

# Poplar Bluff Accesses

Chalk Bluff Trail Access

Dan River Access

Fisk Access

Harviell Access

Hilliard Access

James Clark Access

Ringo Ford Access

## Fifteen-Year Area Management Plan

FY 2018-2032



Joan M. Allen  
Forestry Division Chief

6-14-17  
Date

## Poplar Bluff Accesses Management Plan Approval Page

### PLANNING TEAM

Matt Pilz, Resource Forester

Mark Pelton, Resource Forester

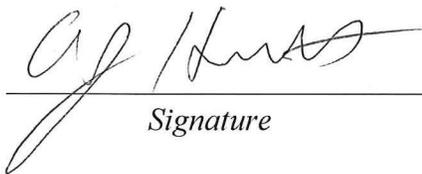
Dave Knuth, Fisheries Management Biologist

Paul Cieslewicz, Fisheries Management Biologist

Frank Campa, Conservation Agent

### SOUTHEAST REGION

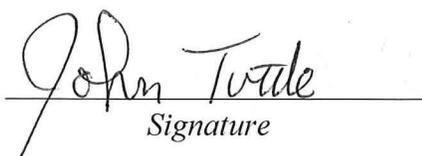
RCT Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

5-23-17  
Date

### FORESTRY DIVISION

Forest Management Chief

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

6/12/17  
Date

## OVERVIEW

Area Name	Area Number	Year Acquired	Acreage	County	Administrative Responsibility	Maintenance Responsibility
Chalk Bluff Trail Access	9226	1993	82	Dunklin	Forestry	Forestry
Dan River Access	9327	1992	68	Butler	Forestry	Forestry
Fisk Access	7003	1971 <sup>1</sup>	4	Butler	Forestry	Forestry
Harviell Access	8511	1984	35	Butler	Forestry	Forestry
Hilliard Access	6614	1966 <sup>2</sup>	1	Butler	Forestry	Forestry
James Clark Access	200514	2004	12	Butler	Fisheries	Fisheries
Ringo Ford Access	9109	1990 <sup>3</sup>	1	Butler	Forestry	Forestry

<sup>1</sup> These access are owned by the Inter-River Drainage District and leased to the Missouri Department of Conservation (Department). Year acquired indicates the beginning date of this lease.

<sup>2</sup> This access is owned by the Missouri Department of Transportation and leased to the Department since 1966.

<sup>3</sup> This access is owned by the Missouri Department of Transportation and leased to the Department since 1990.

### Statements of Purpose:

#### A. Strategic Direction

These areas are managed to provide healthy bottomland forest habitat for species of conservation concern and to provide fishing and boating access to Cane Creek, St. Francis River, Black River, and Little Black River.

#### B. Desired Future Condition

The desired future condition of the Poplar Bluff Accesses is to maintain healthy bottomland forests and provide fishing and boating access for the Poplar Bluff area.

#### C. Federal Aid Statement

- Dan River Access: This area, or a portion thereof, was acquired with federal funds and donated to the state to provide fish and wildlife benefits and land conservation.
- Chalk Bluff Trail Access, Fisk Access, Harviell Access, Hilliard Access, James Clark Access, Ringo Ford Access: N/A

## GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

### I. Special Considerations

Area Name	Priority Areas	Natural Areas
Chalk Bluff Trail Access	Saint Francis River Stream Conservation Opportunity Area	None
Dan River Access	Black River Stream Conservation Opportunity Area	None
Fisk Access	Saint Francis River Stream Conservation Opportunity Area	None
Harviell Access	Black River Stream Conservation Opportunity Area	None
Hilliard Access	Priority Forest Landscape	None
James Clark Access	Saint Francis River Stream Conservation Opportunity Area	None
Ringo Ford Access	None	None

### II. Important Natural Features and Resources

Area Name	Species of Conservation Concern	Caves	Springs
Chalk Bluff Trail Access	Yes <sup>1</sup>	None	None
Dan River Access	Yes <sup>1</sup>	None	None
Fisk Access	Yes <sup>1</sup>	None	None
Harviell Access	Yes <sup>1</sup>	None	None
Hilliard Access	Yes <sup>1</sup>	None	None
James Clark Access	Yes <sup>1</sup>	None	None
Ringo Ford Access	Yes <sup>1</sup>	None	None

<sup>1</sup>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 Name	Parking Lots	Concrete Boat Ramp	Privy	Pond/Lake
Chalk Bluff Trail Access	1 <sup>1</sup>	1	1 <sup>1</sup>	None
Dan River Access	1 <sup>1</sup>	1 <sup>1</sup>	1 <sup>1</sup>	1-acre fishless pond
Fisk Access	1	1	None	None
Harviell Access	1	1	None	None
Hilliard access	1	1	None	None
James Clark Access	1	1 <sup>2</sup>	None	None
Ringo Ford Access	1	None <sup>3</sup>	None	None

<sup>1</sup>Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible

<sup>2</sup>Ramp is a canoe/small johnboat hand launch. There is no trailer launch.

<sup>3</sup>Canoe launch only. No access to river for trailers.

**IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations**

<b>Area Name</b>	<b>Deed Restrictions</b>	<b>Federal Interest</b>	<b>Ease-ments</b>	<b>Cultural Resources</b>	<b>Endangered Species</b>	<b>Boundary Issues</b>
Chalk Bluff Trail Access	None	Yes <sup>4</sup>	None	None known	Yes <sup>8</sup>	None
Dan River Access	None	Yes <sup>4,5</sup>	None	None known	Yes <sup>8</sup>	None
Fisk Access	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>4</sup>	None	None known	Yes <sup>8</sup>	None
Harviell Access	None	Yes <sup>6</sup>	None	None known	None observed	None
Hilliard Access	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>6</sup>	None	None known	Yes <sup>8</sup>	None
James Clark Access	None	Yes <sup>6</sup>	Yes <sup>7</sup>	None known	None observed	None
Ringo Ford Access	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes <sup>6</sup>	None	None known	Yes <sup>8</sup>	None

<sup>1</sup>These accesses are owned by the Inter-River Drainage District and leased to the Department (99 – year lease).

<sup>2</sup>This access is owned by the Missouri Department of Transportation and leased to the Department in agreement since 1966 with the stipulation the agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party.

<sup>3</sup>This access is owned by the Missouri Department of Transportation and leased to the Department in a 10-year agreement since 1990 with the stipulation the agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party.

<sup>4</sup>Federal funds were used in the development of this area, or a portion thereof. The Missouri Department of Conservation must maintain the developed project throughout its useful life. 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.

<sup>5</sup>Uses of land acquired with federal funds may not interfere with the purpose for which it was acquired. 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.

<sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>Electric and drainage district easements

<sup>8</sup>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) Manage bottomland forests for a variety of species characteristic of the natural communities.
- 2) Monitor and control invasive species.
- 3) Monitor tree plantings and natural succession in old field sections.

**Management Objective 1:** Provide bottomland forest habitat for a broad array of species, characteristic of the natural communities found in the areas, including habitat suitable for species of conservation concern.

