

Hollister Towersite

Ten-Year Area Management Plan FY 2015-2024



Lesli B. Allen
Forestry Division Chief

8-24-15
Date

Hollister Towersite Area Management Plan Approval Page

PLANNING TEAM

Brad Jump, Urban Wildlife Biologist

Quenten Fronterhouse, Conservation Agent

John Miller, Interpretive Center Manager

Dave Woods, Fisheries Management Biologist

Andy Humble, Private Land Conservationist

Greg Cassell, Resource Forester

Rhonda Rimer, Natural History Biologist

SOUTHWEST REGION

RCT Chair

Garret Albright
Signature

8/17/15
Date

FORESTRY DIVISION

Forest Management Chief

John Tuttle
Signature

8/24/15
Date

OVERVIEW

- **Official Area Name:** Hollister Towersite, #4638
- **Year of Initial Acquisition:** 1943
- **Acreage:** 170.87 acres
- **County:** Taney
- **Division with Administrative Responsibility:** Forestry
- **Division with Maintenance Responsibility:** Forestry
- **Statement of Purpose:**

A. Strategic Direction

Hollister Towersite is managed for forested natural communities and the species they support. Forests and woodlands on this area are managed for game species such as deer, turkey and squirrel.

B. Desired Future Condition

The desired future condition of Hollister Towersite is a healthy forest and woodland landscape that supports upland game and other associated wildlife species which provide hunting and nature viewing opportunities to the public.

C. Federal Aid Statement

N/A

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

I. Special Considerations

- A. **Priority Areas:** None
- B. **Natural Areas:** None

II. Important Natural Features and Resources

- A. **Species of Conservation Concern:** 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.
- B. **Caves:** Yes. Records kept with the Missouri Department of Conservation (the Department) Natural History Biologist. Managers should follow the Cave Management policy found in the Department Resource Policy Manual.
- C. **Springs:** None
- D. **Other:** Occurs in the Ozark Highlands Section, White River Hills subsection, White River Dolomite Glade/Oak Woodland Rugged Hills and Landtype Associations. Historically, glade, and mixed oak and pine oak woodlands dominated this landscape (Nigh & Schroeder, 2002).

III. Existing Infrastructure

- 1 gravel parking lot
- 1 radio tower (owned and operated by Missouri State University)
- 1,830 feet of gravel roads
- 1 fishless pond (0.1 acres)

IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations

A. Deed Restrictions or Ownership Considerations: A 3.77-acre in-holding exists on the west side that is owned by a telecommunications company.

B. Federal Interest Conditions/Restrictions: 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.

C. Easements:

- Road right of way (U.S. Highway 65) - Missouri Department of Transportation
- County road right of way (Windmill Road)
- Fiber optic line easement - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC
- Utility easement - White River Valley Electric Cooperative
- Utility easement - KAMO Electric Cooperative
- Road easement - KAMO Electric Cooperative
- Road easement - private landowner
- Radio towersite lease - Missouri State University

D. Cultural Resources: No known cultural resources.

E. Hazards and Hazardous Materials: None observed.

F. Endangered Species: None observed.

G. Boundary Issues: Establishing accurate and identifiable boundary markers is a priority for this property.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) A forest inventory of the area was completed in 1992. Site quality for tree growth is generally low on the south- and southwest-facing slopes, where woodlands are present. Higher site quality is present in forested stands on the ridge tops and on north-facing slopes.

- 2) Monitoring forest stands for injurious insects and diseases (e.g., emerald ash borer, gypsy moth, thousand cankers disease, walnut twig beetle).
- 3) Control invasive plant species on the area (e.g., sericea lespedeza, musk thistle, tall fescue, Johnson grass, Reed canary grass, Eastern red cedar).

Management Objective 1: Maintain forest covers for wildlife and public recreational opportunities.

Strategy 1: Protect forested areas from wildfire, insects and disease. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Conduct a new forest inventory to evaluate the health of the forest and woodland. (Forestry)

Management Objective 2: Monitor forest for insect and disease outbreaks and invasive plant species.

