

Shoal Creek Accesses

Smack-Out Access
Cherry Corner Access
Allen Bridge Access
Lime Kiln Access
Wildcat Access

Ten Year Area Management Plan FY 2014-2023



Jessie M. Allen
Forestry Division Chief

11-26-14
Date

Shoal Creek Accesses Management Plan Approval Page

PLANNING TEAM

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SOUTHWEST REGION

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Signature 10/6/14
Date

FORESTRY DIVISION

Forest Management Chief


Signature 11/11/14
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OVERVIEW

Area Name	Area Number	Year Acquired	Acreage	County	Administrative Responsibility	Maintenance Responsibility
Smack-Out Access	9602	1995	1	Newton	Forestry	Forestry
Cherry Corner Access	8816	1987	4	Newton	Forestry	Forestry
Allen Bridge Access	7843	1978	15	Newton	Forestry	Forestry
Lime Kiln Access	7811	1978 ¹	11	Newton	Forestry	Forestry
Wildcat Access	7813	1978 ²	1	Newton	Forestry	Forestry

¹ 99 year lease agreement with the City of Neosho

² 99 year lease agreement with the City of Joplin

Statements of Purpose:

A. Strategic Direction

These areas are managed to provide public fishing access to Shoal Creek for both boat and bank anglers, while maintaining stream bank integrity.

B. Desired Future Condition

The desired future landscape conditions of Smack-Out Access, Cherry Corner Access, Allen Bridge Access, Lime Kiln Access, and Wildcat Access are mostly forested landscapes that promote recreation.

C. Federal Aid Statement

Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration (SFR) funds were used to develop Smack-Out Access to restore and manage sport fish; conserve and restore sport fish habitat (or a buffer to protect that habitat); and provide public access for sport fishing.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

I. Special Considerations

Area	Priority Area	Natural Area
Smack-Out Access	Smack-Out Aquatic Conservation Opportunity Area (COA)	None
Cherry Corner Access	None	None
Allen Bridge Access	Hickory Creek Aquatic COA	None
Lime Kiln Access	Hickory Creek Aquatic COA; Hickory Creek Fisheries Priority Watershed	None
Wildcat Access	Shoal Creek Conservation Opportunity Area	None

II. Important Natural Features and Resources

Area	Species of Conservation Concern	Caves	Springs
Smack-Out Access	Yes ¹	None	None
Cherry Corner Access	Yes ¹	None	None
Allen Bridge Access	Yes ¹	None	None
Lime Kiln Access	Yes ¹	None	None
Wildcat Access	Yes ¹	None	None

¹ 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.

III. Existing Infrastructure

Area	Concrete Ramp	Boat Slide	Parking Area #
Smack-Out Access	1	None	1
Cherry Corner Access	None	1	1
Allen Bridge Access	1	None	2
Lime Kiln Access	2	None	1
Wildcat Access	1	None	1

IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations

Area	Deed Restrictions	Federal Interest	Easements	Cultural Resources	Hazards	Endangered Species	Boundary Issues
Smack-Out Access	None	Yes ¹	None	None known	None observed	Yes ³	None
Cherry Corner Access	None	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None observed	None
Allen Bridge Access	None	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None observed	None
Lime Kiln Access	Owned by City of Neosho	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None observed	None
Wildcat Access	Owned by City of Joplin	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None observed	None

¹ Uses of land acquired with federal funds may not interfere with the purpose for which it was acquired. Closures to sport fishing must be based on the recommendations of the state fish and wildlife agency for fish and wildlife management purposes. 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.

² 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.

³ Endangered 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

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Maintaining adequate riparian corridors
- 2) Preventing soil erosion
- 3) Controlling invasive and exotic species

Management Objective 1: Maintain riparian corridors that extend at least 50 feet from the stream bank where possible.

Strategy 1: Allow natural vegetative processes to continue. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Replace dead trees as needed to maintain riparian cover. (Forestry)

Strategy 3: Restrict vehicles to parking lots, boat ramps and boat landings. (Forestry and Protection)

Management Objective 2: Prevent soil erosion due to area infrastructure.

Strategy 1: Ensure roads and road-side drainages are managed to reduce runoff, sedimentation and erosion. (Forestry)

Management Objective 3: Control invasive and exotic species.