**Strategy 1:** Allow areas to develop naturally and intervene when management is deemed necessary to meet habitat goals. (Forestry)

**Strategy 2:** Complete a forest inventory of areas after a given period of time (15-20 years) to determine if management activities are necessary. (Forestry)

**Management Objective 2:** Monitor and control the spread of invasive species

**Strategy 1:** Monitor annually for invasive species occurrences and treat as needed. (Forestry)

**Management Objective 3:** Monitor tree plantings and natural succession in old field sections of the access.

**Strategy 1:** Plant additional bottomland tree species seedlings if necessary. (Forestry)

**Strategy 2:** Thin seeded trees as needed. (Forestry)

### VI. Aquatic Resource Management Considerations

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

- 1) Manage the riparian corridor to provide quality stream bank stability.
- 2) Maintain fishless area ponds for wildlife watering and semi-aquatic wildlife use.

**Management Objective 1:** Maintain riparian corridors along streams on the areas and prevent soil erosion during any land disturbances.

**Strategy 1:** Monitor forest health in the riparian buffer zone and implement any necessary forest best management practices, if practical to ensure adequate tree health, composition, and density. (Forestry)

**Strategy 2:** Follow the Missouri Department of Conservation's (the Department's) *Missouri watershed protection practices recommended for Missouri forests: 2014 management guidelines for maintaining forested watersheds to protect streams* manual (Missouri Department of Conservation, 2014) when maintaining and constructing roadways and conducting timber harvests. (Forestry)

**Management Objective 2:** Monitor aquatic species of conservation concern and update the Natural Heritage database as necessary.

**Strategy 1:** Assess aquatic organism populations to determine their presence and population stability. Both fisheries biologists and natural history biologists will work together to accomplish the monitoring. (Fisheries, Wildlife)

**Management Objective 3:** Manage all fishless waters on the area for amphibian and wildlife benefits.

**Strategy 1:** Maintain ponds incapable of supporting quality fisheries for amphibians, reptiles, and other wildlife. (Forestry, Fisheries)

## VII. Public Use Management Considerations

### **Challenges and Opportunities:**

- 1) Provide boating and fishing access to rivers in the Poplar Bluff area.

**Management Objective 1:** Maintain the public accesses and provide public use opportunities in accordance with area rules and regulations.

**Strategy 1:** Maintain the area facilities and public accesses in accordance with the Area Resource Management Manual. (Forestry)

## VIII. Administrative Considerations

### **Challenges and Opportunities:**

- 1) Maintain area facilities for public use and enjoyment.
- 2) Maintain area boundaries so that they are easy to identify for the public.
- 3) Consider land acquisition, when available.

**Management Objective 1:** Maintain area facilities for public use and enjoyment.

**Strategy 1:** Maintain all welcome signs, bulletin boards, and rules and regulations signage. (Forestry)

**Management Objective 2:** Maintain area boundaries so that they are easy to identify for the public.

**Strategy 1:** Area boundaries will be blazed, painted, and signed with Department signs. (Forestry)

**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**

Strategies are considered ongoing unless listed in the following table:

	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 30	FY 31	FY 32
<b>Administrative Considerations</b>															
<i>Objective 2</i>															
Strategy 1	X			X			X			X			X		

## **APPENDCIES**

### **Public Input Summary:**

The draft Poplar Bluff Accesses Management Plan was available for public comment March 1-31, 2017. The Missouri Department of Conservation received no comments during this time period.

### **References:**

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

### **Appendices:**

- Appendix 1. Chalk Bluff Trail Access Area Background
- Appendix 2. Chalk Bluff Trail Access Area Map
- Appendix 3. Chalk Bluff Trail Access Aerial Map with Forest Stands
- Appendix 4. Dan River Access Area Background
- Appendix 5. Dan River Access Area Map
- Appendix 6. Dan River Access Aerial Map with Forest Stands
- Appendix 7. Fisk Access Area Background
- Appendix 8. Fisk Access Area Map
- Appendix 9. Fisk Access Aerial Map
- Appendix 10. Harviell Access Area Background
- Appendix 11. Harviell Access Area Map
- Appendix 12. Harviell Access Aerial Map with Forest Stands
- Appendix 13. Hilliard Access Area Background
- Appendix 14. Hilliard Access Area Map
- Appendix 15. Hilliard Access Aerial map
- Appendix 16. James Clark Access Area Background
- Appendix 17. James Clark Access Area Map
- Appendix 18. James Clark Access Aerial Map
- Appendix 19. Ringo Ford Access Area Background
- Appendix 20. Ringo Ford Access Area Map
- Appendix 21. Ringo Ford Access Aerial Map

**Appendix 1. Chalk Bluff Trail Access Area Background**

This area is of adequate size to promote active resource management. Chalk Bluff Trail Access is comprised of eight stands:

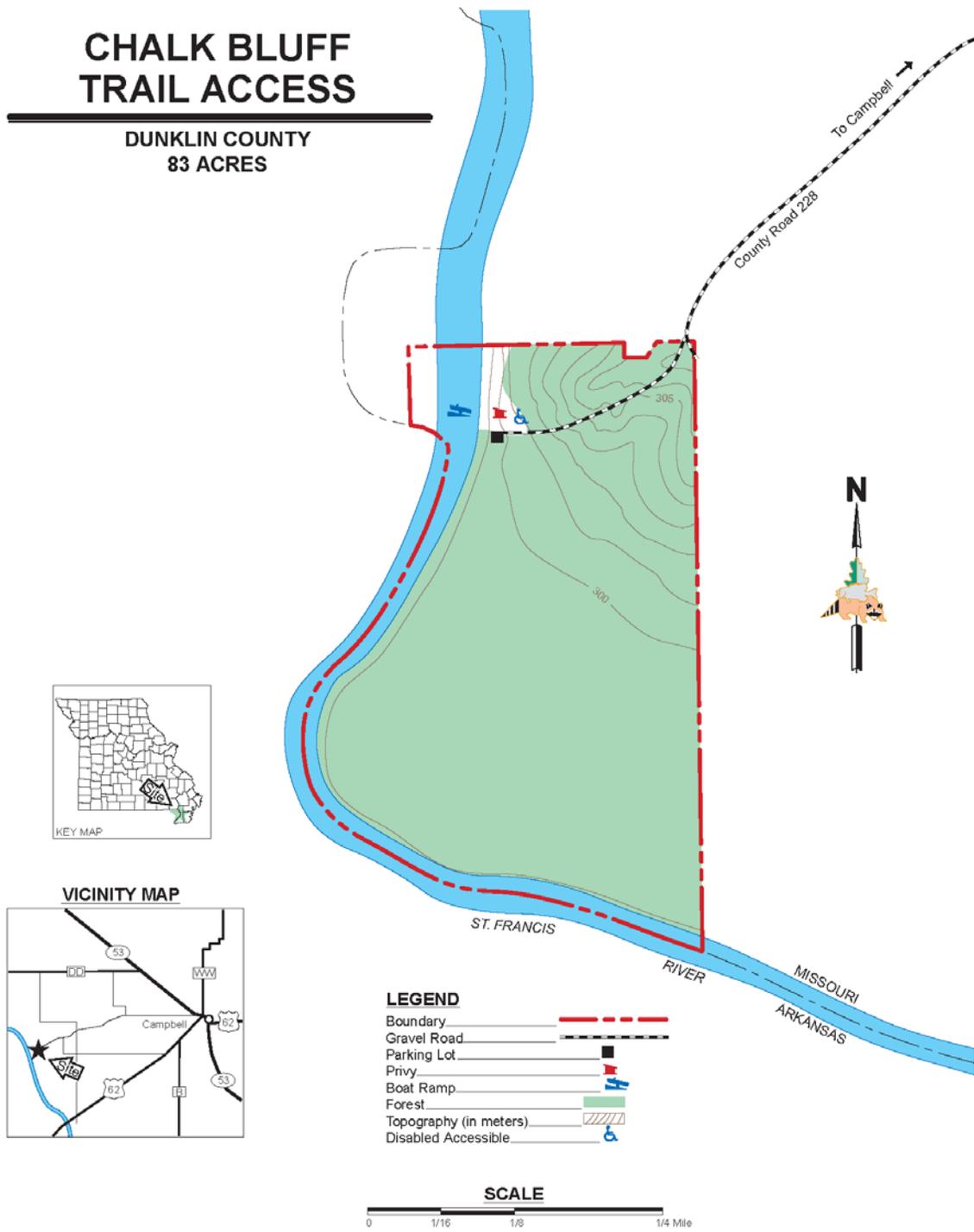
- Stand 1 is a 12-acre stand that contains oak and sweet gum timber;
- Stand 2 is a 13-acre stand that contains upland highly erosive hillside;
- Stand 3 is a 5-acre stand that contains a section of bottomland forest along St. Francis River;
- Stand 4 is a 15-acre stand that contains directed seeded with oak;
- Stand 5 is a 2-acre stand that contains remnant oak and sweetgum timber;
- Stand 6 is a 7-acre stand that was contracted and seeded with oak. Vine growth has become a problem and many trees have become overtopped with vine growth.
- Stand 7 is a 10-acre stand that is composed of remnant oak, sweetgum, and other bottomland hardwood timber.
- Stand 8 is a 14-acre stand that was contracted and seeded with oak. Growth of vines has become a problem in the eastern half of the stand and some trees have become overtopped with vines.

