

Moreau River Accesses

Honey Creek Access
Moreau 50 Access
Scrivner Road Access
Stringtown Bridge Access

Fifteen-Year Area Management Plan FY 2019-2033




Fisheries Division Chief

Oct. 22, 2018
Date

Moreau River Accesses Management Plan Approval Page

PLANNING TEAM

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CENTRAL REGION

RCT Chair


Signature

9/25/18
Date

FISHERIES DIVISION

Fisheries Field Operation Chief


Signature

Oct. 19, 2018
Date

OVERVIEW

Area Name	Area Number	Year Acquired	Acreage	County	Administrative Responsibility	Maintenance Responsibility
Honey Creek Access	8031	1980	84	Cole	Wildlife	Wildlife
Moreau 50 Access	6603	1966	10	Cole	Fisheries	Wildlife
Scrivner Road Access	8415	1984	9	Cole	Wildlife	Wildlife
Stringtown Bridge Access	6814	1968	50	Cole	Wildlife	Wildlife

Statements of Purpose:

A. Strategic Direction

These areas are managed to provide public fishing access to the Moreau River for both boat and bank anglers while preventing activities from compromising streambank integrity.

B. Desired Future Condition

The desired future landscape conditions of Moreau 50 Access, Honey Creek Access, Stringtown Bridge Access, and Scrivner Road Access, are landscapes that promote recreation.

C. Federal Aid Statement

N/A

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

I. Special Considerations

Area Name	Priority Areas	Natural Areas
Honey Creek Access	Moreau River – Stream Reach Conservation Opportunity Area	None
Moreau 50 Access	Moreau River – Stream Reach Conservation Opportunity Area	None
Scrivner Road Access	Moreau River – Stream Reach Conservation Opportunity Area	None
Stringtown Bridge Access	None	None

II. Important Natural Features and Resources

Area Name	Species of Conservation Concern	Caves	Springs
Honey Creek Access	Yes ¹	None	None
Moreau 50 Access	None	None	None
Scrivner Road Access	Yes ¹	None	None
Stringtown Bridge Access	None	None	None

¹Species 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	Concrete Ramp	Parking Area #	Other
Honey Creek Access	1	1	1 campsite
Moreau 50 Access	1	1	NA
Scrivner Road Access	None	1	1 campsite
Stringtown Bridge Access	None	1	NA

IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations

Area Name	Deed Restrictions	Federal Interest	Ease-ments	Cultural Resources	Endangered Species	Boundary Issues
Honey Creek Access	None	Yes ¹	None	None known	None observed	None
Moreau 50 Access	None	Yes ¹	None	None known	None observed	None
Scrivner Road Access	None	Yes ¹	None	None known	None observed	None
Stringtown Bridge Access	None	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None

¹Federal 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.

²Federal funds were used in the development of this area, or a portion thereof. The Missouri Department of Conservation (the Department) 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.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Maintain adequate riparian corridors.
- 2) Prevent soil erosion.

Management Objective 1: Maintain adequate riparian corridors to encourage a healthy and functioning stream.

Strategy 1: Establish and maintain at least a 200-foot wooded corridor (100 feet on each side of stream) on all area streams in accordance with the *Watershed and Stream Management Guidelines for Lands and Waters Managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation* (Missouri Department of Conservation, 2009).

Strategy 2: Where possible, enlist volunteers (e.g., Stream Teams, Master Naturalists, and other service groups) to assist with planting trees and shrubs, as needed. (Fisheries, Outreach and Education)

Strategy 3: Reduce mowing to allow natural succession to progress. (Wildlife)

Management Objective 2: Prevent soil erosion due to infrastructure.

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

VI. Aquatic Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Prevent excessive stream bank erosion.

Management Objective 1: Ensure that the Moreau River accesses demonstrate best watershed, riparian corridor, and stream management practices.

Strategy 1: Plan future public use facilities (privies, parking lots, etc.) so they have minimal impact on streams and riparian corridors. All facilities should be located outside of the riparian corridor where feasible. (Design and Development, Fisheries)

Strategy 2: Boat ramps will be maintained to have a low profile on the bank to prevent back eddies and plunging currents. (Design and Development)

Strategy 3: Develop and implement management recommendations, as needed, for area streams with erosion problems. Maintain the area streambanks and facilities (e.g., boat ramps) by using best management practices (e.g., rip-rap, revetment, hard points, dikes, gradient structures, etc.) that are feasible and

compatible with the purposes, goals, and objectives of this plan. (Design and Development, Fisheries)

Strategy 4: Inspect all streambank stabilization practices annually and communicate with Design and Development Division if corrective and/or maintenance activities are deemed necessary. (Fisheries)

VII. Public Use Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Provide public boat access along the Moreau River. Currently, only Moreau 50 and Honey Creek accesses have concrete boat ramps.
- 2) Inform the public of recreational opportunities available at these areas.
- 3) Maintain areas in an inviting condition.

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

Strategy 1: Maintain boat ramps, including removal of silt and debris, as needed. (Wildlife)

Management Objective 2: Continue to inform the public of recreational opportunities at these areas.

