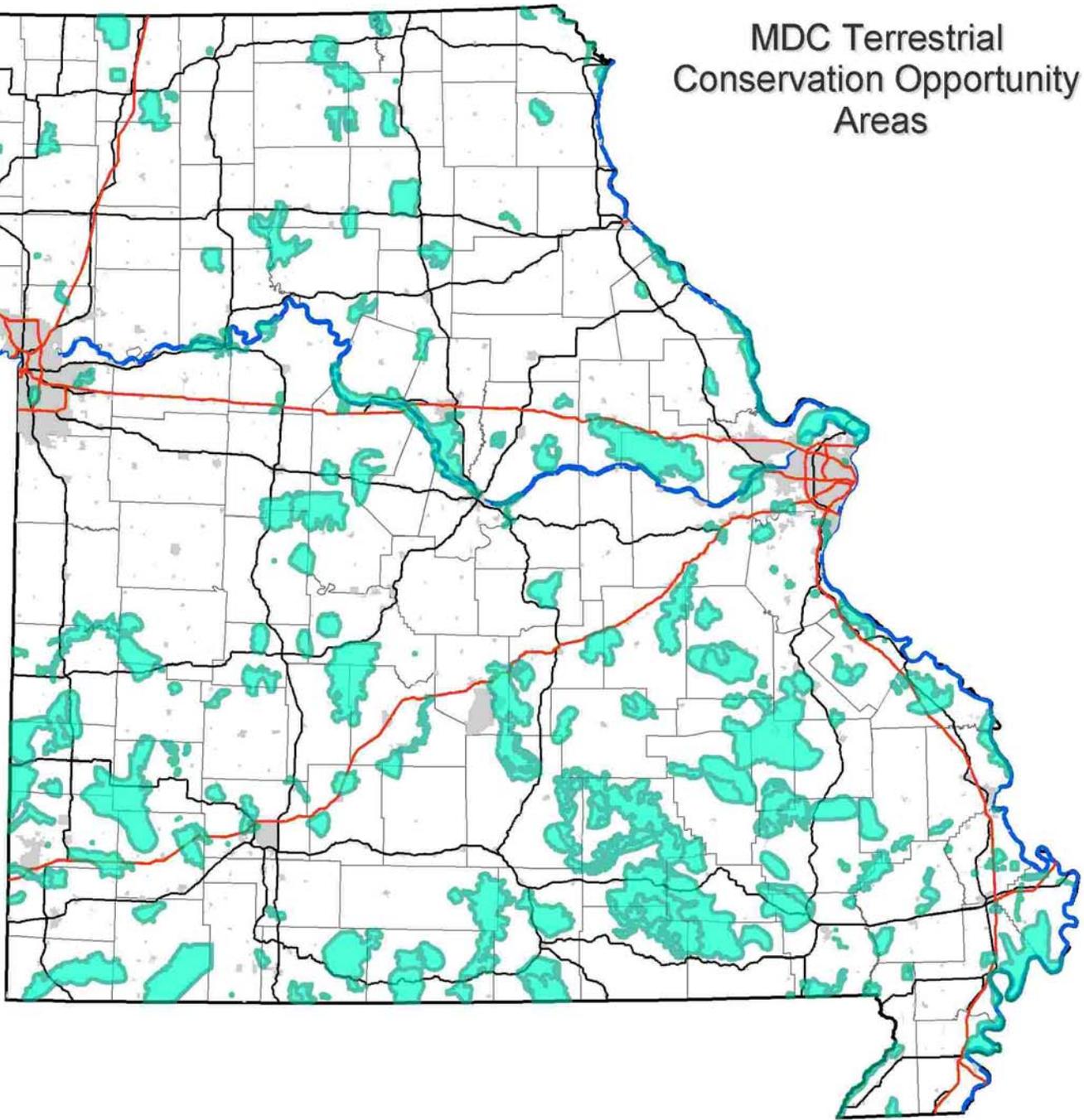


The Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy for Missouri is an approach to conservation planning and implementation that uses **ecologically-based assessments and existing plans** to integrate conservation action for all wildlife.