This area is mostly old fields. Facilities/features: boat ramp, a permanent stream (St. Francis River).

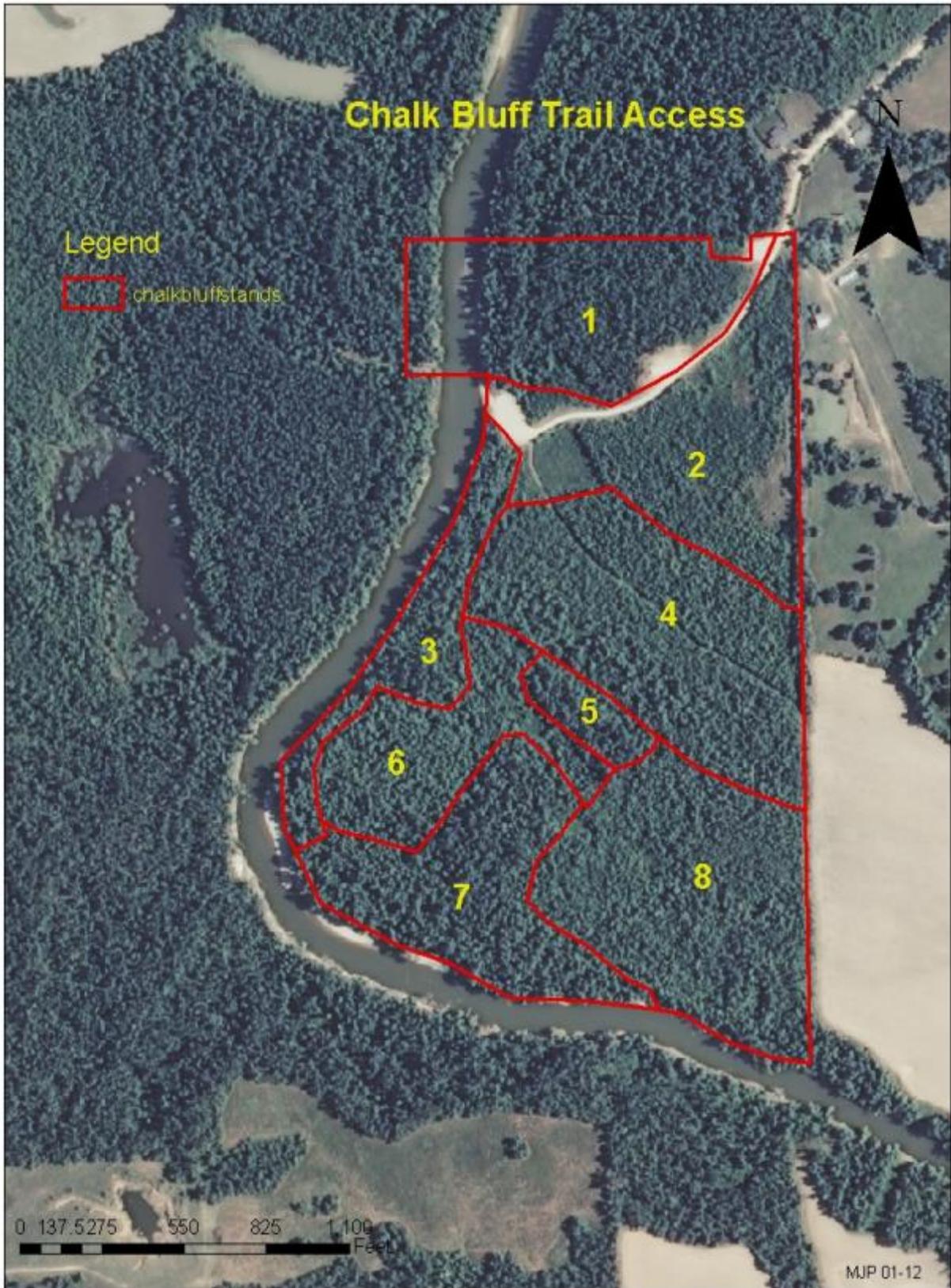
**Current Land and Water Types:**

<b>Land/Water Type</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Miles</b>	<b>% of Area</b>
Forest and Woodland	77		93
Old Field	6		7
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>		<b>100</b>
Stream Frontage		0.7	

**Appendix 2. Chalk Bluff Trail Access Area Map**



**Appendix 3. Chalk Bluff Trail Access Aerial Map with Forest Stands**



#### Appendix 4. Dan River Access Area Background

This area is of adequate size to promote active resource management. The access is comprised of four stands:

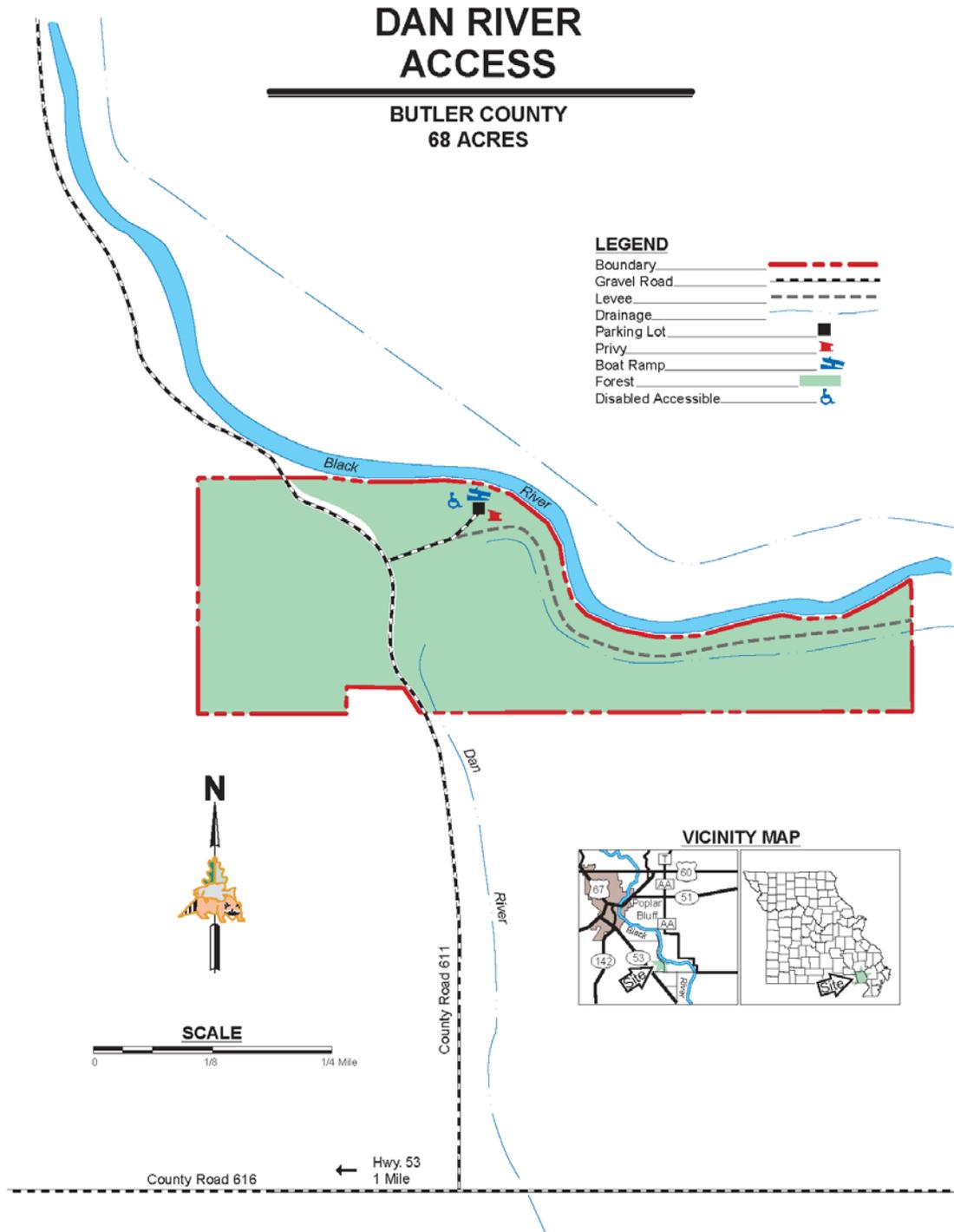
- Stand 1 is a 27-acre stand that was formerly old field when acquired. The field has since grown up into naturally regenerated bottomland hardwoods between 2 and 6 inches diameter at breast height (dbh). Some oak is present in the stand due, in part, to a volunteer project that involved planting acorns. The stand is dense and may need to be thinned in the future.
- Stand 2 is a 4-acre stand with tree planning. Nuttall oak were planted, and are now between 2 and 8 inches dbh. Some vines are encroaching into the stand from along the river. The stand will need to be monitored for thinning.
- Stand 3 is a 28 acre stand that was formerly old field when acquired. The field has since grown up into naturally regenerated bottomland hardwoods between 2 and 6 inch dbh. Some oaks are present in the stand. The stand is dense and may need to be thinned in the future. Two amphibian ponds are also present. These ponds were created after fill material had been dug for road and parking lot.
- Stand 4 is a 9-acre stand of unmanaged riverfront forest. Bottomland species comprise this stand. It is possible that this stand could be thinned if deemed necessary.

This area is mostly forested with small wetlands. It offers access to the Black River. There is a boat ramp.

#### Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Forest and Woodland	66		97
Wetland	2		3
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>		<b>100</b>
Permanent Stream		0.5	

### Appendix 5. Dan River Access Area Map



**Appendix 6. Dan River Access Aerial Map with Forest Stands**



**Appendix 7. Fisk Access Area Background**

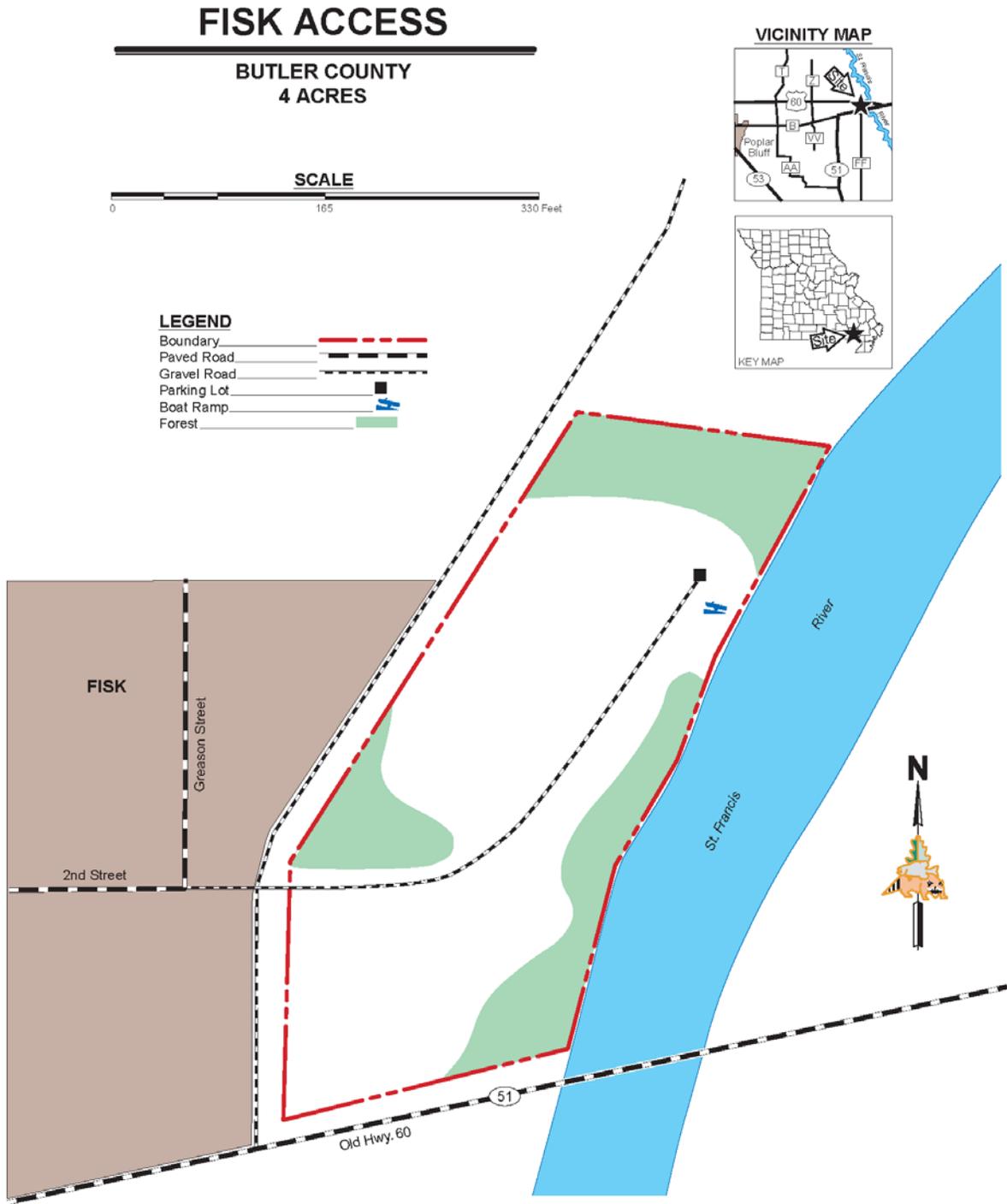
This access is owned by Inter-River Drainage District and is managed by the Department. No resource management is currently occurring at this location due to the area’s small size. If tree health is threatened, action may be taken to mitigate threat.