Strategy 1: Forestry staff will monitor forested stands for insects, diseases and invasive plant species on an on-going basis, as routine area maintenance and boundary work is performed. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Conduct forest management activities to manage any insect and disease issues as needed. (Forestry)

VI. Aquatic Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities: Hollister Towersite contains a first-order intermittent stream which flows south to north on the eastern edge of the property.

Management Objective 1: Maintain, enhance, or expand the riparian corridors of the first-order stream to a minimum of 50 feet on both stream sides, where appropriate.

Strategy 1: Implement stream best management practices on all streams according to the Department's *Watershed and Stream Management Guidelines for Lands and Waters Managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation* (2009). (Fisheries, Wildlife, Forestry)

Management Objective 2: Maintain integrity of the stream while implementing terrestrial habitat management practices.

Strategy 1: If woodland restoration and associated forest management activities are conducted on the area, follow the Department's *Missouri Watershed Protection Practice Recommended Practices for Missouri Forests: 2014 Management Guidelines for Maintaining Forested Watersheds to Protect Streams* (2014). (Fisheries, Wildlife, Forestry)

Strategy 2: Service roads will be managed to minimize runoff and sedimentation to stream resources. (Fisheries, Wildlife, Forestry)

VII. Public Use Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) The area receives moderate public use in the form of small game, deer and turkey hunting.
- 2) There is currently one designated parking area located on the west side of U. S. Highway 65, where the fire tower was previously located.

Management Objective 1: Maintain public access at the parking area.

Strategy 1: Forestry staff will perform regular parking lot maintenance as needed, including grading, replacing gravel and maintaining signs. (Forestry)

Management Objective 2: Increase visitor access to the east side of area, from the north-bound lane of U.S. Highway 65.

Strategy 1: Evaluate the feasibility of constructing an additional parking area on the east side of the U.S. Highway 65 right of way and north of the electric transmission right of way. (Forestry)

Management Objective 3: Ensure proper use by area visitors.

Strategy 1: Periodically patrol the area to ensure compliance with regulations. (Protection)

VIII. Administrative Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Private land development, adjacent to the towersite, could create boundary issues.

Administrative Management Objective 1: Maintain boundaries annually.

Strategy 1: Forestry staff will annually maintain boundaries by replacing boundary signs and painting lines with blue paint. (Forestry)

APPENDICES

Area Background:

Hollister Towersite was purchased in 1943. An additional 2 acres were purchased in 1946. The area was purchased for public use as well as for a location to construct a tower to be used for wildfire detection in the area. As wildfire detection methods changed, the tower became obsolete and was relocated to the Ruth and Paul Henning Conservation Area as an observation tower around 1987. In 1975, Missouri Department of Transportation acquired a 14-acre road right of way for U.S. Highway 65, which runs north to south through the area. There is a 3.77-acre in-holding of private land located on the west side of the area off Windmill Road. It was sold to American Telephone and Telegraph Company in 1961 for a communications towersite. The area is currently open to hunting under statewide regulations. Habitat on the area is mostly upland forest and woodland.

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Upland forest/woodland	147.79		87
Road right of way	16		9
Powerline right of way	7		3
Pond	0.08		1
Total	170.87		100
Stream frontage		0.87	

Public Input Summary:

The draft Hollister Towersite Area Management Plan was available for a public comment period June 1-30, 2015. The Missouri Department of Conservation received no comments during this time.

References:

Missouri Department of Conservation. (2009). *Watershed and stream management guidelines for lands and waters managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation*. Jefferson City, Missouri: Missouri Department of Conservation.

Missouri Department of Conservation. (2014). *Missouri watershed protection practice recommended practices for Missouri forests: 2014 management guidelines for maintaining forested watersheds to protect streams*. Jefferson City, Missouri: Missouri Department of Conservation.