MDC Terrestrial Conservation Opportunity Areas



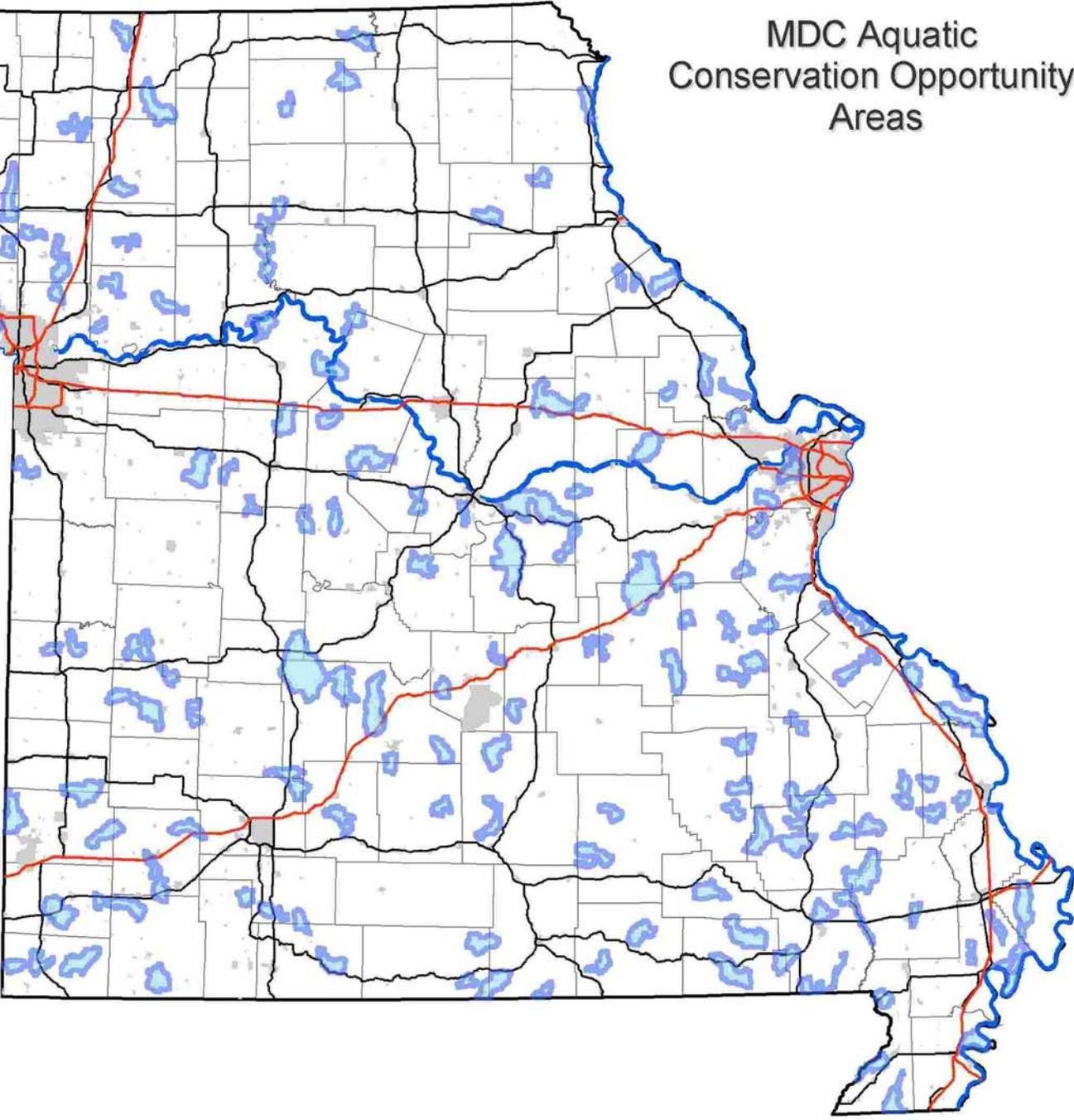
-  Interstate
-  US Highway
-  Big Rivers
-  Cities