Strategy 1: Maintain signage on all areas in accordance with Department policy. (Wildlife)

Strategy 2: Install new road signs, as needed, at Honey Creek and Stringtown Bridge accesses to better direct users to accesses. (Wildlife, Administrative Services)

Strategy 3: Work with Regional media specialist to inform public of special events. (Fisheries, Outreach and Education)

Management Objective 3: Investigate ways to reduce maintenance required by the Department at these areas, while maintaining an inviting condition.

Strategy 1: Explore utilizing volunteers (e.g., Stream Teams, Master Naturalists, and other service groups) for minor area maintenance, when possible. (Fisheries)

Strategy 2: Work with Design and Development to explore elevating road beds and parking lots to reduce flood frequency. (Fisheries)

VIII. Administrative Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Consider land acquisitions, when available.

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.

MANAGEMENT TIMETABLE

All management strategies are considered ongoing.

APPENDICES

Public Input Summary:

The draft Moreau River Accesses Area Management Plan was available for a public comment period Jan. 1–31, 2018. The Missouri Department of Conservation received comments from six respondents (Appendix A). The Moreau River Accesses Area Planning Team carefully reviewed and considered these ideas as they finalized this document. A brief summary of public input themes, including how they were incorporated or why they were not, can be found below. Rather than respond to each individual comment, comments are grouped into general themes and are addressed collectively.

Department responses to themes and issues identified through the Moreau River Accesses Area Management Plan public comment period.

Suggests managing for woodcock, rabbit, and nongame species at Stringtown Access.

Suggests using prescribed fire and mechanical thinning to maintain habitat diversity.

Small game habitat at Stringtown CA is not a high priority for the work team, but some management actions will be considered as time and workload allows.

Suggests providing easier/safer access at the Stringtown Access (e.g., add a concrete ramp and repair the path from the parking lot to the river).

Adding a boat ramp at Stringtown Access is not currently under consideration due to infrastructure construction and maintenance limitations. The foot path was not developed by the Department and is not maintained as a trail.

Suggests providing easier/safer access at the Scrivner Road Access.

Adding a boat ramp or other types of improved access at Scrivner Access is not currently under consideration due to infrastructure construction and maintenance limitations.

Suggests providing more accesses along the Moreau River to allow for shorter trips along the river.

Adding more accesses along the Moreau River is not currently under consideration due to infrastructure construction and maintenance limitations.

Suggests providing more bank-fishing areas that are more level (e.g., that would provide easy access for children).

The banks of the river are created by hydrologic forces, meaning the stream carves the banks naturally. The streambanks at the access sites are naturally steep in nature. Any trails are unimproved dirt paths created from foot traffic to and from the river, and can be slick when wet.

Suggests more management of black walnut tree stand. Suggests using this area as a management demonstration area for private landowners.

Thank you for your suggestion. The forestry team is now aware of this young stand of trees and plans to prune and release it within the next two years to improve its shape, growth, and vigor.

Appreciates how Stringtown Access is mowed and kept clean.

Thank you for your comment. The area management team strives to provide safe and ample recreational opportunities and well-maintained facilities for the public.

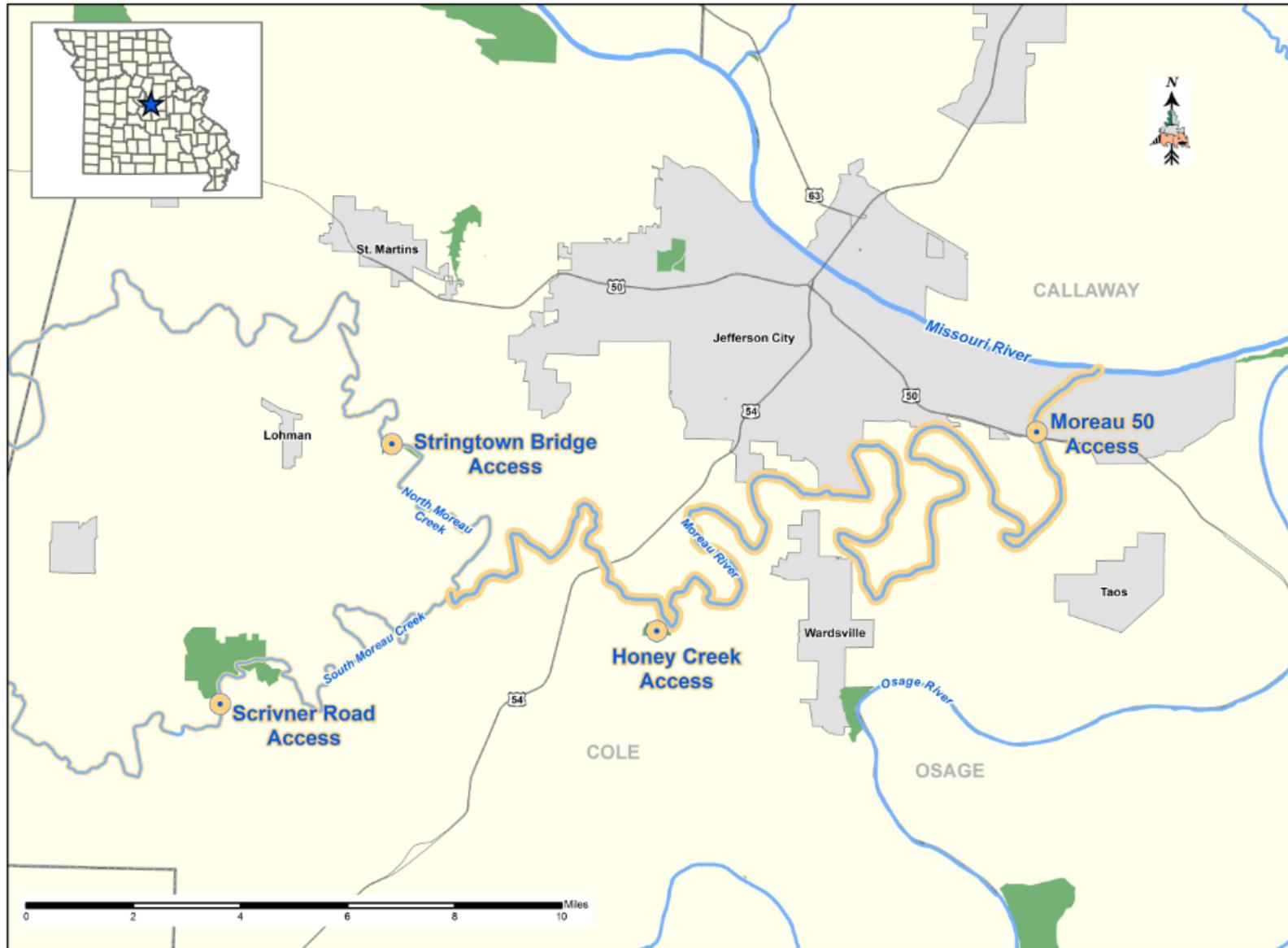
References:

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

Appendices:

- Appendix 1. Moreau River Accesses
- Appendix 2. Honey Creek Access Area Background
- Appendix 3. Honey Creek Access Area Map
- Appendix 4. Honey Creek Access Aerial Map
- Appendix 5. Moreau 50 Access Area Background
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Appendix 1. Moreau River Accesses



Appendix 2. Honey Creek Access Area Background

Honey Creek Access is an 84-acre conservation area. Honey Creek, an intermittent stream, forms a portion of the northern boundary, while the Moreau River forms the eastern boundary. There is a concrete boat ramp on the area that provides access to the upper Moreau River. Honey Creek Access is approximately 27 river miles upstream of the Moreau 50 Access and 29 miles from the Missouri River. Access for bank-fishers is limited to the area just adjacent to the boat ramp. The banks are steep and heavily vegetated, which make bank-fishing difficult. The riparian corridor is mostly wooded.

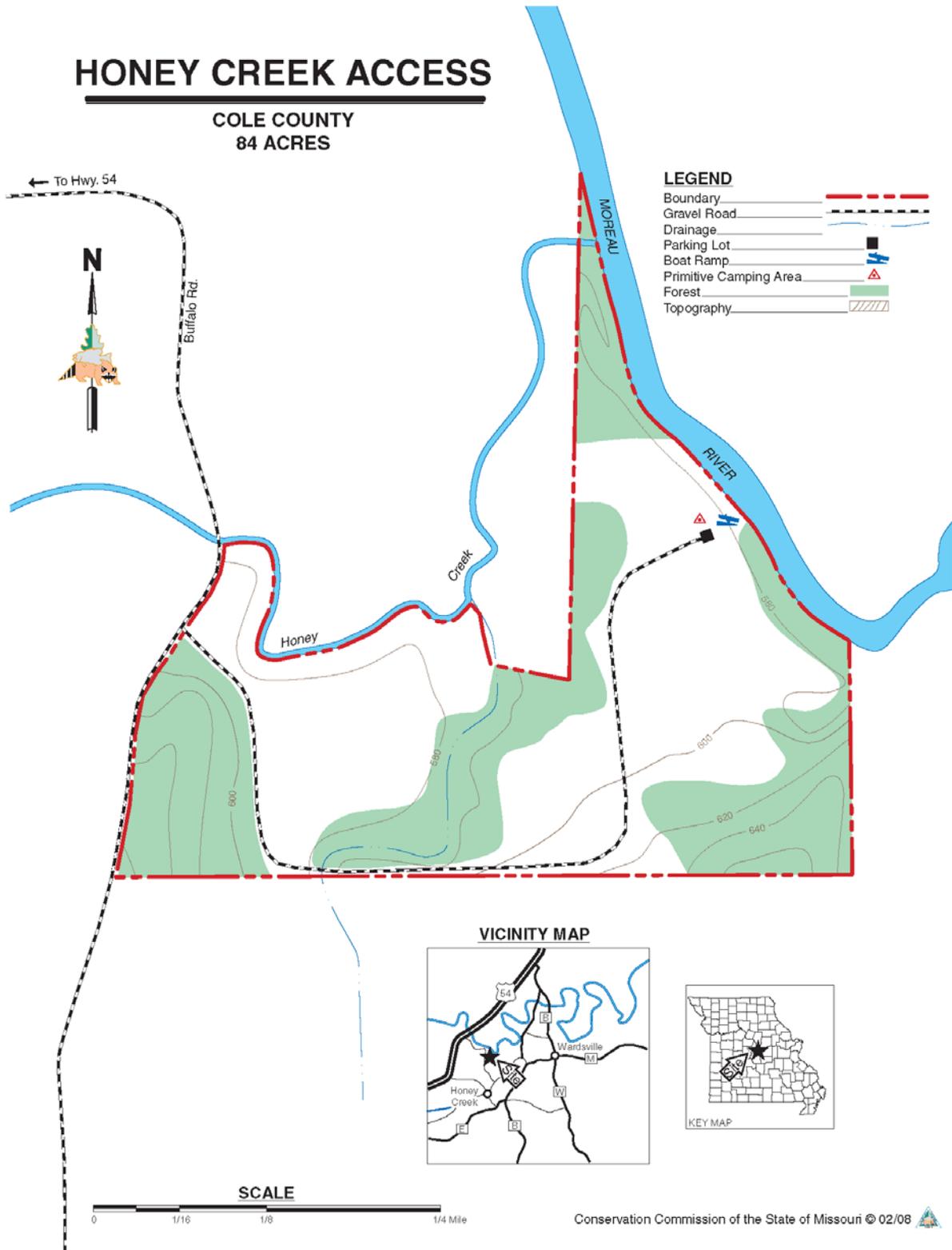
Legal Description: Township 43 North, Range 12 West, Section 10