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

Maps:

Figure 1: Area Map

Figure 2: Vicinity Map

Figure 3: Aerial Photograph

Figure 4: Features and Facilities

Figure 1: Area Map

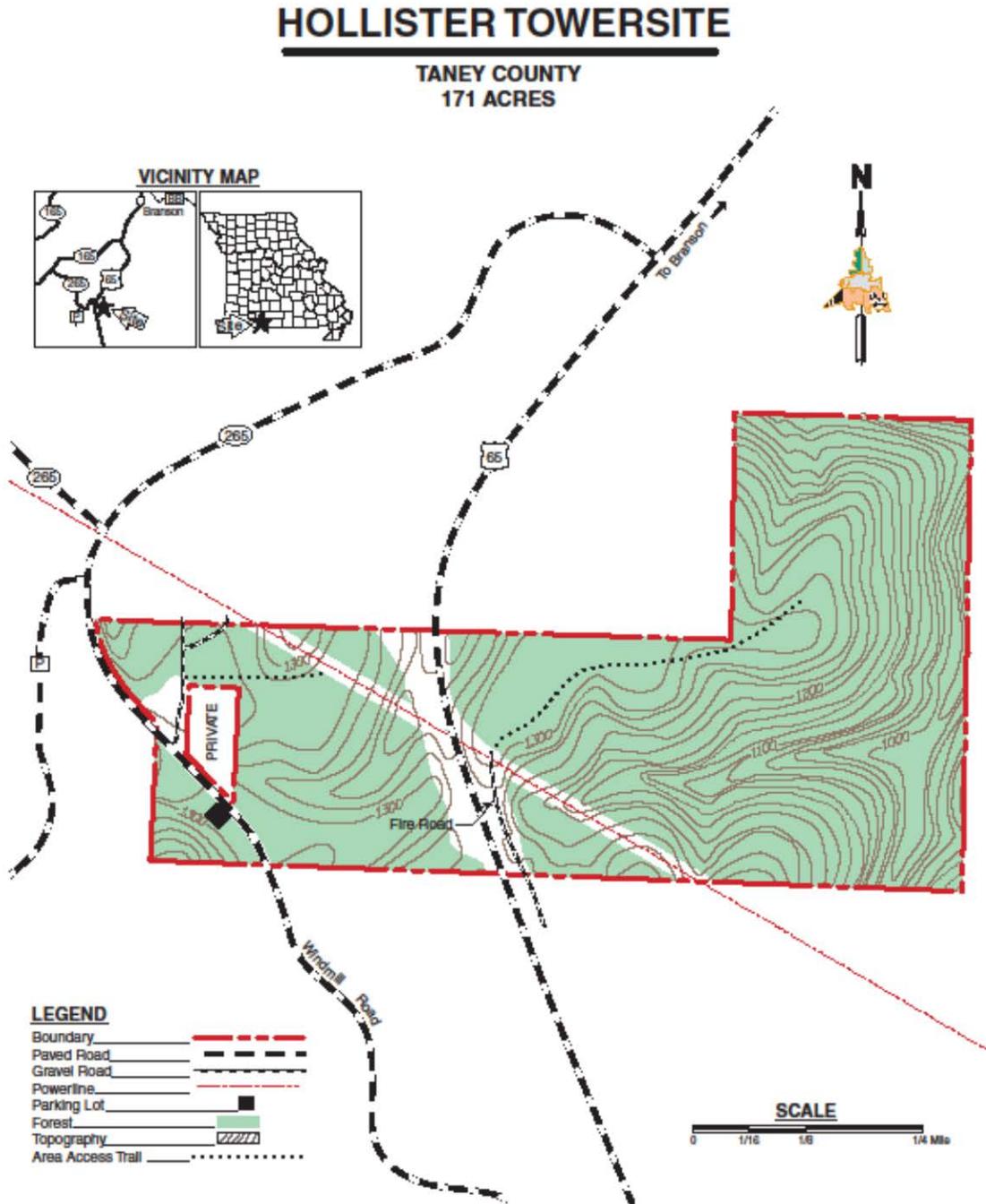


Figure 2: Vicinity Map

Figure 2. Hollister Towersite CA
Vicinity Map

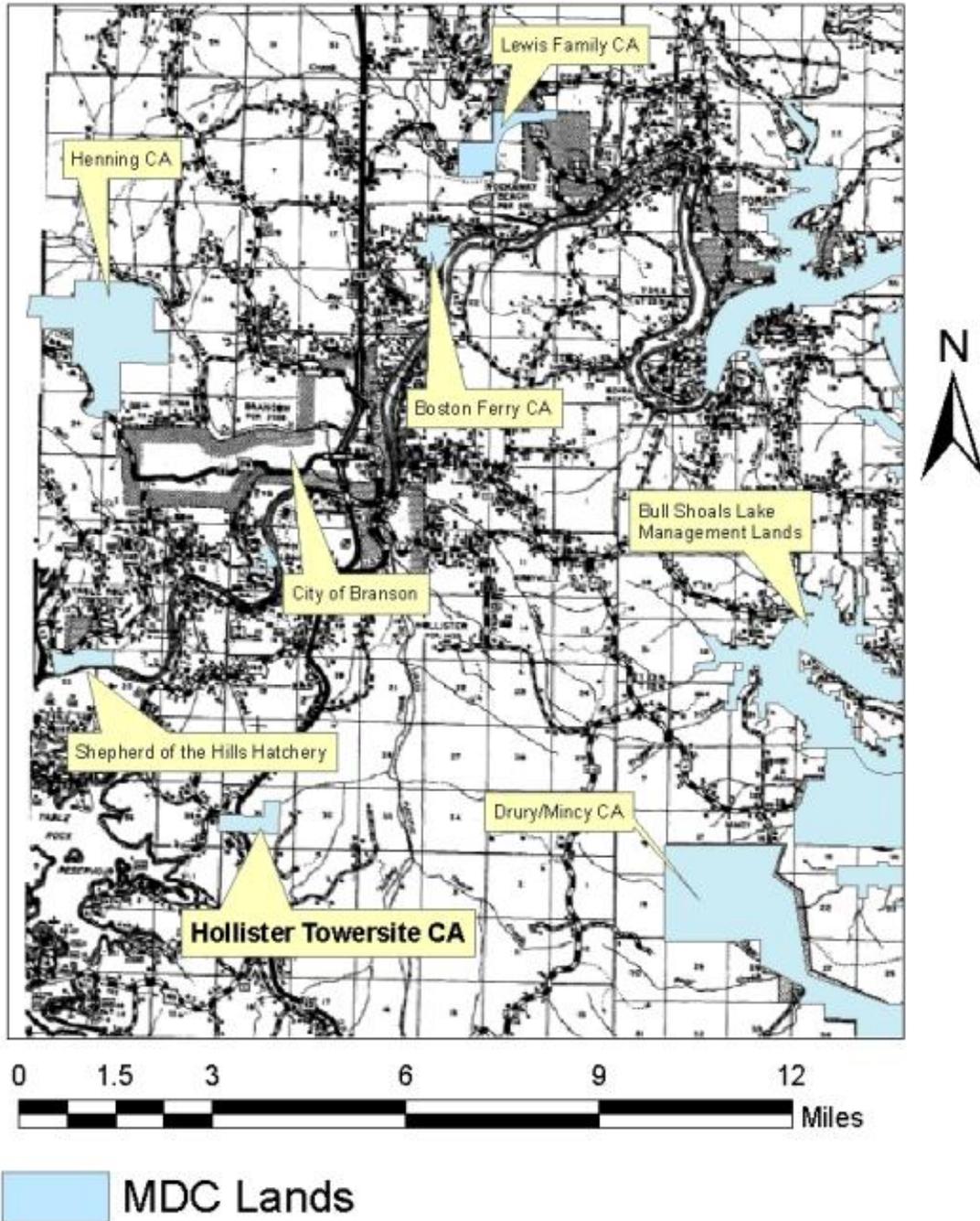


Figure 3: Aerial Photograph