MDC Aquatic Conservation Opportunity Areas

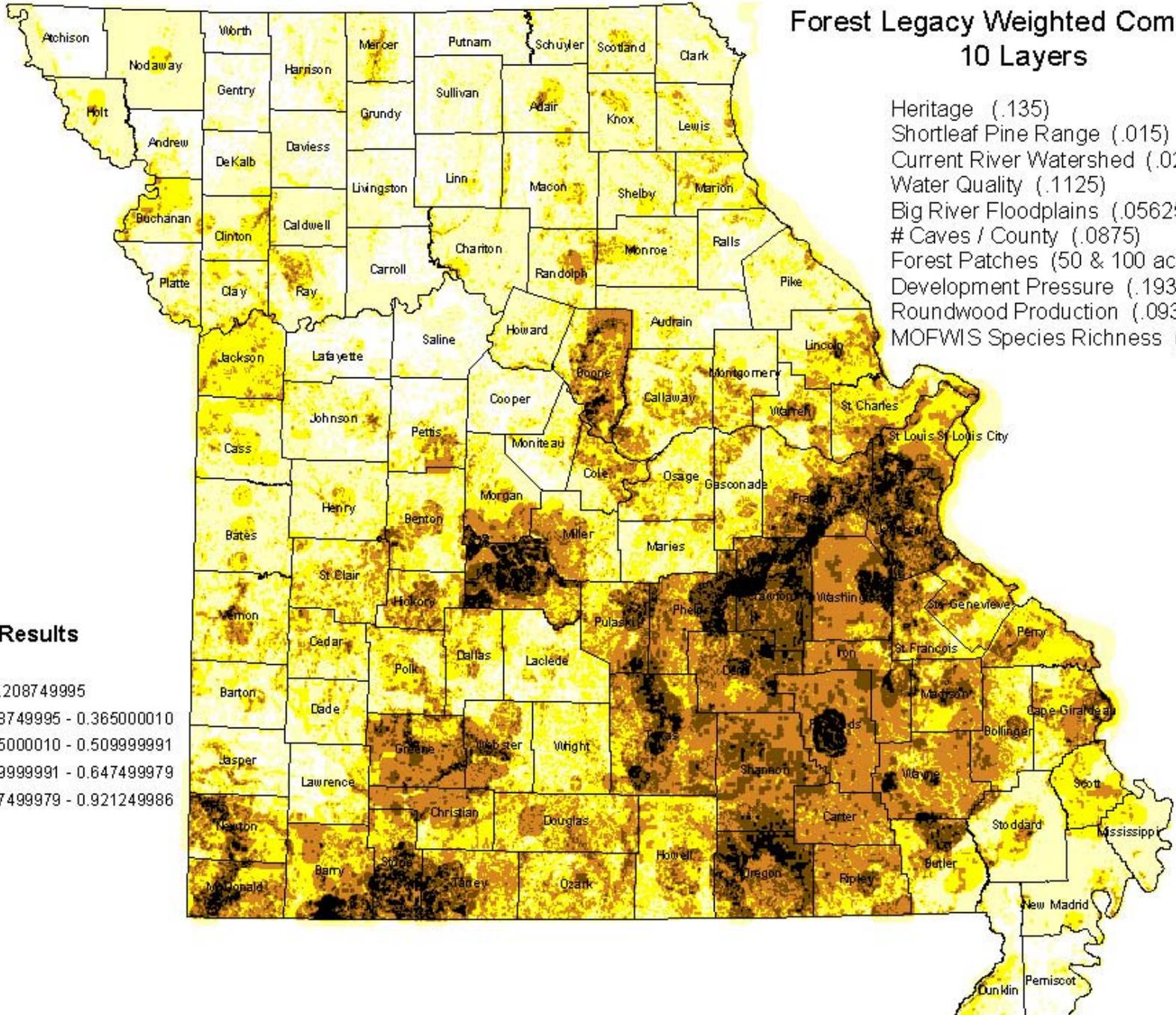


-  Interstate
-  US Highway
-  Big Rivers
-  Cities



Forest Legacy Weighted Composite 10 Layers

- Heritage (.135)
- Shortleaf Pine Range (.015)
- Current River Watershed (.0225)
- Water Quality (.1125)
- Big River Floodplains (.05625)
- # Caves / County (.0875)