Area Location: Honey Creek Access is located south of Jefferson City on Missouri Highway 54. Turn south onto Buffalo Road and continue approximately 2.75 miles. The access is on the east side of Buffalo Road.

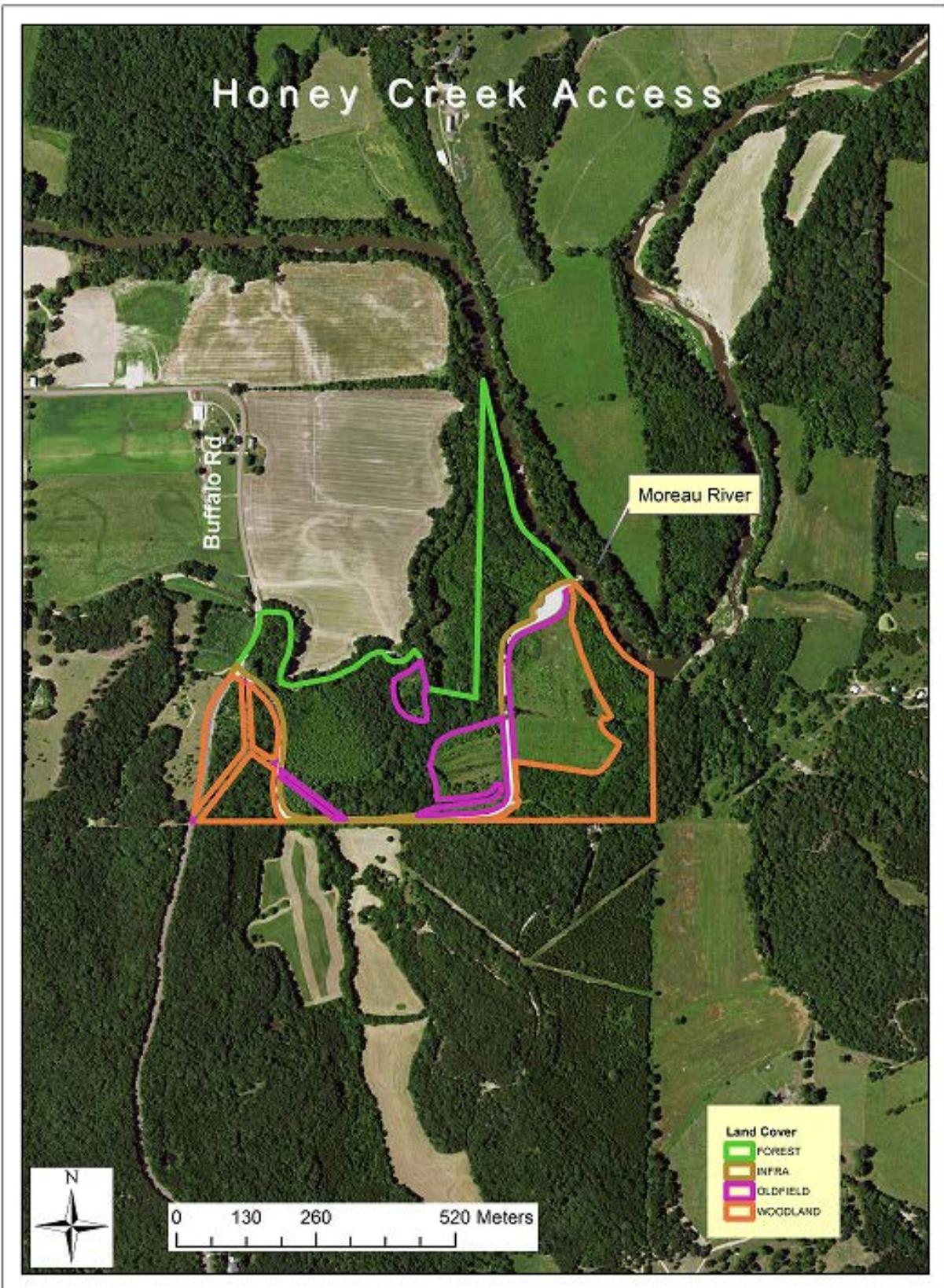
Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Forest	43		51
Woodland	21		25
Old Field	16		19
Infrastructure	4		5
Total	84		100
Permanent Stream Frontage – Moreau River		0.3	
Intermittent Stream Frontage – Honey Creek		0.4	

Appendix 3. Honey Creek Access Area Map



Appendix 4. Honey Creek Access Aerial Map



Appendix 5. Moreau 50 Access Area Background

Moreau 50 Access is located just less than 2 miles upstream from the mouth of the Missouri River and provides boat access to the lower Moreau and the Missouri rivers. Anglers have bank-fishing opportunities upstream and downstream of the boat ramp. The 10-acre area is mostly wooded, providing a large riparian corridor on the east side of Moreau River. The opposite (west) bank has little to no riparian corridor.