This area offers access to the St. Francis River. There is a boat ramp.

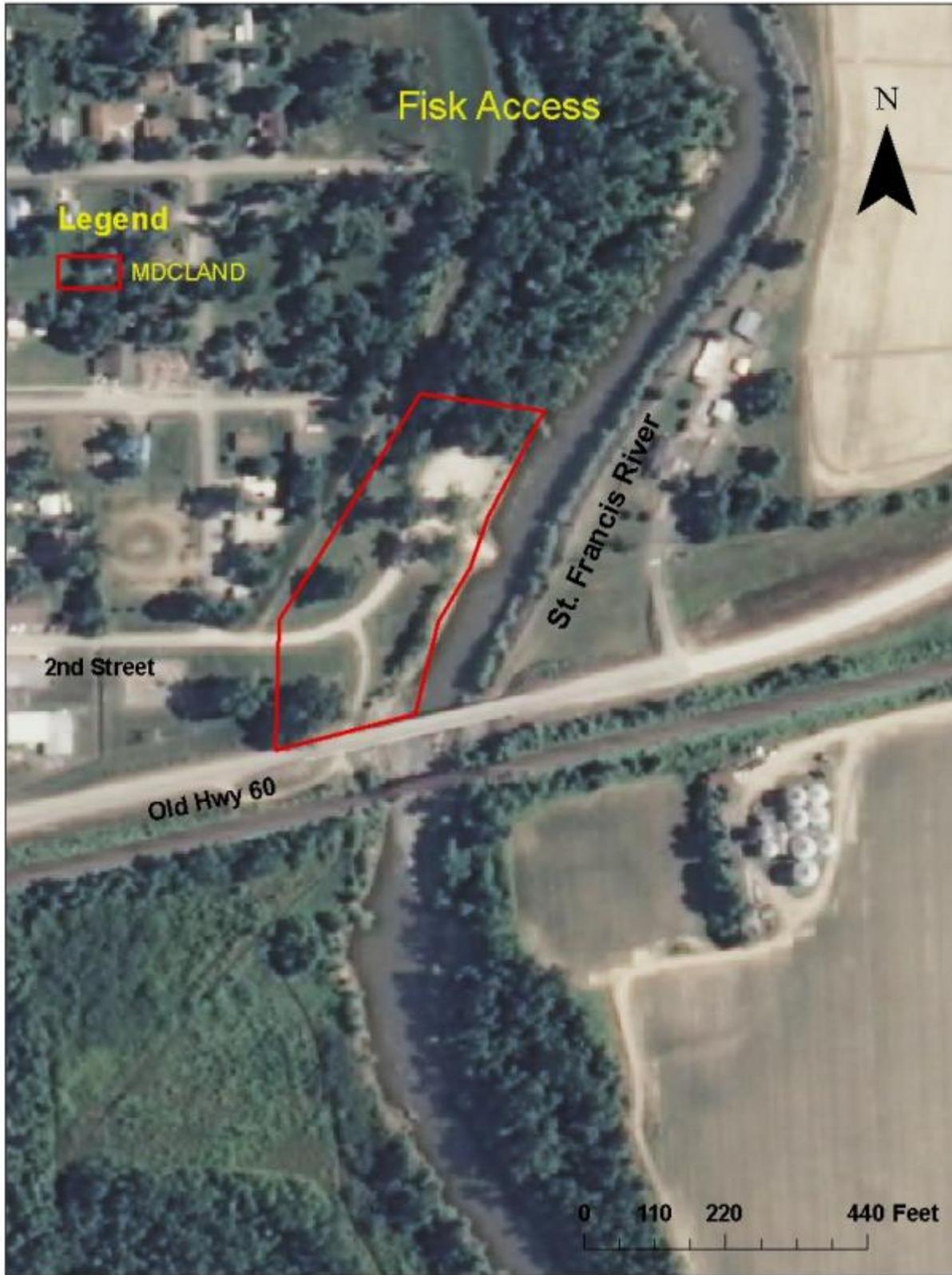
**Current Land and Water Types:**

<b>Land/Water Type</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Miles</b>	<b>% of Area</b>
Old Field	2		50
Forest and Woodland	2		50
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>100</b>
Permanent Stream		0.1	

### Appendix 8. Fisk Access Area Map



**Appendix 9. Fisk Access Aerial Map**



**Appendix 10. Harviell Access Area Background**

This area is of adequate size to promote active resource management. The access is comprised of seven stands:

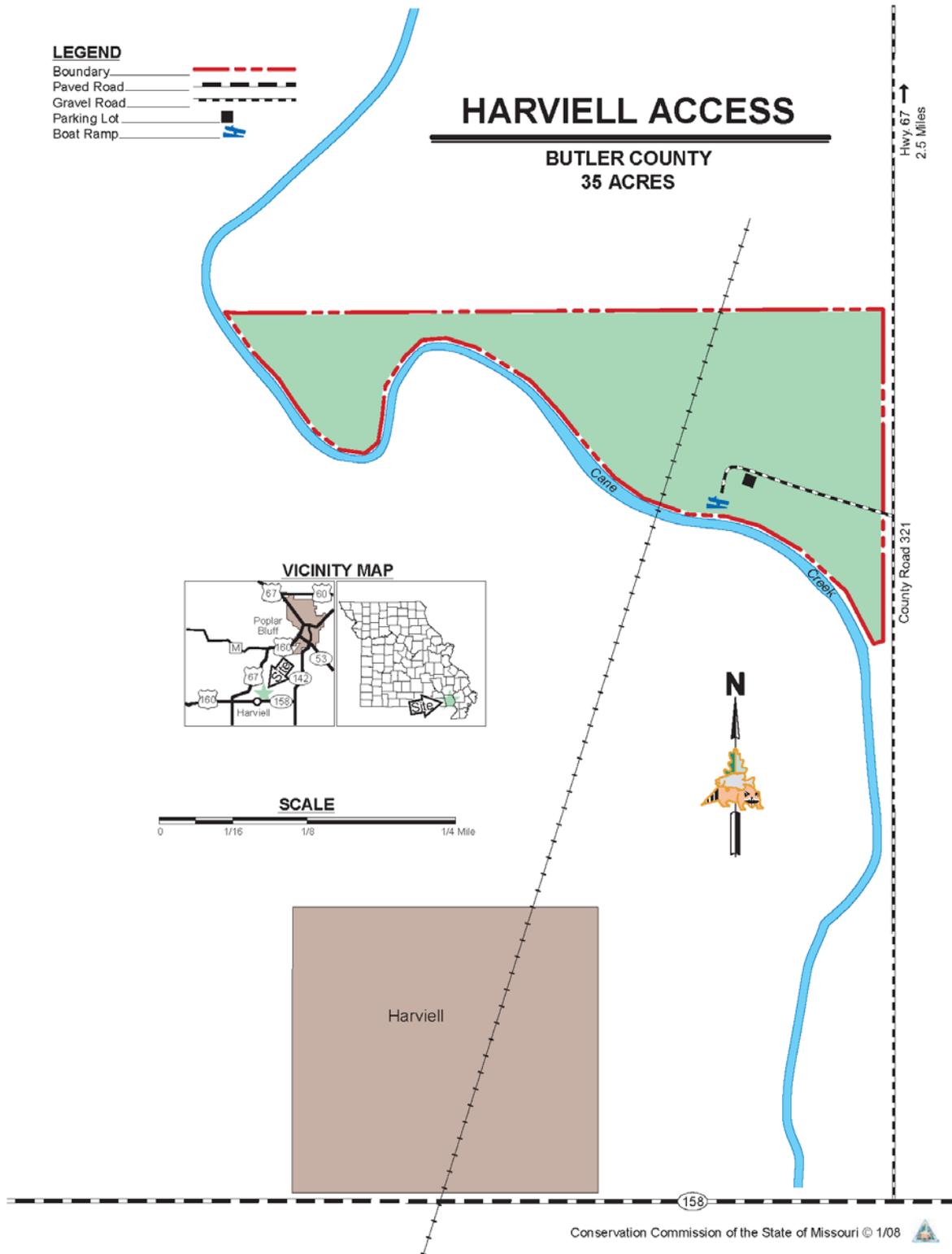
- Stand 1 is a 1-acre food plot that was maintained between 2001 and 2006. This food plot may be used periodically in the future.
- Stand 2 is a 5-acre demonstration tree planting. Seedlings of green ash, cherrybark oak, nuttall oak, and bald cypress were planted, as well as cherrybark oak seed. These trees were planted in different orientations and are subjected to different treatments, including mowing around, mowing in addition to providing a one-year chemical treatment, mowing in addition to providing a three-year chemical treatment, and mowing in addition to a three-year chemical treatment and providing a cover crop. A forest thinning was completed in 2010. Goals are to maintain proper spacing through tree thinning.
- Stand 3 is a 5-acre stand that was direct seeded with oak in 1990. A crop tree release forest thinning was completed in 2008. Goals for the future are to maintain proper spacing through tree thinning.
- Stand 4 is a 7-acre stand. Most of the stand was planted in oak between 1993 and 1995. In 2008 most of the stand was treated with crop tree release forest thinning. Goals for the future are to maintain proper spacing through tree thinning.
- Stand 5 is a 3-acre stand that was planted with black walnut seedlings in 1990. Trees were thinned and mowed around between 1992 and 2011. Goals for the future are to maintain proper spacing through tree thinning.
- Stand 6 is a 4-acre stand that was planted with black walnut seedlings in 1990. Trees were thinned and mowed between 1992 and 2009. Goals for the future are to maintain proper spacing through tree thinning
- Stand 7 is a 6-acre stand that has been left to regenerate naturally. Goals for the future are to maintain proper spacing through tree thinning.

This forest area offers access to Cane Creek. There is a boat ramp.

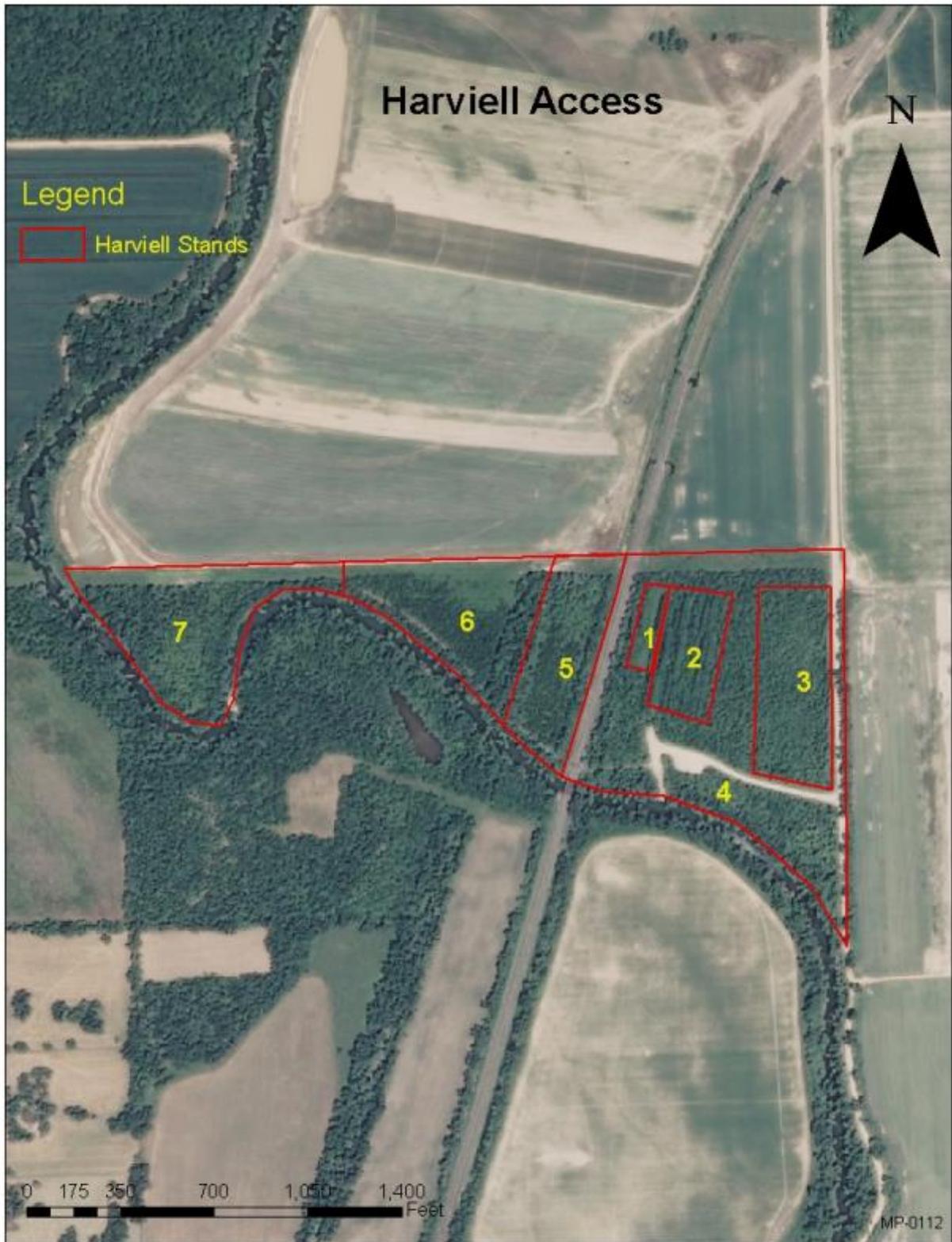
**Current Land and Water Types:**

<b>Land Type</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Miles</b>	<b>% of Area</b>
Forest and Woodland	35		100
Permanent Stream		0.75	

### Appendix 11. Harviell Access Area Map



Appendix 12. Harviell Access Aerial Map with Forest Stands



**Appendix 13. Hilliard Access Area Background**

This access is owned by the Missouri Department of Transportation and is managed by the Department.