- Forest Patches (50 & 100 ac.) (.225)
- Development Pressure (.19375)
- Roundwood Production (.09375)
- MOFWS Species Richness (.05875)



Analysis Results

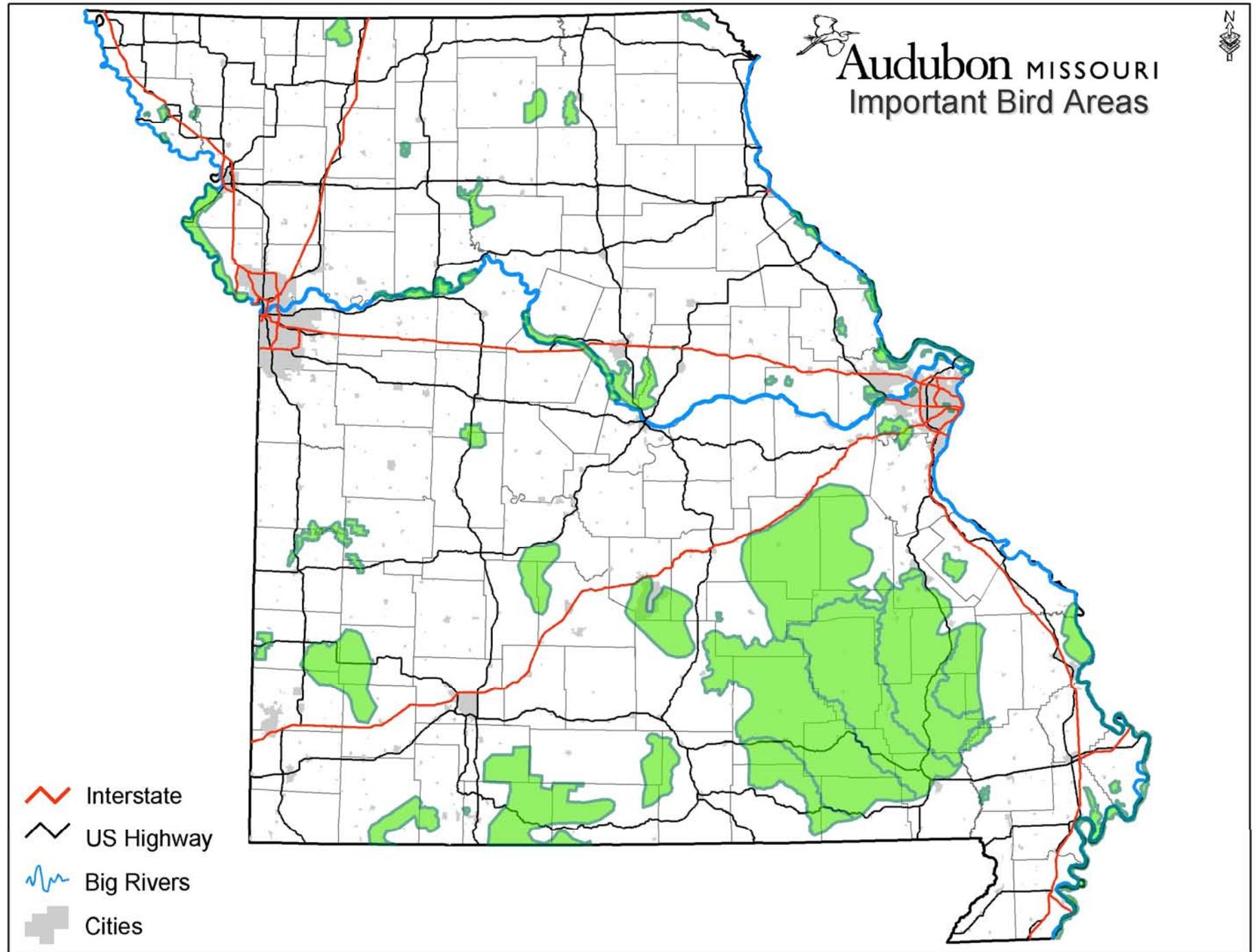
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- 0.208749995 - 0.365000010
- 0.365000010 - 0.509999991
- 0.509999991 - 0.647499979
- 0.647499979 - 0.921249986