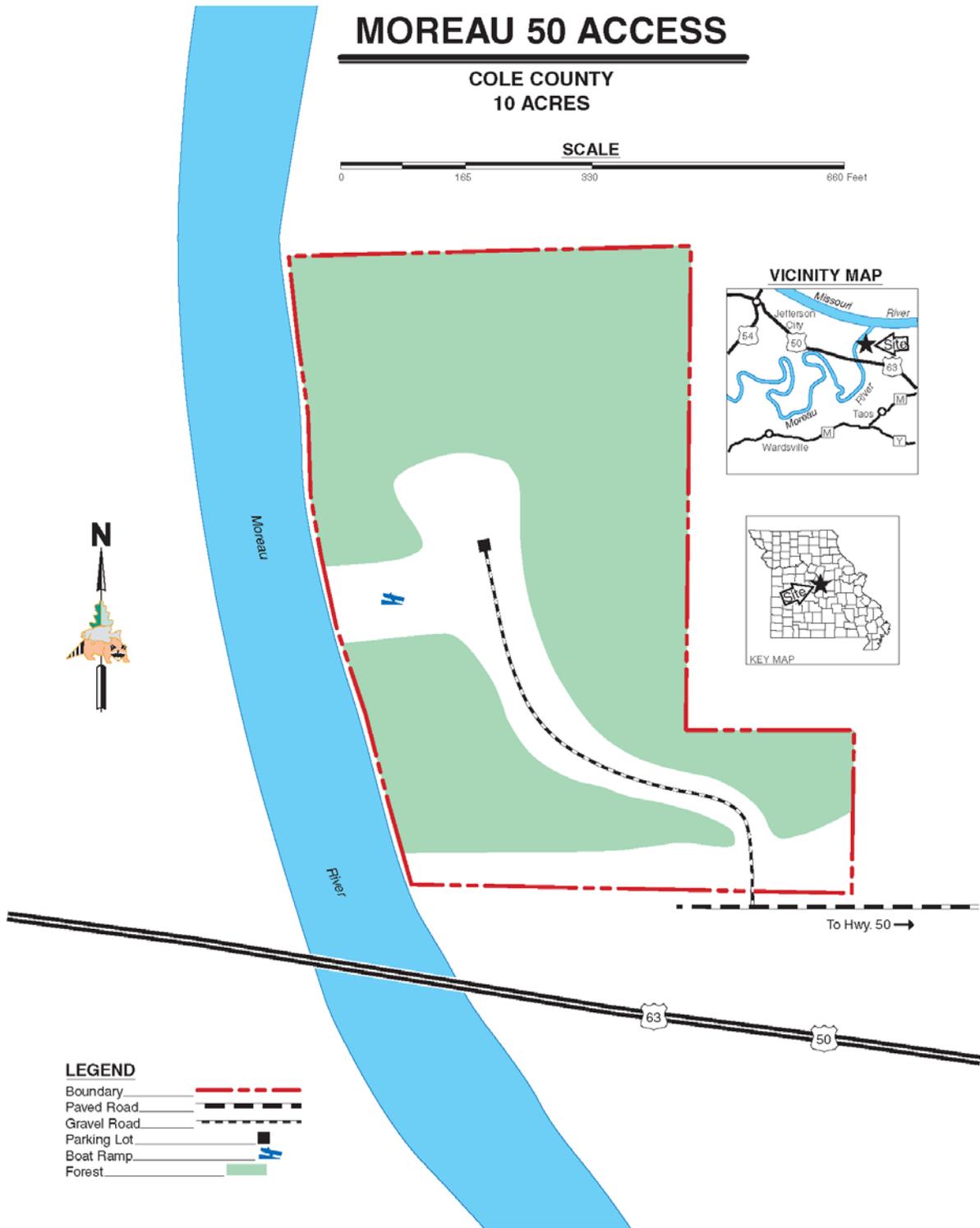
Legal Description: Township 44 North, Range 11 W, Section 23.

Area Location: Moreau 50 Access is located 1 mile east of Jefferson City, off Missouri Highway 50/63. Turn north on Shamrock Road, then west approximately 0.7 miles on Moreau River Access Road.

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Forest	9		90
Infrastructure	1		10
Total	10		100
Permanent Stream Frontage – Moreau River		0.25	

Appendix 6. Moreau 50 Access Area Map



Appendix 7. Moreau 50 Access Aerial Map



Appendix 8. Scrivner Road Access Area Background

Scrivner Road Access is a small (approximately 9-acre) access site on the South Moreau River. It is located on the Scrivner Road Conservation Area. This large 919-acre area is located in southwest Cole County and was donated to the Department by Mrs. Alvon Winegar in 1984. Bank-fishing opportunities are available from the parking lot. Although there are high, steep, wooded banks along much of the river access, there are locations that allow users a more reasonable approach to the water. Gravel bars are usually present during normal or low-flow conditions.