No resource management is currently occurring at this location due to the area’s small size. If tree health is threatened, action may be taken to mitigate threat.

Hilliard Access is 2 miles north of Poplar Bluff on Route W. This area offers access to the Black River. There is a boat ramp.

**Current Land and Water Types:**

<b>Land/Water Type</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Miles</b>	<b>% of Area</b>
Other (road, parking lot)	1		67
Forest	0.5		33
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.5</b>		<b>100</b>
Stream – Permanent		0.01	



**Appendix 15. Hilliard Access Aerial Map**



**Appendix 16. James Clark Access Area Background**

No resource management is currently occurring at this location due to the area’s small size. If forest health is threatened, action may be taken to manage a small section of timber.

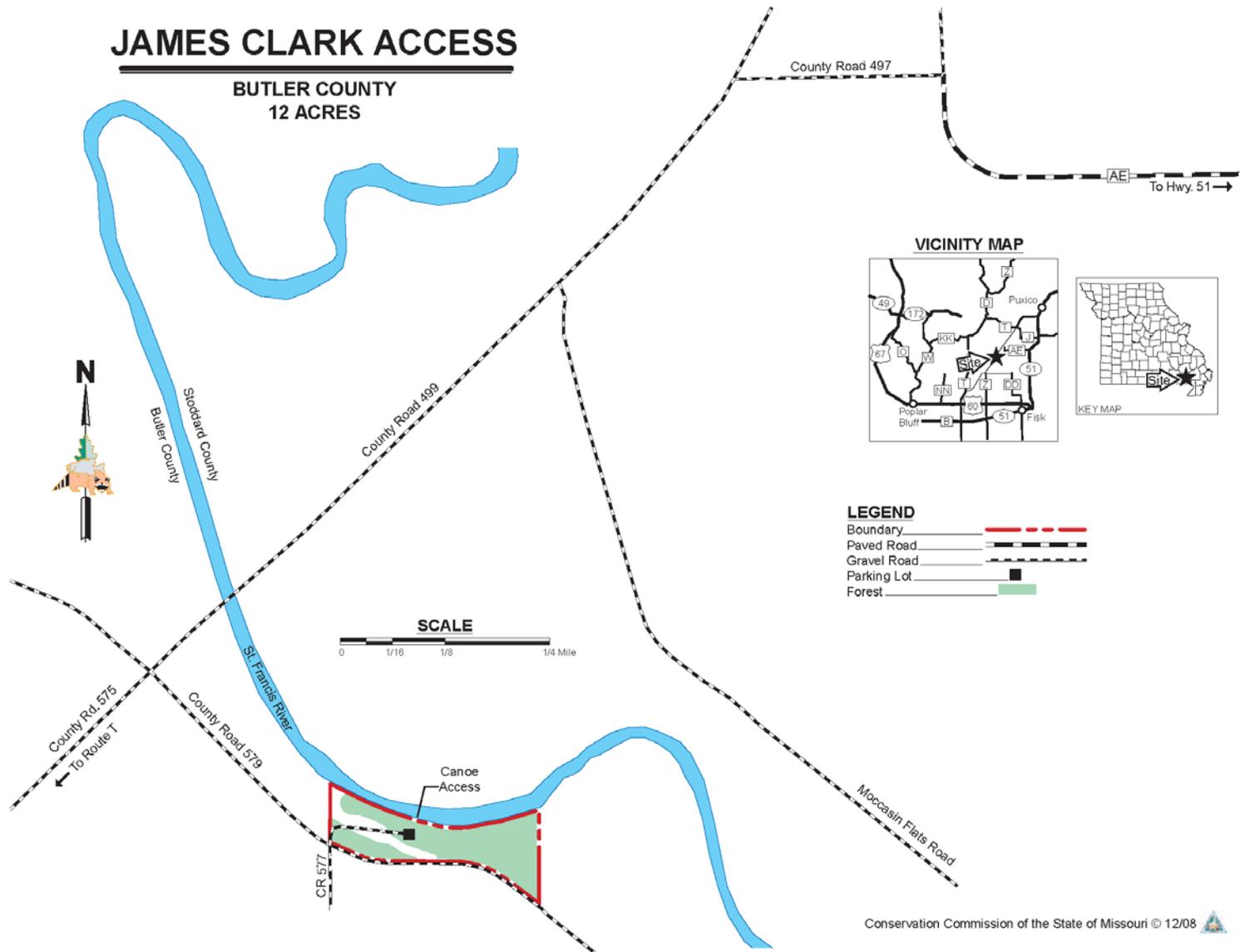
This St. Francis River site is a donation from the Clark family in memory of their husband and father.

This is a hand launch site only.