Strategy 1: Periodically monitor areas for invasive and exotic species and use appropriate strategies for management and control.

VI. Aquatic Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

Preventing excessive stream bank erosion

Management Objective 1: Ensure that area infrastructure does not increase bank erosion.

Strategy 1: Install and maintain boat ramps and slides to have a low profile on the bank to prevent back eddies and plunging currents. (Design and Development)

VII. Public Use Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Providing boat access along as much of Shoal Creek as possible
- 2) Keeping the public informed of opportunities available at these areas
- 3) Maintaining areas in a desirable condition

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

Strategy 1: Ensure existing infrastructure is maintained to Missouri Department of Conservation (Department) Level 2 standards. (Forestry)

Management Objective 2: Keep the public informed of opportunities at these areas.

Strategy 1: Maintain signage at the accesses in accordance with Department policy. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Work with the local Department Media Specialist to highlight underutilized resources. (Forestry, Outreach and Education)

Strategy 3: Maintain up-to-date information on Shoal Creek accesses on Department website. (Forestry, Outreach and Education)

Management Objective 3: Maintain areas in a desirable condition.

Strategy 1: Open areas around signage; parking areas and entry roads should be maintained through regular mowing. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Conduct routine patrols to maintain acceptable area use. (Protection)

VIII. Administrative Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

Evaluating land offered as additions to these areas

Management Objective 1: Evaluate land offered as additions to these areas.

Strategy 1: Propose lands 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

Strategies are considered ongoing in all areas of resource management.

APPENDICES

Public Input Summary:

The draft Shoal Creek Accesses Area Management Plan was available for a public comment period August 1-31, 2014. The Department received no comments during this time period.

Maps:

Appendix 1: Newton County River Access on Shoal Creek

Appendix 2: Smack-Out Access Area Background

Appendix 3: Smack-Out Access Area Map

Appendix 4: Cherry Corner Access Area Background

Appendix 5: Cherry Corner Access Area Map

Appendix 6: Allen Bridge Access Area Background

Appendix 7: Allen Bridge Access Area Map

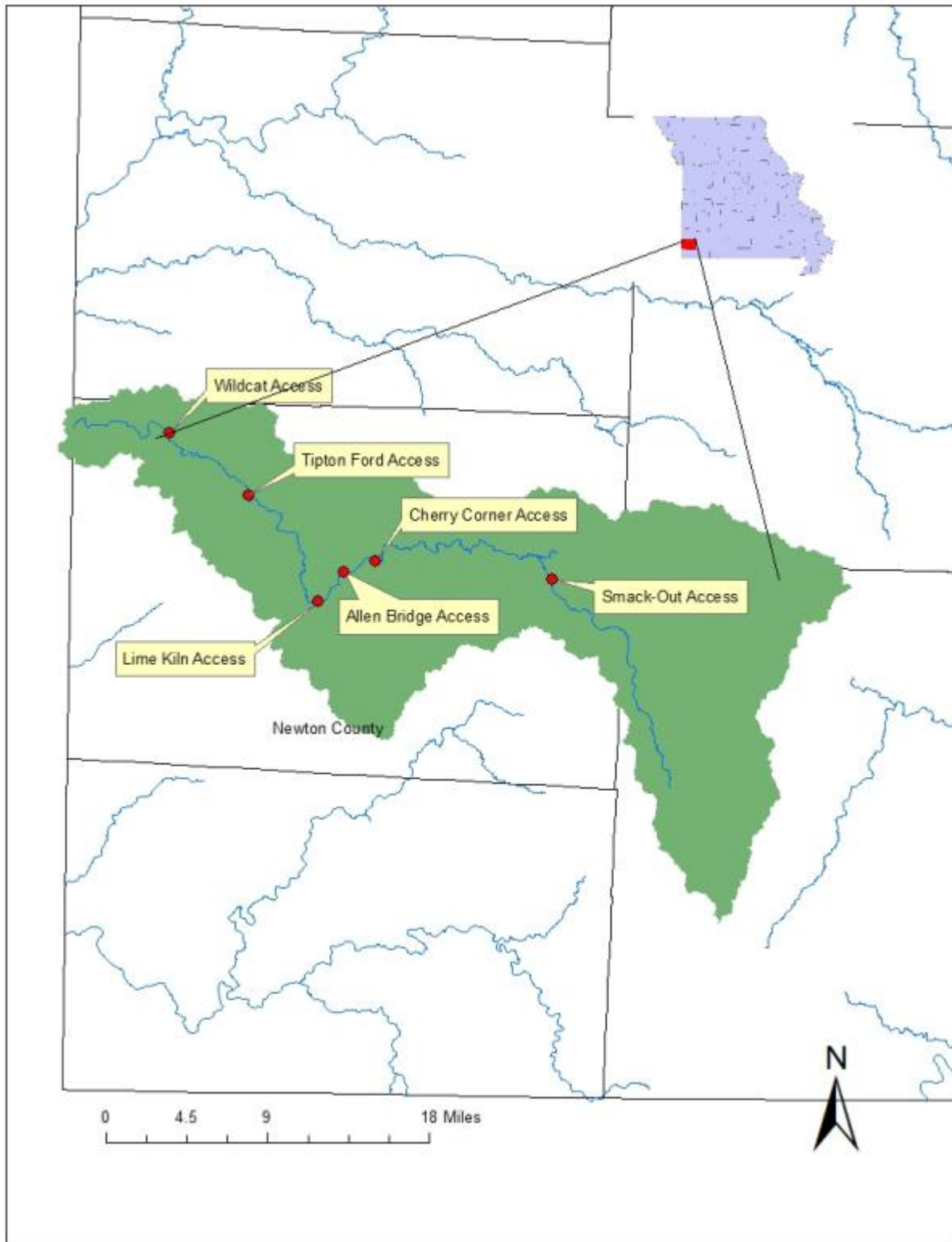
Appendix 8: Lime Kiln Access Area Background

