

# **DRAFT**

# **Little Whitewater Conservation Area**

**Ten-Year Area Management Plan**  
**FY 2017-2026**



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## OVERVIEW

- **Official Area Name:** Little Whitewater Conservation Area, #7840
- **Year of Initial Acquisition:** 1978
- **Acreage:** 80 acres
- **County:** Bollinger
- **Division with Administrative Responsibility:** Forestry
- **Division with Maintenance Responsibility:** Forestry
- **Statements of Purpose:**
  - A. **Strategic Direction**  
Maintain a diversity of healthy plants and animals.
  - B. **Desired Future Condition**  
The desired future condition of Little Whitewater Conservation Area (CA) is a resilient oak-pine woodland and oak-hickory forest community.
  - C. **Federal Aid Statement**  
N/A

## GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

- I. **Special Considerations**
  - A. **Priority Areas:** Whitewater Fisheries Priority Watershed
  - B. **Natural Areas:** None
  
- II. **Important Natural Features and Resources**
  - A. **Species of Conservation Concern:** None observed.
  - B. **Caves:** None
  - C. **Springs:** None
  - D. **Other:** Occurs in the Black River Outer Ozark Border and the West Bollinger Oak-Pine Woodland/Forest Hills Landtype Associations (Nigh & Schroeder, 2002).
  
- III. **Existing Infrastructure**
  - Parking lot
  - Service road
  - Two wildlife water holes
  
- IV. **Area Restrictions or Limitations**
  - A. **Deed Restrictions or Ownership Considerations:** None
  - B. **Federal Interest:** 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:** None

**D. Cultural Resources Findings:** Yes, records kept with Missouri Department of Conservation (Department) environmental compliance specialist. Managers should follow best management practices for cultural resources found in the Department Resource Policy Manual.

**E. Endangered Species:** None observed.

**F. Boundary Issues:** None

## MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

### V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations

Little Whitewater CA contains post oak, blackjack oak and shortleaf pine on its ridges and white oak, black oak, and hickory on its slopes and bottomlands. After the May 2009 derecho storm, a fair amount of early successional species, such as sassafras, sumac, cherry, and red maple, grew in the openings that were created.

#### **Challenges and Opportunities:**

- 1) Maintain and promote the oak-hickory, dry forest/woodland natural community that exists.
- 2) Monitor and control invasive species.

**Management Objective 1:** Maintain and promote the area's natural community.

**Strategy 1:** Monitor forest species trends and stability. (Forestry)

**Strategy 2:** Conduct forest inventory in 2030 per inventory schedule. (Forestry)

**Management Objective 2:** Monitor and control invasive species.

**Strategy 1:** Monitor the area for invasive species. Suppress any infestations that may develop. (Forestry)

### VI. Public Use Management Considerations

#### **Challenges and Opportunities:**

- 1) Provide user-friendly hiking, nature viewing, and hunting opportunities for the public appropriate for the size of the area.



## APPENDICES

### Area Background:

Little Whitewater Conservation Area was purchased in a land deal associated with Castor River Conservation Area. The conservation area has had little to no disturbance or management from its 1978 purchase date until the May 2009 derecho wind storm. The storm affected almost the entire area, blowing over or damaging much of the large overstory trees. A salvage sale was conducted to harvest much of the usable forest products. After this was complete, forest thinning was conducted to slash the large openings that were made. A service road was expanded to take advantage of the skid trails that were made and provide a more user-friendly road.

### Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Feet	% of Area
Woodland/Forest	80		100
Stream Frontage		1,468	