-  Interstate
-  US Highway
-  Big Rivers
-  Cities



Audubon MISSOURI Important Bird Areas



-  Interstate
-  US Highway
-  Big Rivers
-  Cities



HELP RESTORE MISSOURI'S GRASSLANDS.

Grasslands Coalition Focus Areas



-  Interstate
-  US Highway
-  Big Rivers
-  Cities

Mark Twain National Forest Ecosystem Management Areas

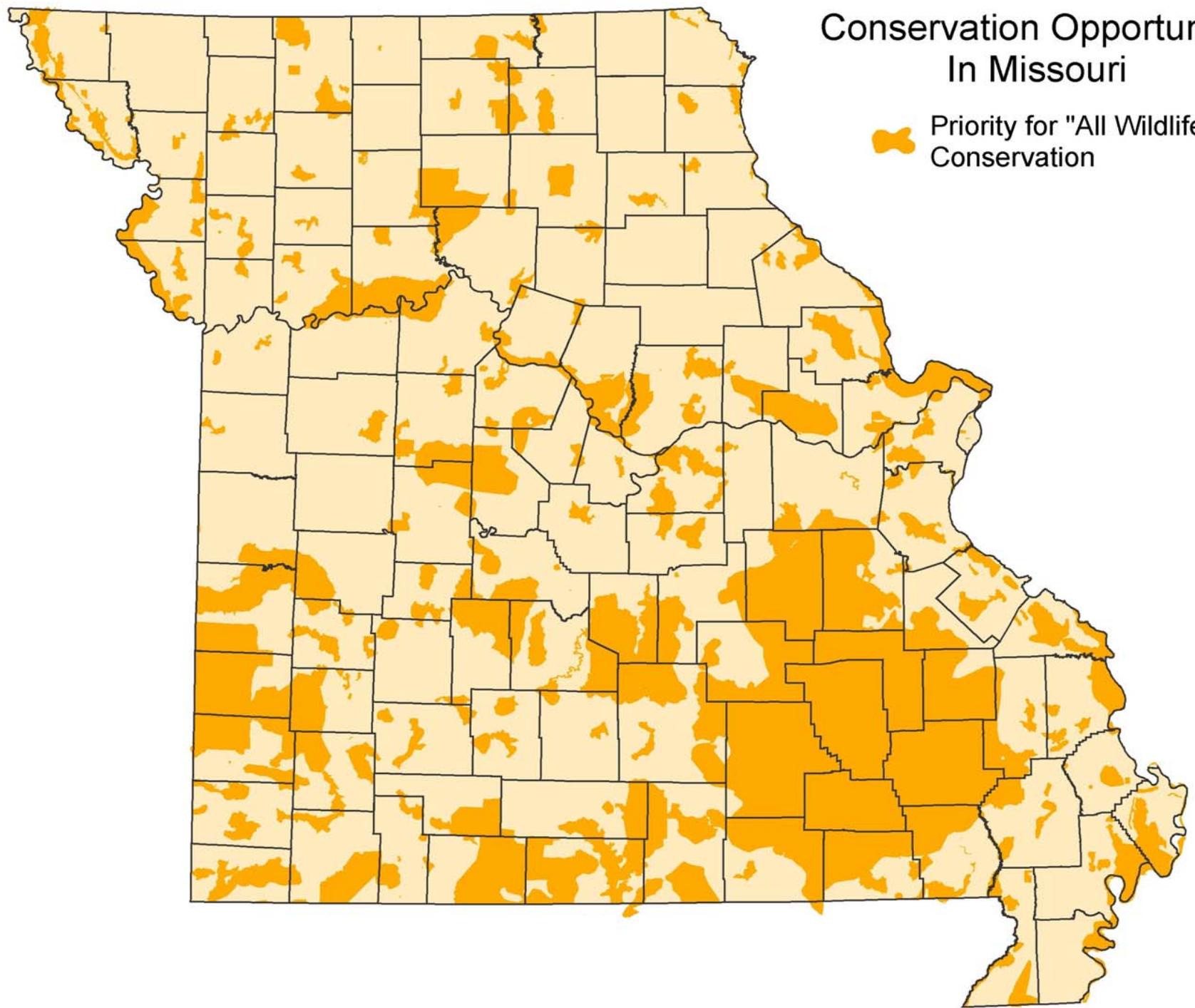


-  Interstate
-  US Highway
-  Big Rivers
-  Cities

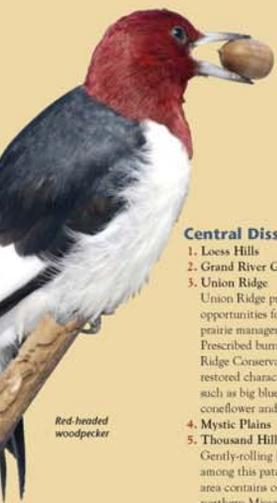


Conservation Opportunity In Missouri

 Priority for "All Wildlife"
Conservation



CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY IN MISSOURI



Red-headed woodpecker

Central Dissected Till Plains

1. Loess Hills
2. Grand River Grasslands
3. Union Ridge

Union Ridge provides one of the best opportunities for savanna, woodland and prairie management in northern Missouri. Prescribed burns on 1,500 acres of Union Ridge Conservation Area have successfully restored characteristic prairie and savanna species such as big bluestem, little bluestem, pale purple coneflower and leadplant.