Appendix 9: Lime Kiln Access Area Map

Appendix 10: Wildcat Access Area Background

Appendix 11: Wildcat Access Area Map

Appendix 1: Newton County River Access on Shoal Creek



Appendix 2: Smack-Out Access Area Background

Smack-Out Access is primarily a boat ramp and parking lot. The area provides boat and wade anglers with access to Shoal Creek’s rocky areas and root wads, which contain game fish throughout the year. The stream is wadeable at normal and low flows.

The area, named after a general store and local gathering spot, was donated to the Department for use as a river access in 1995 by the Newton County Commission. It has provided significant public use since that time and was subsequently developed using Sport Fish Restoration funds.

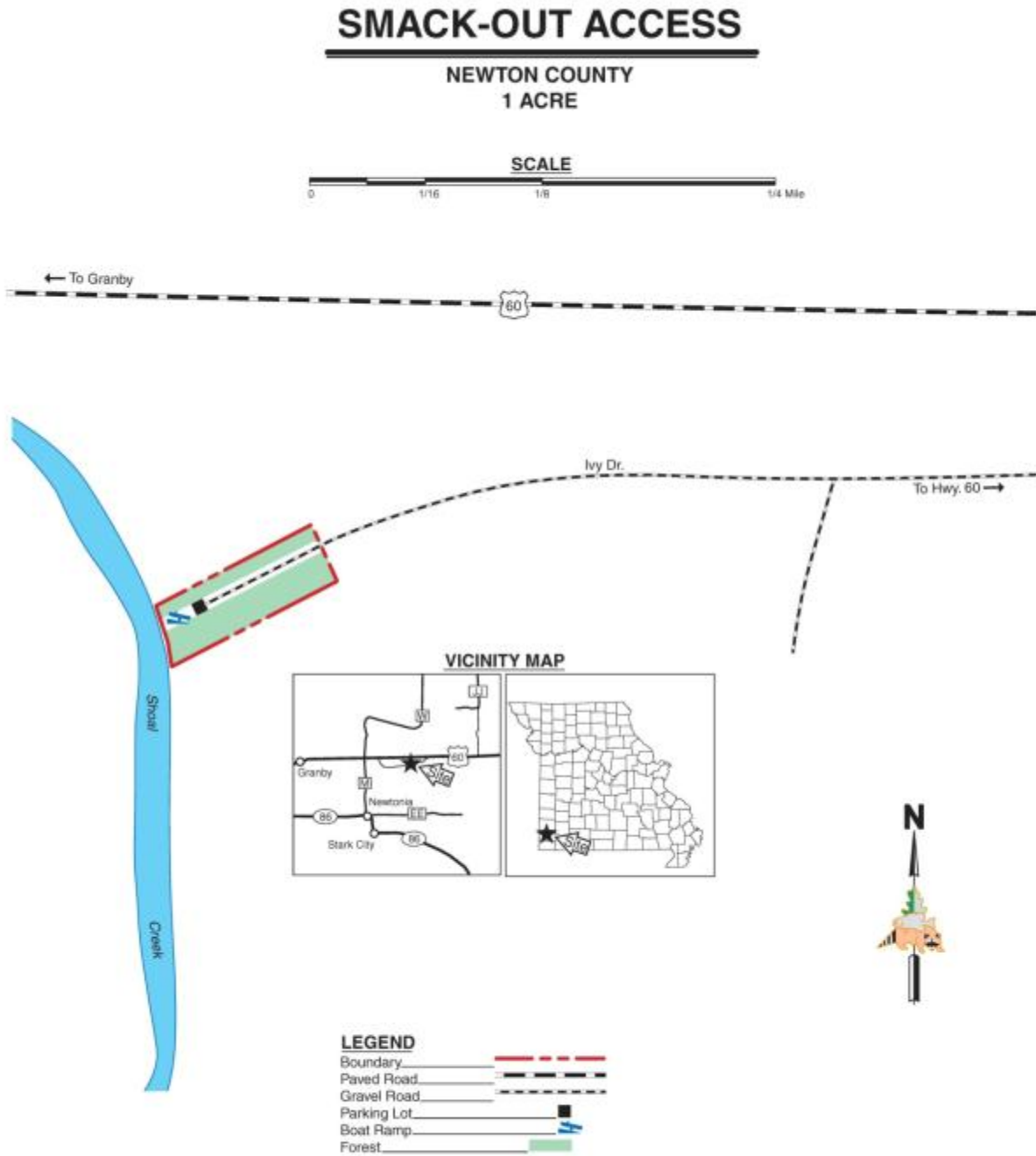
Legal Description: Township 25 North, Range 29 W, Section 5.

Area Location: Smack-Out Access is located approximately 6.5 miles east of Granby on Highway 60; and south on Ivy Drive to the end of the road.

Current Land and Water Types

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Bottom Land Forest	1		100
Stream Frontage		0.03	

Appendix 3: Smack-Out Access Area Map



Appendix 4: Cherry Corner Access Area Background

Cherry Corner Access was acquired from Newton County in 1987. The area contains a gravel bar, where launching of small boats and canoes is possible.