Figure 3. Hollister Towersite CA
Aerial Photograph

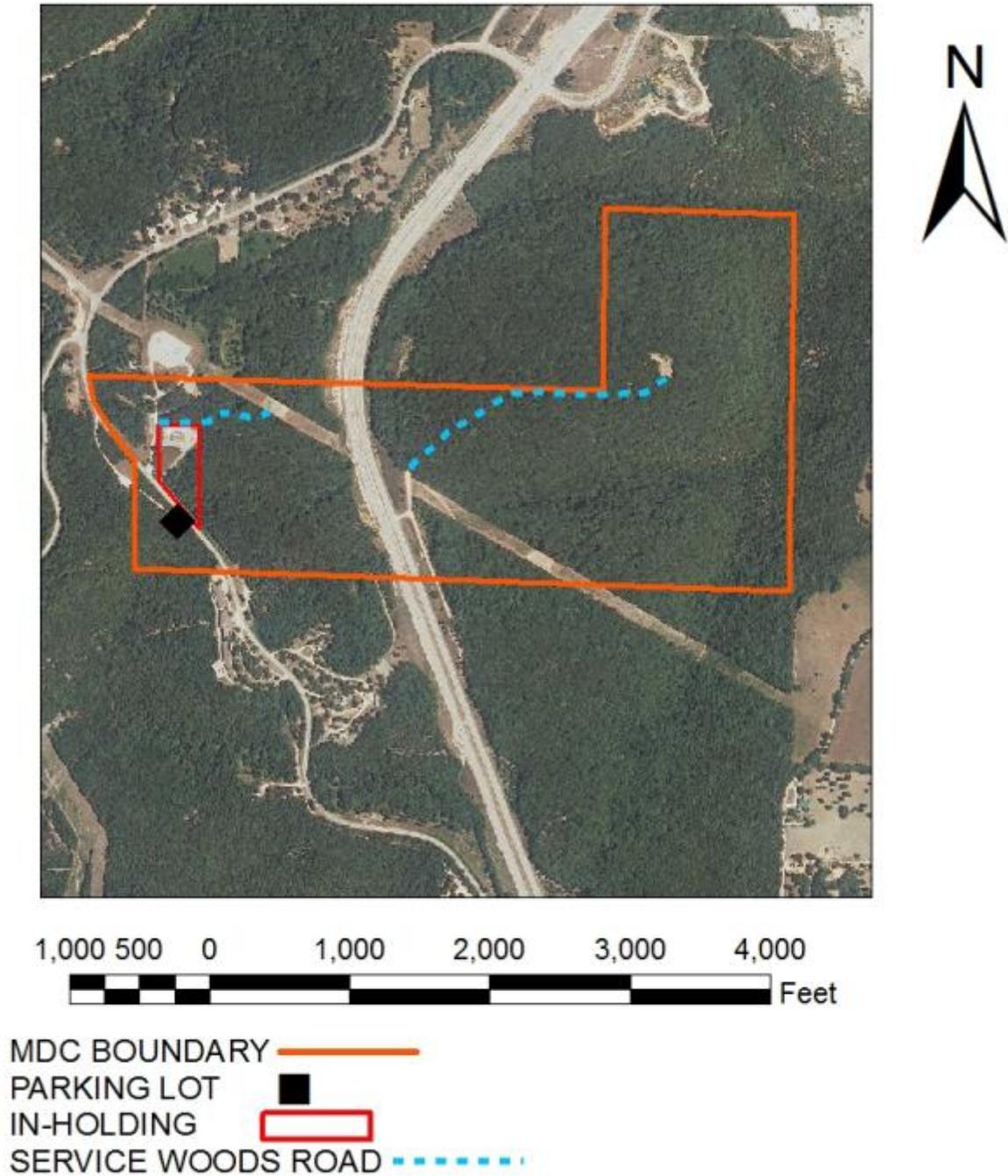


Figure 4: Features and Facilities

Figure 4. Hollister Towersite CA
Features and Facilities