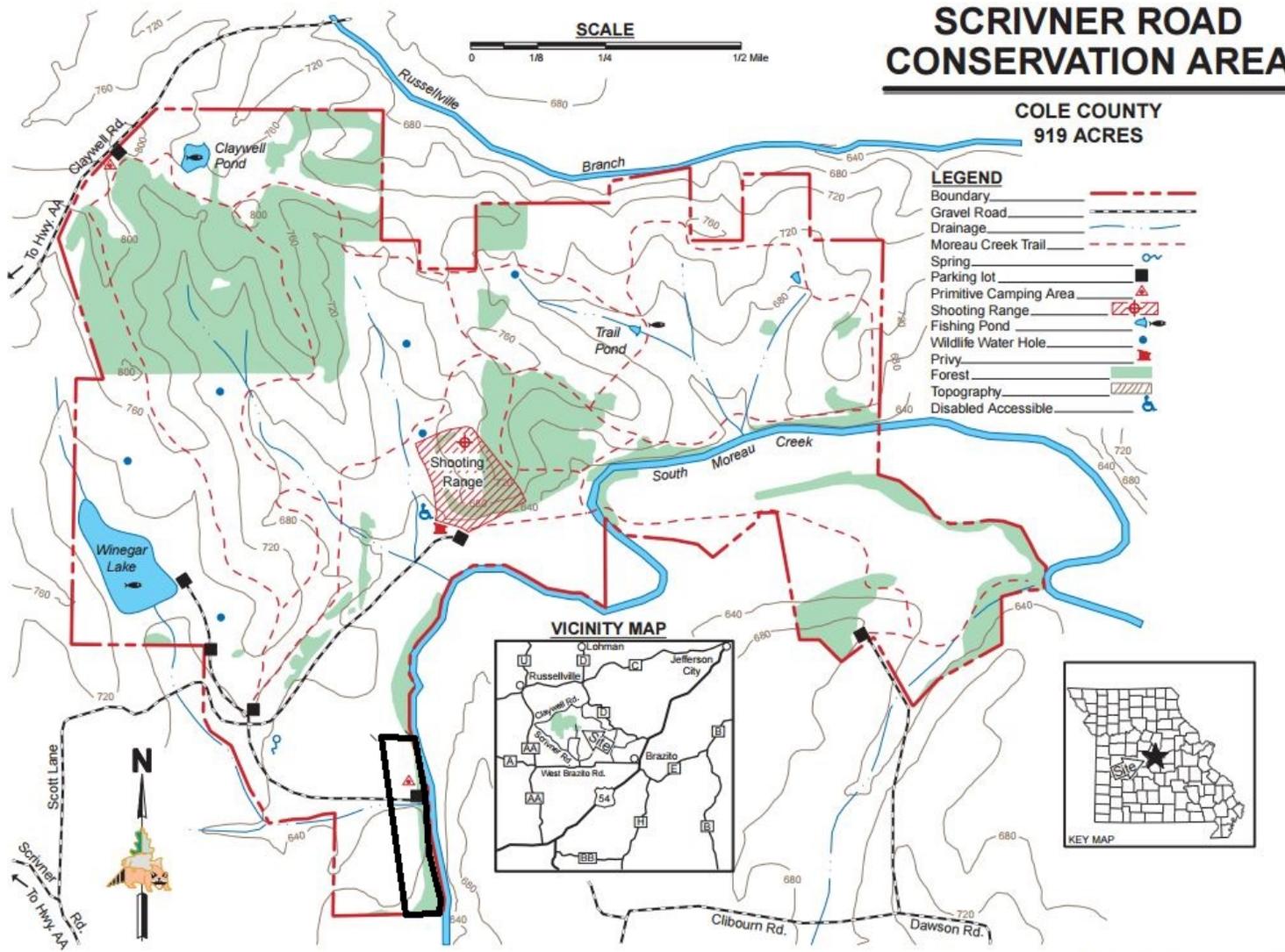
Legal Description: Township 43 North, Range 13 West, Section 17

Area Location: Scrivner Road Access is located 2.1 miles south of Russellville on Highway AA, then 1.6 miles southeast on Scrivner Road, then 0.7 miles northeast on Scott Road to the access.