4. Mystic Plains
5. Thousand Hills Woodland

Gently-rolling hills and steep, rugged inclines can be found among this patchwork of woodlands and meadows. This area contains one of the largest tracts of timbered habitat in northern Missouri. Significant tracts have good woodland restoration potential and still support remnant populations of woodland plants. This wooded landscape represents a significant resource for woodland birds.

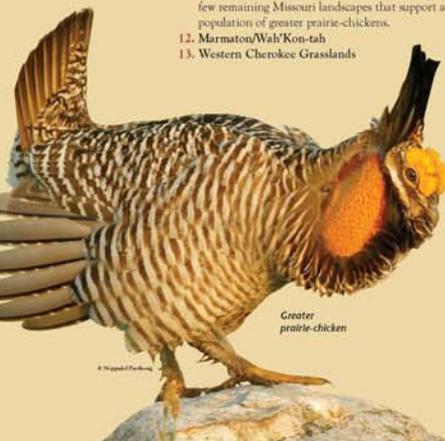
6. Lower Grand River
7. Iatan/Weston Missouri River Corridor
8. Wakenda Bottoms
9. Cuivre River Hills
10. Missouri/Mississippi River Confluence

Osage Plains

11. Cole Camp/Hi Lonesome

Located near Cole Camp, Missouri, the Cole Camp/Hi Lonesome Conservation Opportunity Area provides an excellent opportunity to conserve prairie wildlife and high quality prairie streams at a landscape scale. It is one of a few remaining Missouri landscapes that support a population of greater prairie-chickens.