### References:

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

### Maps:

Figure 1: Area Map

Figure 2: Aerial Map

Figure 1: Area Map

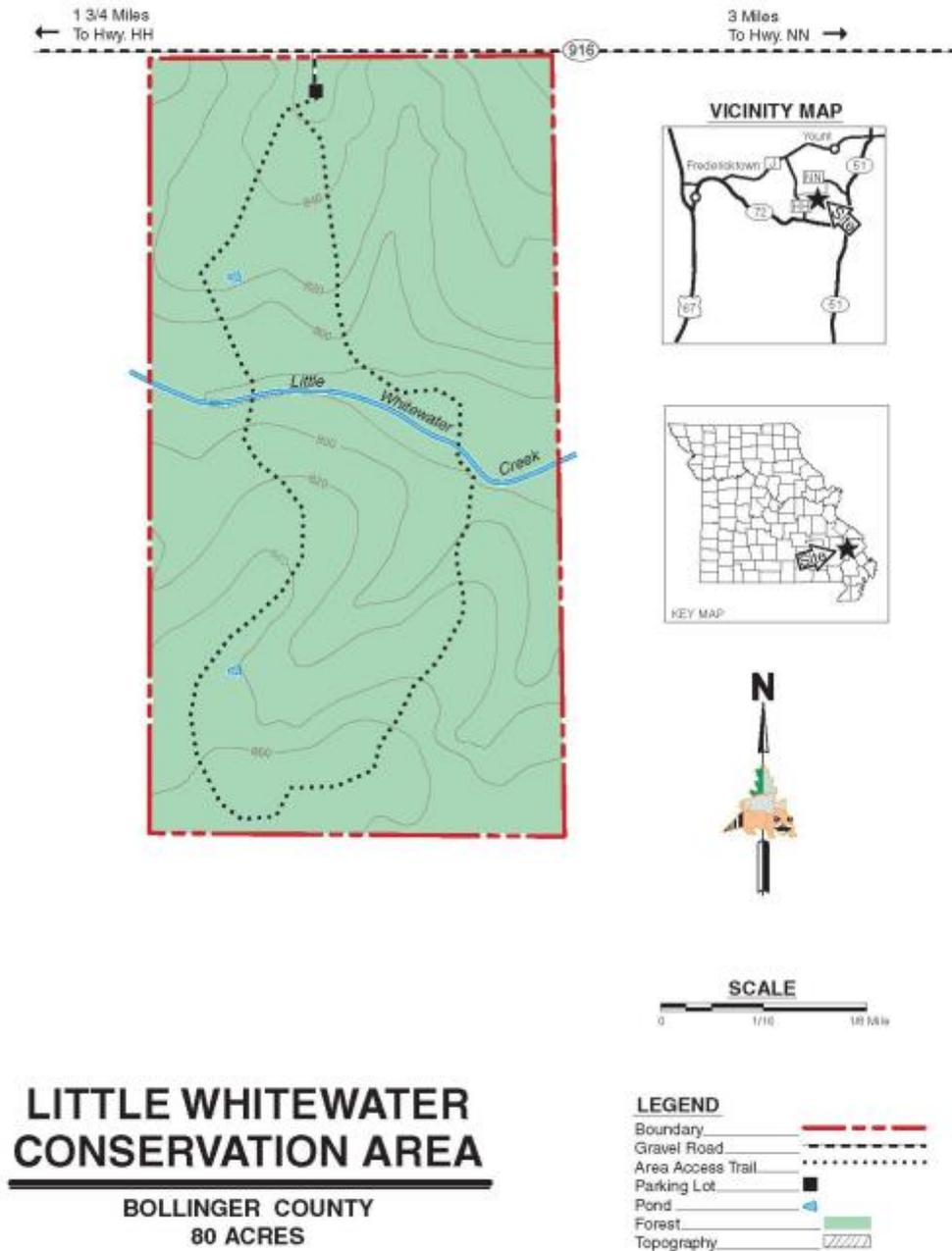
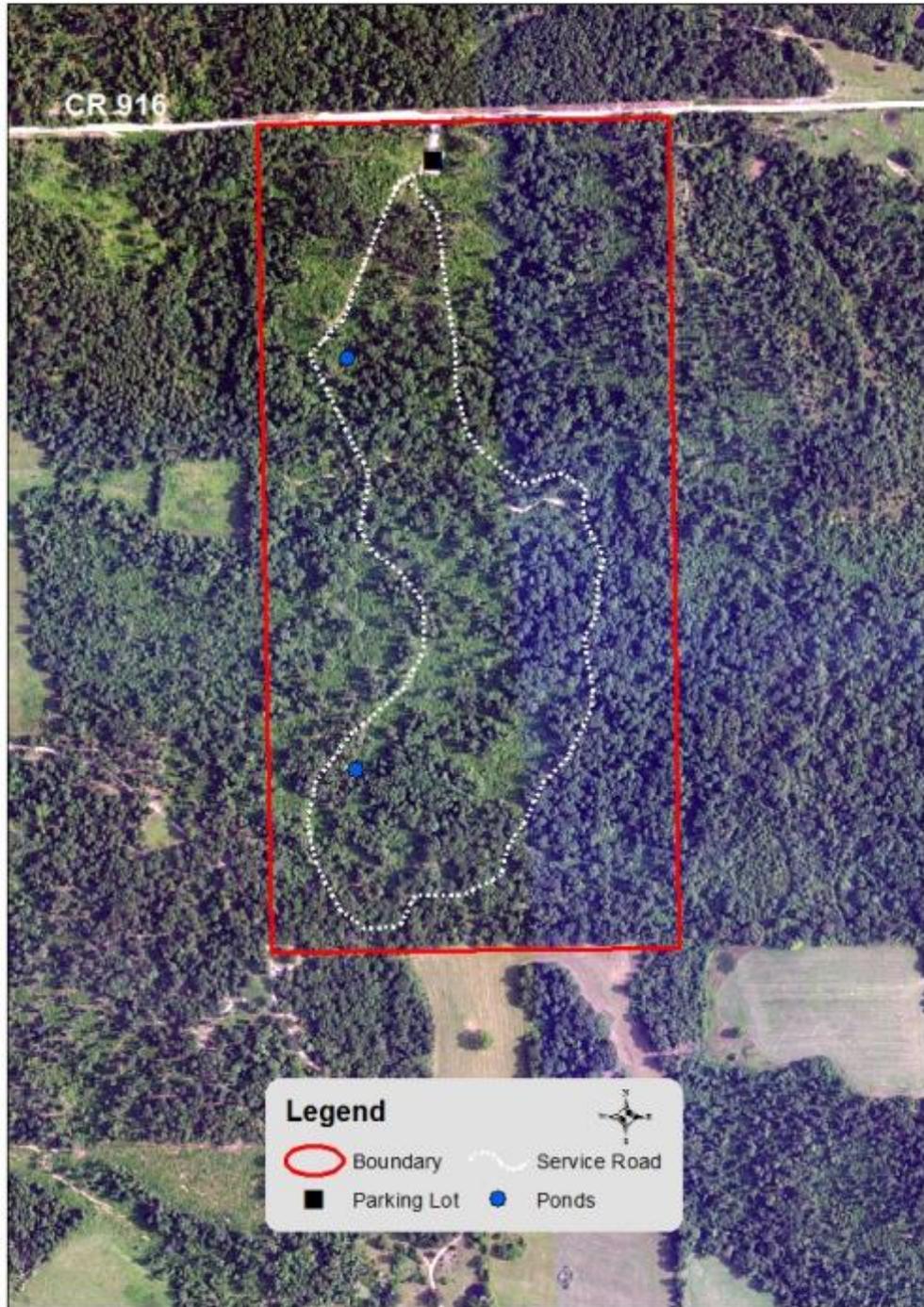


Figure 2: Aerial Map



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