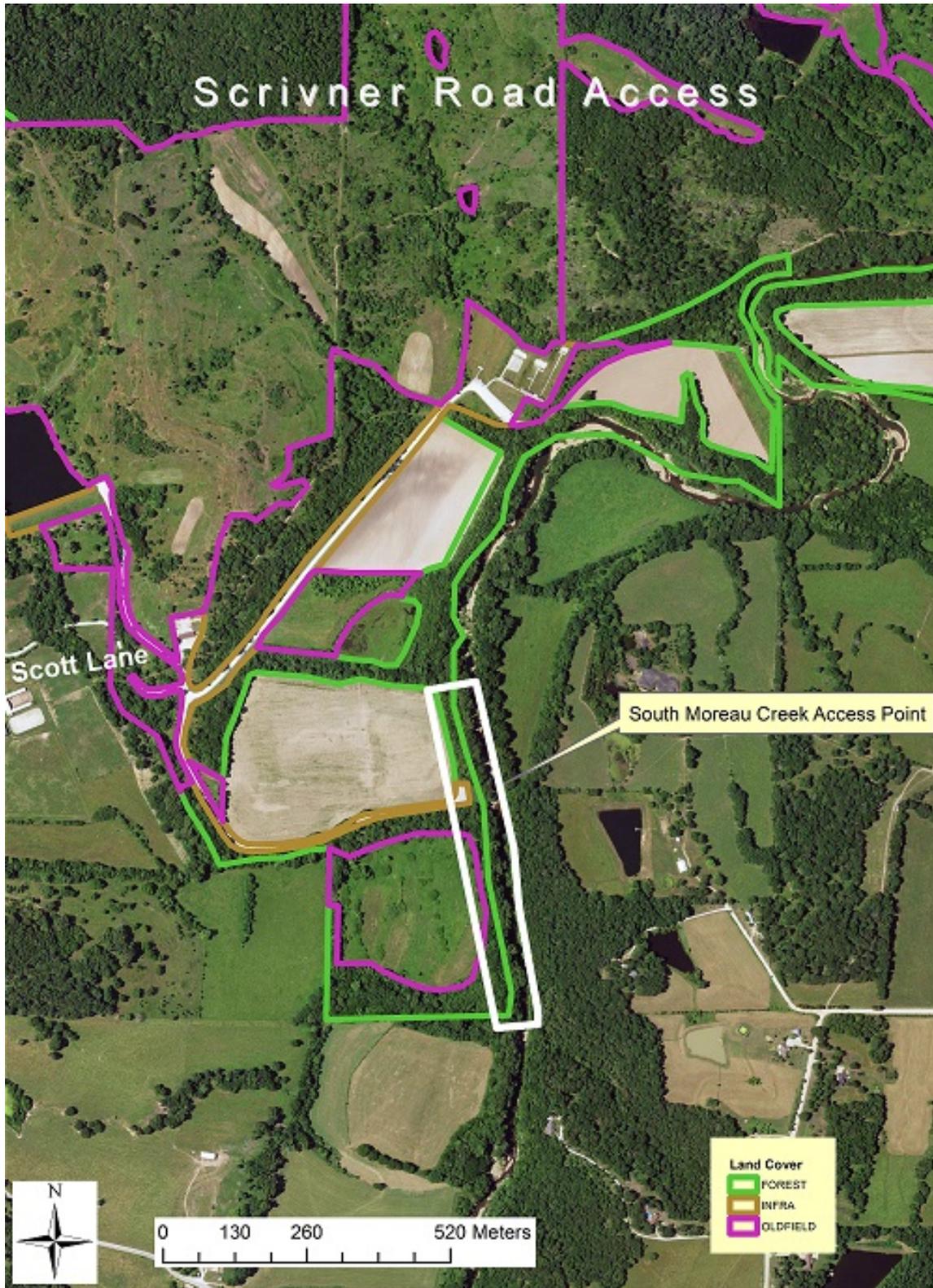
Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Forest	7.5		83
Old Field	1		11
Infrastructure	0.5		6
Total	9		100
Permanent Stream Frontage – South Moreau Creek		0.4	

Appendix 9. Scrivner Road Access Area Map (Management plan only includes the area outlined in the solid black line)



Appendix 10. Scrivner Road Access Aerial Map (Management plan only includes the area outlined in the solid white line)



Appendix 11. Stringtown Bridge Access Area Background

Stringtown Bridge Access is a 50-acre area that provides bank-fishing opportunities along the North Moreau River. Footpaths lead from the gravel parking lot and provide access upstream and downstream along the river. The banks are steep and covered with grass or trees, with a small amount of rip-rap. There are gravel bars along this stretch of the river, and wade-fishing opportunities are available in normal to low flows. The riparian corridor of the river is wooded along the entire length of the access.