12. Marmaton/Wah/Kon-tah
13. Western Cherokee Grasslands



Greater prairie-chicken



Priority for All Wildlife Conservation

Conservation Opportunity Area Profiles

Ozark Highlands

14. Manitou Bluffs
15. Bonne Femme Karst
16. Golden Grasslands

Golden Grasslands includes two focus areas identified by the Missouri Grasslands Coalition as important landscapes for the recovery of greater prairie-chickens. The landscape supports a significant amount of tallgrass prairie remnants.

17. Spring River
18. Shoal Creek
19. Roaring River

Frequent, low-intensity fires shaped Roaring River's glades and woodlands. Recent fire exclusion has led to dense second-growth forests and cedar thickets on former glades. Removing cedar trees and restoring glades will benefit many glade and woodland species including eastern collared lizards, Bachman's sparrows, summer tanagers and low prickly pear cactus.

20. Niangua Basin
21. Upper Gasconade River Hills
22. LaBarque Creek Watershed

The LaBarque Creek Watershed features a high quality stream and rugged sandstone terrain surprisingly close to St. Louis. A combination of ecological values and development patterns make the watershed an excellent candidate for conservation efforts. Flowing water carves cliffs, waterfalls, bowls and overhangs into soft sandstone. The resulting deep, sheltered most canyons and ravines contain several state-listed plants found at only a few other sites in Missouri.

23. Middle Meramec

The Middle Meramec Conservation Opportunity Area includes land within a roughly 7-mile perimeter of the middle reaches of the Meramec River. The topography is hilly, rugged and largely forested, with embedded glades, ferns, caves, springs and other interesting natural features. Sixty-five species and natural communities of conservation concern are recorded from this area.

24. St. Francois Knobs
25. Cape Hills
26. Current River Hills
27. White River Glades and Woodlands

28. Tumbling Creek Cave Ecosystem
Tumbling Creek Cave has the highest recorded biological diversity of any cave west of the Mississippi River. In addition to being the only known location of the Tumbling Creek caversnail, it is home to at least five other animals new to science.

29. Bryant Creek
30. North Fork
31. Eleven Point Hills

Mississippi River Alluvial Basin

32. Mingo Basin

The Mingo Basin includes backwater sloughs, marshes, open water, bottomland forests, cypress-tupelo swamps, shrub swampland and upland woodlands. This restored wetland complex retains many plants and animals characteristic of big river bottomland wetlands.