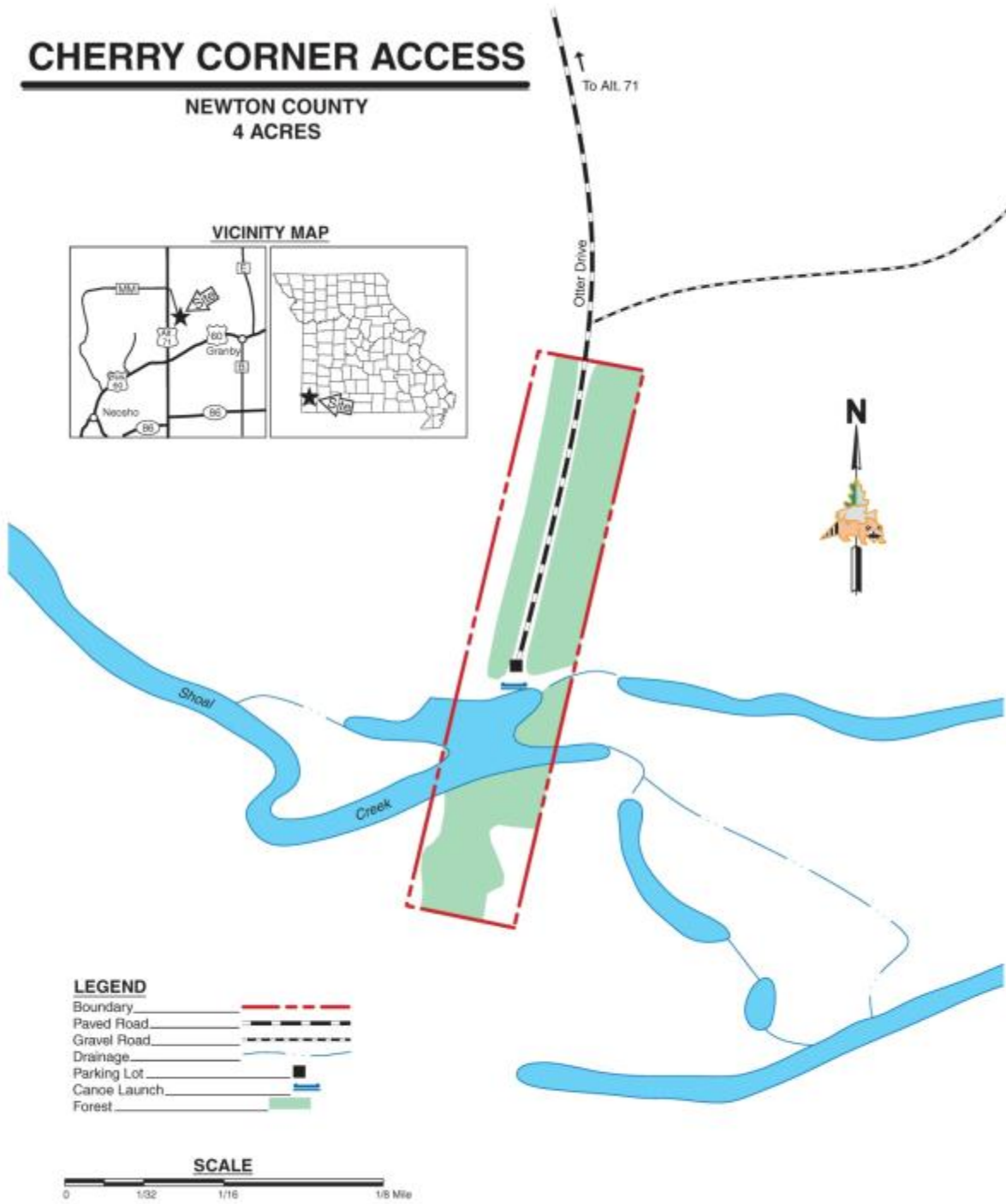
Legal Description: Township 26 North, Range 31 W, Section 34.

Area Location: Cherry Corner Access lies on Shoal Creek 3.5 miles south of Diamond, east on Greenbriar Drive and immediately south on Otter Drive to the end of the road. It is 2.0 river miles upstream of Allen Bridge Access.

Current Land and Water Types

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Miscellaneous	4		100
Stream Frontage		0.05	

Appendix 5: Cherry Corner Access Area Map



Appendix 6: Allen Bridge Access Area Background

Allen Bridge Access was purchased in 1978. The area provides anglers with bank access to rocky areas and a pool containing game fish throughout the year. A concrete boat ramp provides access for small boats and canoes.