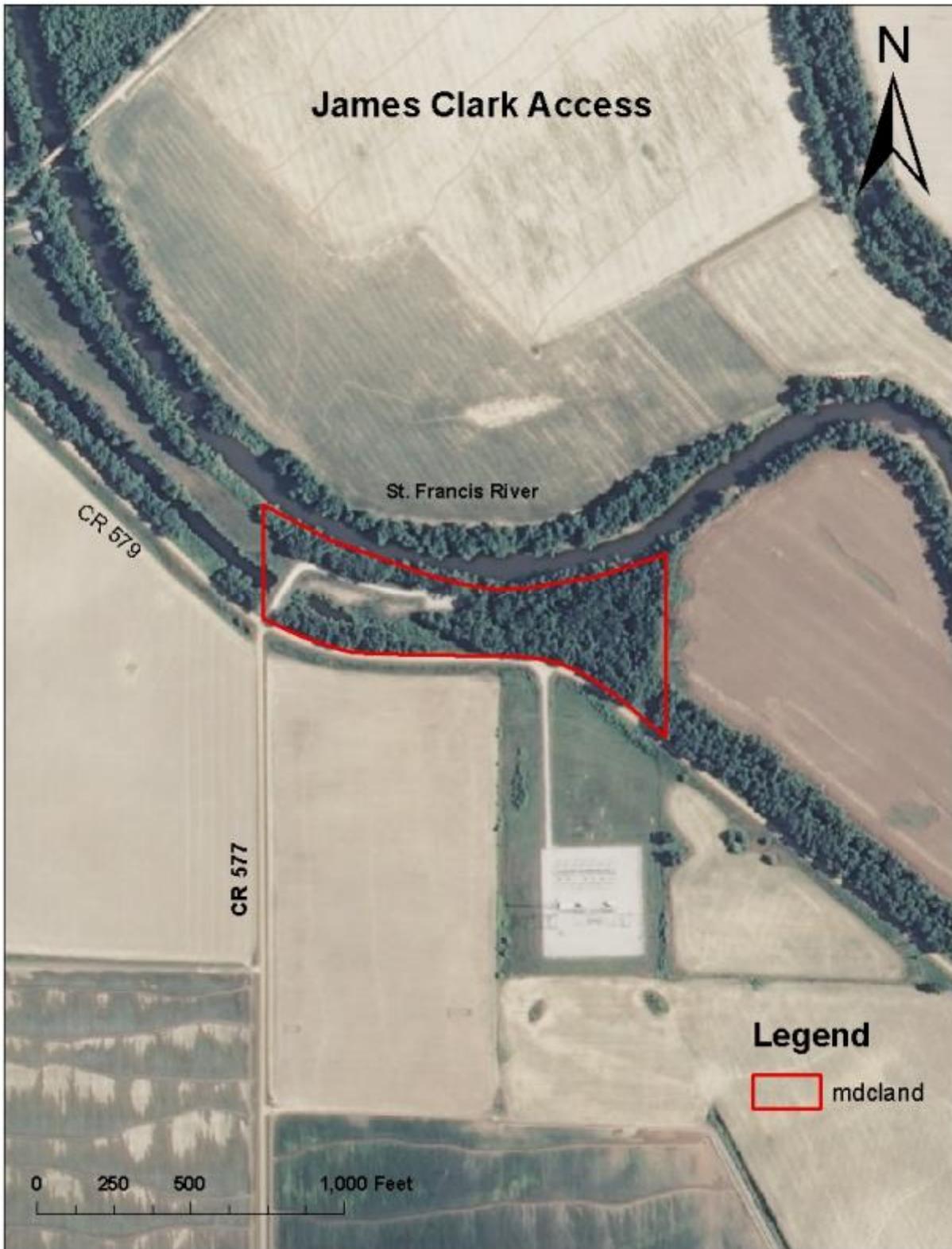
**Current Land and Water Types:**

<b>Land/Water Type</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Miles</b>	<b>% of Area</b>
Forest and Woodland	10		83
Old Field	2		17
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>100</b>
Permanent Stream		0.25	

Appendix 17. James Clark Access Area Map



**Appendix 18. James Clark Access Aerial Map**



**Appendix 19. Ringo Ford Access Area Background**

This access is owned by the Missouri Department of Transportation and managed by the Department. No resource management is currently occurring at this location due to size. If tree health is threatened, action may be taken to mitigate threat.

**Current Land and Water Types:**

<b>Land/Water Type</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Miles</b>	<b>% of Area</b>
Forest and Open	0.5		50
Other (road, parking lot)	0.5		50
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.0</b>		<b>100</b>
Permanent Stream		0.2	

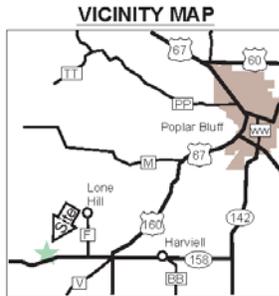
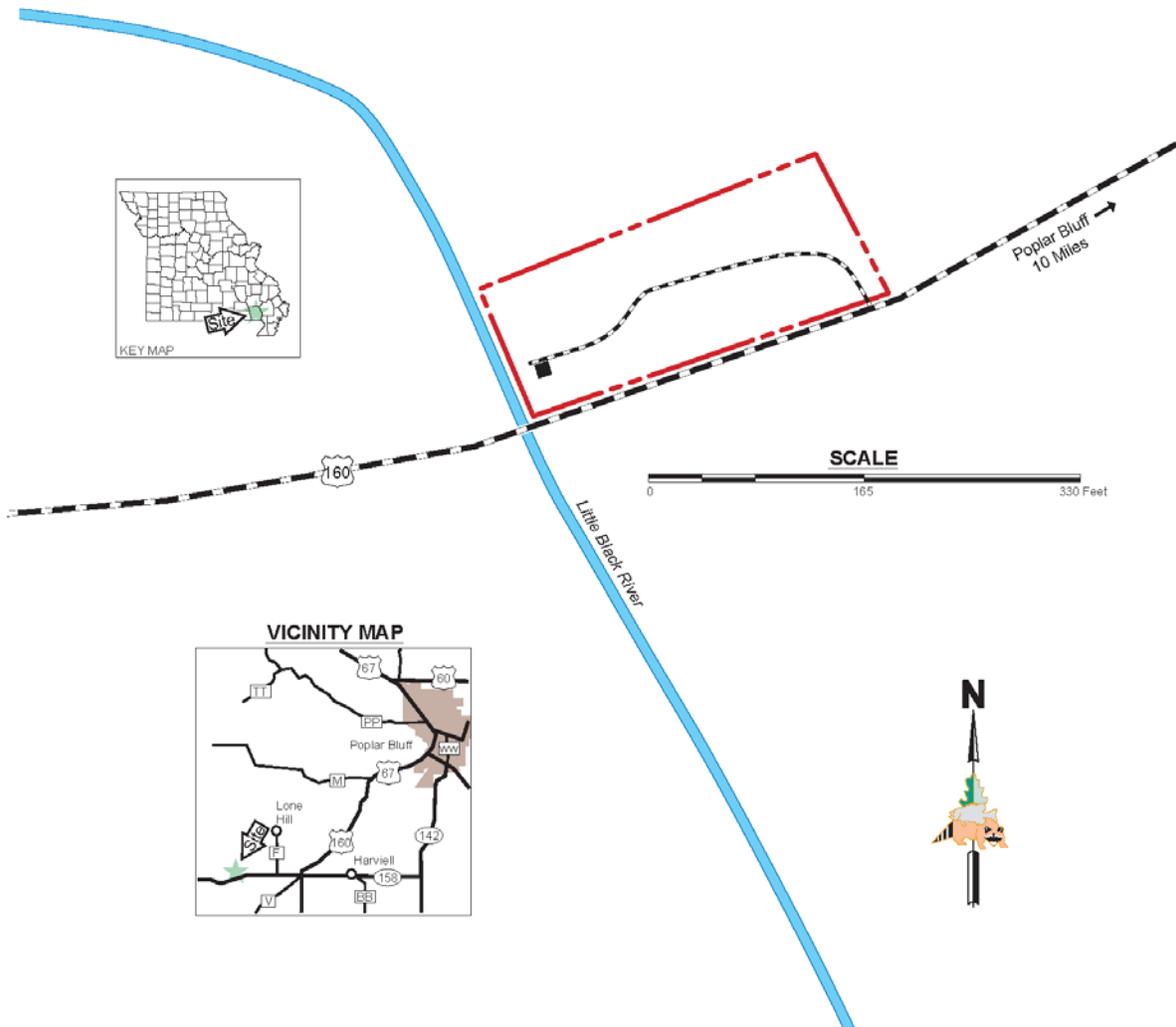
### Appendix 20. Ringo Ford Access Area Map

# RINGO FORD ACCESS

BUTLER COUNTY  
1 ACRE

#### LEGEND

- Boundary 
- Paved Road 
- Gravel Road 
- Parking Lot 



**Appendix 21. Ringo Ford Access Aerial Map**