33. River Bends



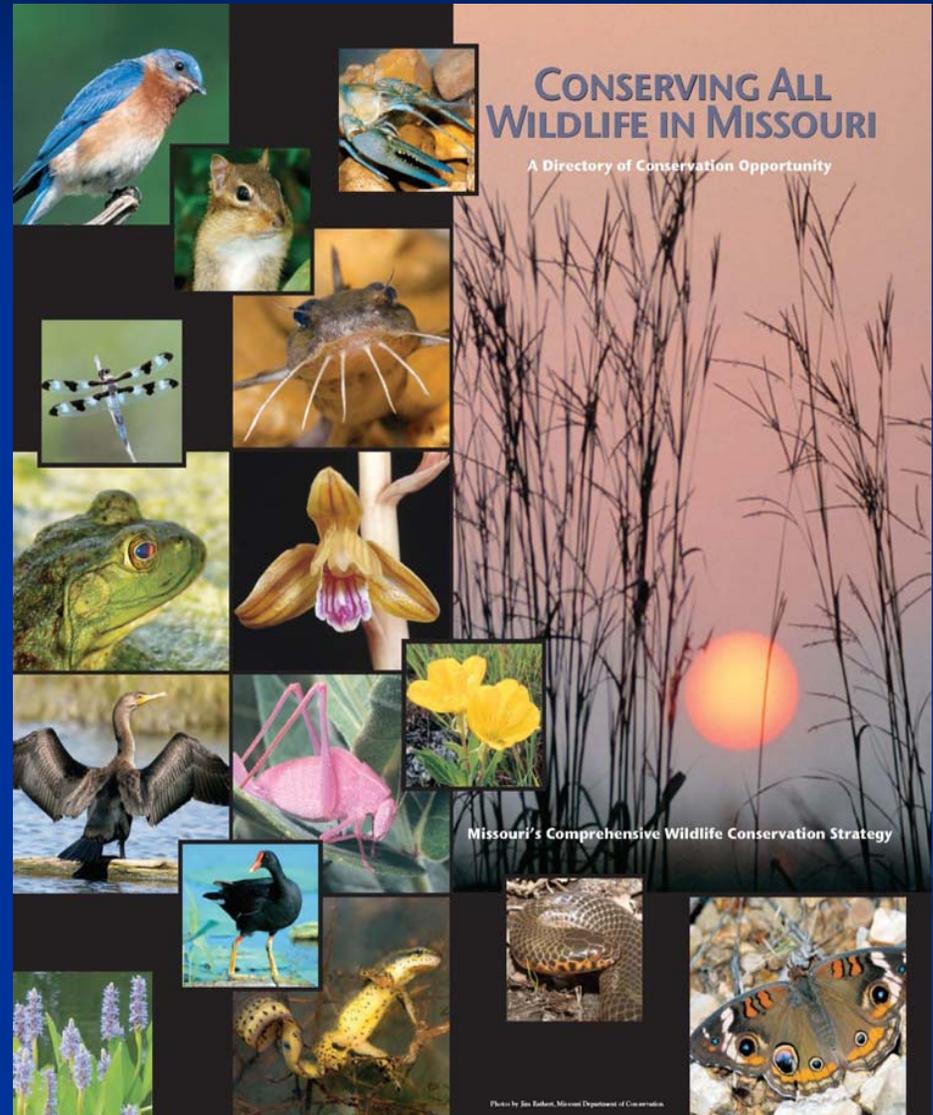
Eastern collared lizard

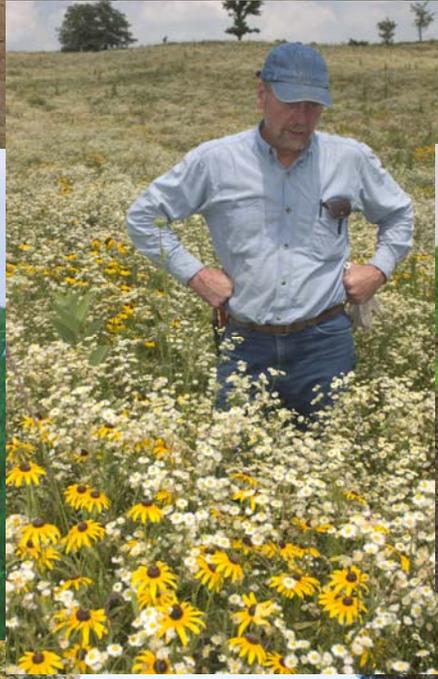


Green treefrog

Proposed conservation actions in Missouri are described beautifully in this product, *Conserving All Wildlife in Missouri: A Directory of Conservation Opportunity*.

These are our **ACTION PLANS** for comprehensive wildlife conservation.





Why do **Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation**?

- Forms new and different partnerships and work across political and administrative boundaries
- Maximizes conservation dollars and takes advantage of new sources of funding
- Facilitates site-level decision making within a regional context
- Broadens conservation constituencies and conservation messages
- Brings conservationists together to **integrate wildlife initiatives**