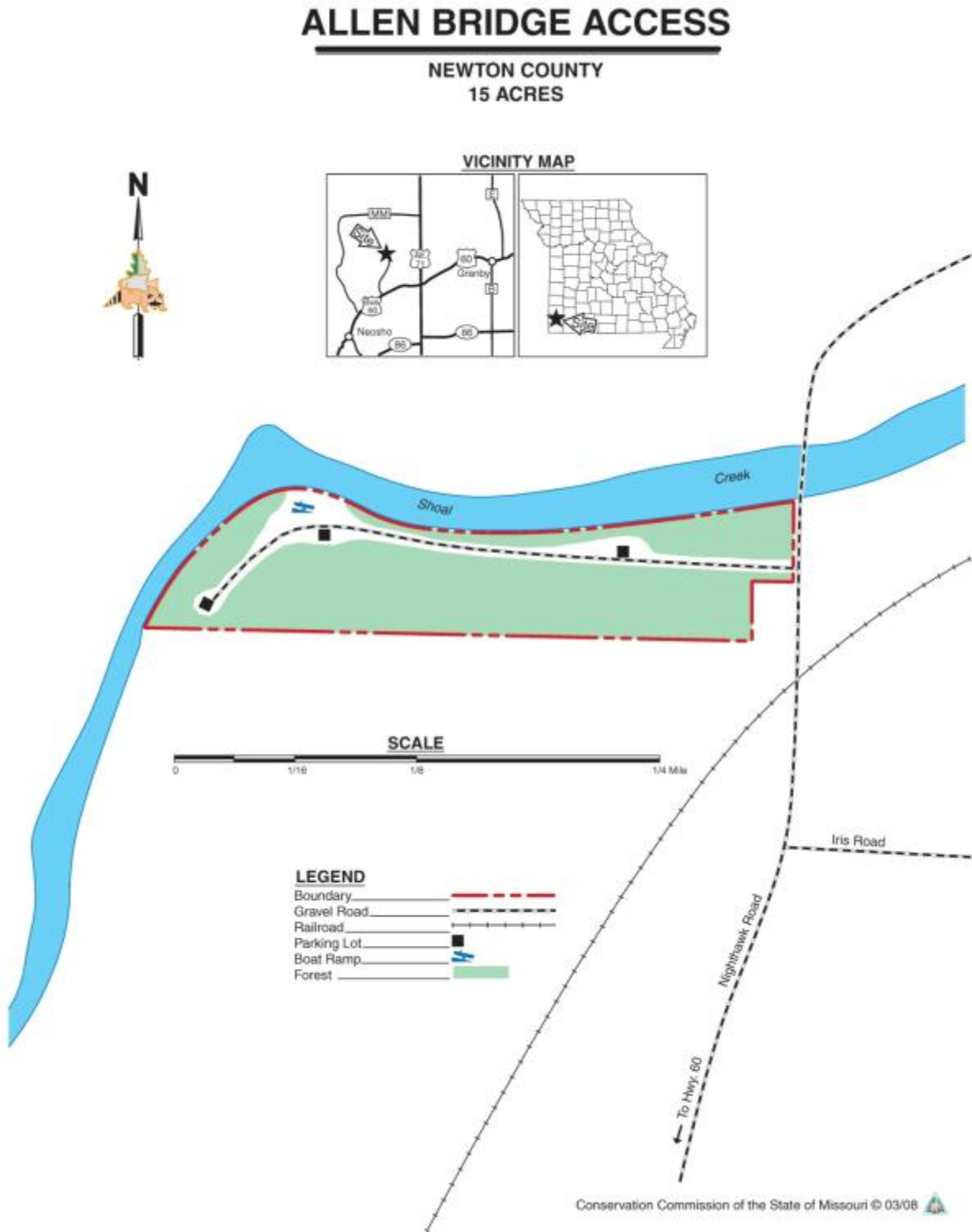
Legal Description: Township 25 North, Range 31 W, Section 5.

Area Location: Allen Bridge Access is 2 miles east of Neosho on Business Highway 60 and north on Nighthawk Road (marked with a Department sign), to Shoal Creek. Allen Bridge Access lies 2.0 miles downstream of Cherry Corner Access and 2.4 miles upstream of Lime Kiln Access.

Current Land and Water Types

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Bottomland Hardwoods	15		100
Stream Frontage		0.35	

Appendix 7: Allen Bridge Access Area Map



Appendix 8: Lime Kiln Access Area Background

Lime Kiln Access was leased to the Department in 1987 by the City of Neosho; the lease term is 99 years. The area contains two concrete boat ramps for small boat and canoe access (one upstream and one downstream of the dam) and a parking lot. It provides anglers with bank access to rocky areas and root wads containing game fish throughout the year. A pool, created by a low-head dam for drinking water, is also available to anglers. The area also includes a small amount of bottomland timber.

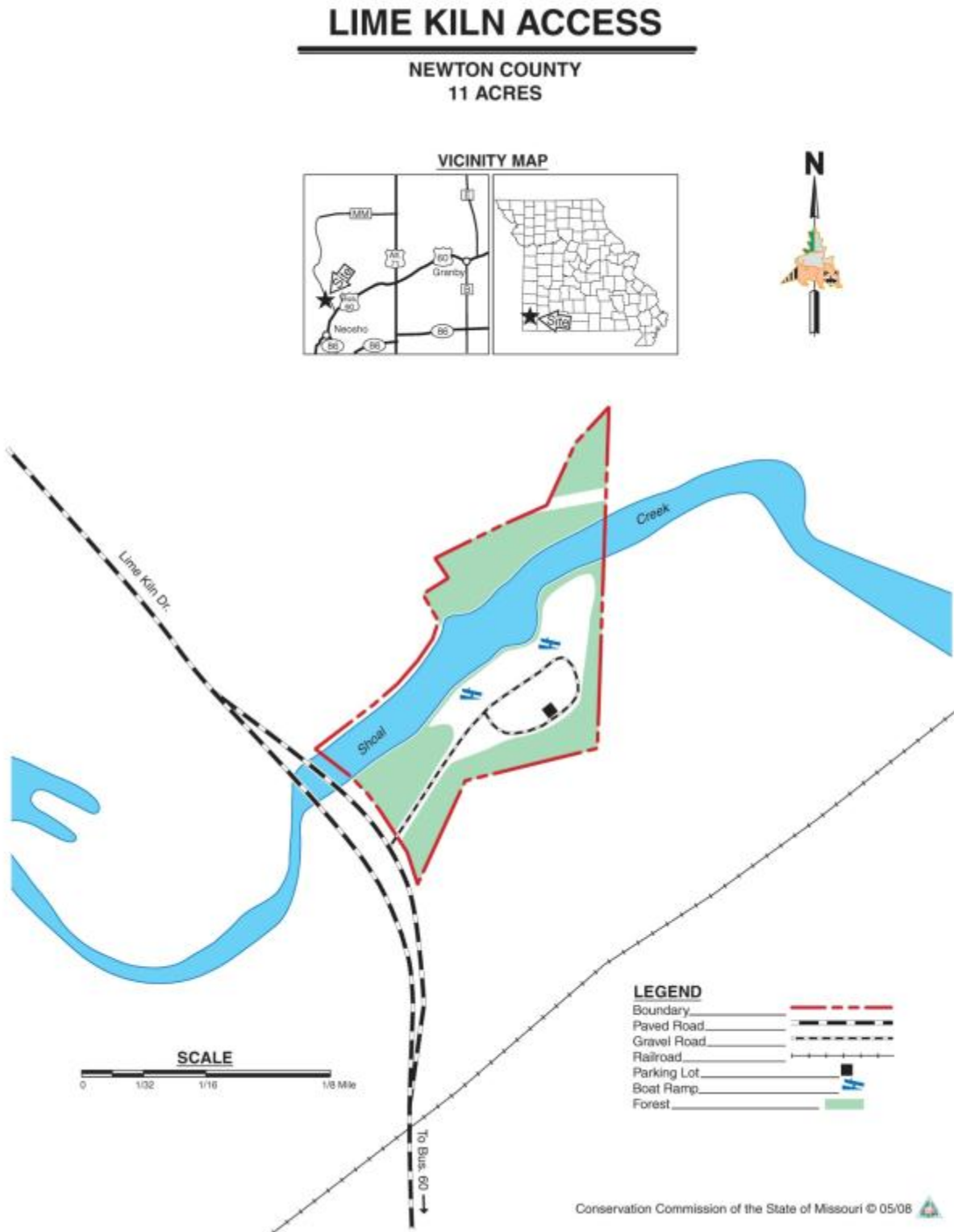
Legal Description: Township 25 North, Range 31 W, Section 7.

Area Location: Lime Kiln Access is 0.5 miles east of Neosho on Business Highway 60 and 0.25 miles north on Lime Kiln Drive. Lime Kiln Access lies 2.4 miles downstream of Allen Bridge Access and 9.4 river miles upstream of Tipton Ford Access.

Current Land and Water Types

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Bottomland Hardwoods	11		100
Stream Frontage		0.18	

Appendix 9: Lime Kiln Access Area Map



Appendix 10: Wildcat Access Area Background

Wildcat Access was leased to the Department in 1978 by the City of Joplin; the lease term is 99 years. The area contains a concrete boat ramp for small boat access and a parking lot. It provides anglers with bank access to rocky bottomed pool areas containing game fish throughout the year. The area also includes a small amount of bottomland timber.

Legal Description: Township 27 North, Range 33 W, Section 34.

Area Location: The area lies on Shoal Creek and passes through Wildcat Glades Natural Area and Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center. Wildcat Access is 1 mile south of I-44 on Highway 86 through the entrance to Wildcat Glade Conservation and Audubon Center. It lies 6.9 river miles downstream of Tipton Ford Access.

Current Land and Water Types

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Bottomland Hardwoods	1		100
Stream Frontage		0.04	

Appendix 11: Wildcat Access Area Map