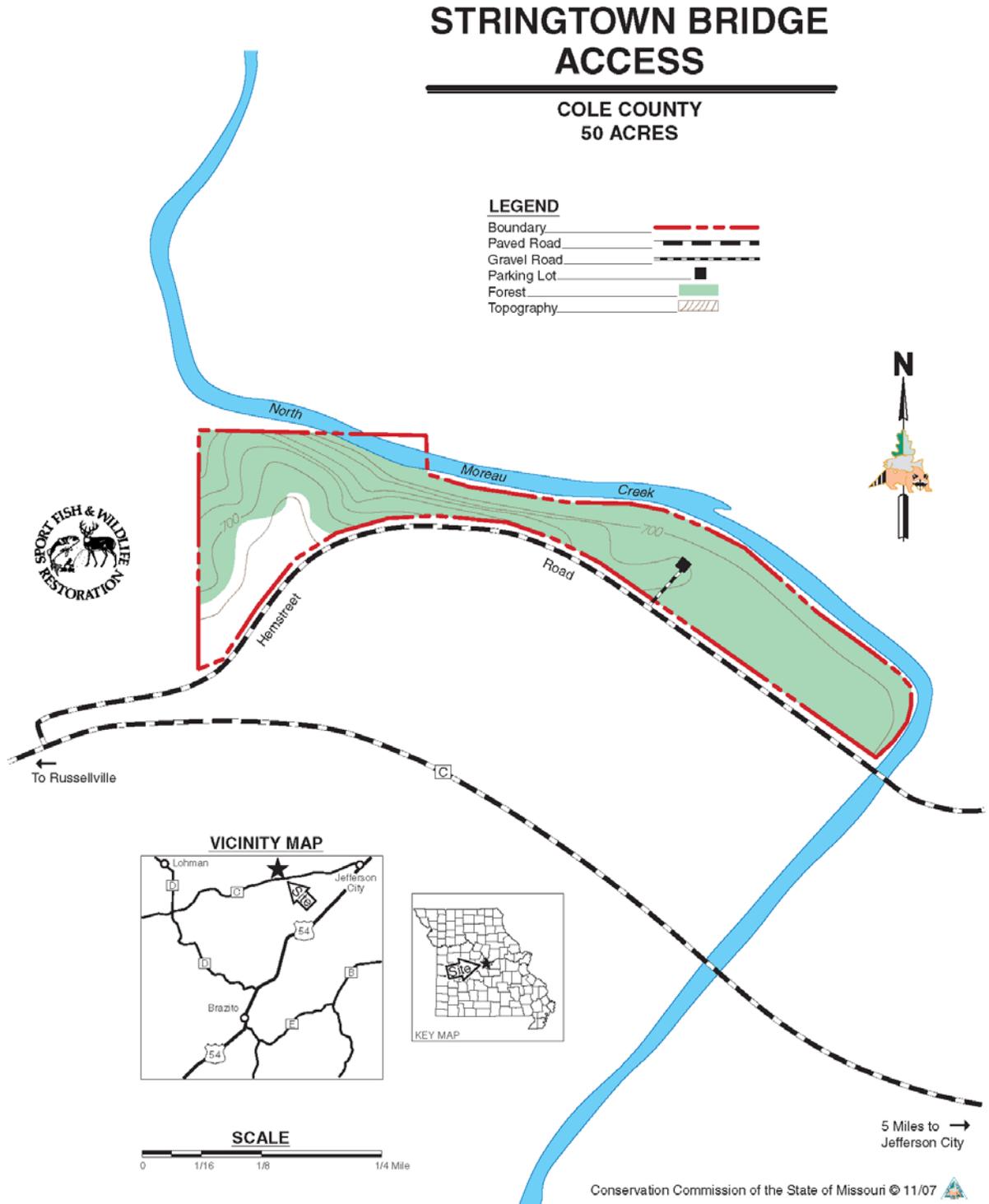
Legal Description: Township 44 North, Range 12 West, Section 32

Area Location: Stringtown Bridge Access is located 5 miles west of Jefferson City on Route C, then 1 mile west on Hemstreet Road.

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Forest	49		98
Infrastructure	0.5		1
Open Land	0.5		1
Total	50		100
Stream Frontage		0.9	

Appendix 12. Stringtown Bridge Access Area Map



Appendix 13. Stringtown Bridge Access Aerial Map



Appendix 14. Moreau River Accesses Area Management Plan Public Comments

Received during public comment period (Jan. 1–31, 2018):

This area had abundant woodcock migration and nesting habitat 20 years ago. Invasion by cedars and cottonwoods has gradually reduced this habitat that once benefitted a game species that is in long-term decline. This reduces the area's recreational potential. Management for woodcock, rabbit and non-game species could be compatible with other management goals, including maintaining a vegetated riparian zone. Please consider the possible use of prescribed fire and mechanical thinning to maintain habitat diversity at Stringtown Access.

Stringtown Bridge Access: Access to river from parking lot is too hazardous and not readily accessible (Observation in Dec. 2017). Very narrow, winding path along steep bank could very easily allow patrons to slip down the bank directly into the water (particularly under damp/wet conditions). Would like to be able to put in fishing kayaks for my teenage grandsons in a safe manner. Appear to be sufficient pools for this type of fishing. A concrete ramp would be very helpful, since I have a small shallow draft fishing boat which I would also like to put in here. At the very least, more direct gravel paths with minimal, elevation gradients would make this area much more accessible for more sportsmen to safely get water craft to and from the river, plus making it safer for bank fishermen.

Scrivner Road Access: (Same fundamental comments as Stringtown Bridge Access - observed summer of 2017) One path leads to a narrow, steep tributary creek bank (roots and mud/dirt bank - trip hazards) that needs to be crossed to get to river. Need better and safer way(s) to river. Gravel bars and pools of water are inviting to fishermen (wading and using kayaks) and other sportsmen.

I believe there is a need for more limited access to the river. As senior citizens, my wife and I would like to kayak the Moreau when the water level is appropriate for canoe, john-boat or kayaks however the access points are further apart then our stamina allows. Simple trail access would serve more usage and encourage stream cleanup as well. An access at the Highway 54 bridge would be a nice short trip to Honey Creek.
Thank you for your consideration in the matter.

Would be nice to see a level fishing area for bank fishers at the access sites. The banks are very steep in most areas and not kid friendly

There is a VERY valuable stand of black walnut trees (6 - 10" diameter), around the parking lot. Most are southeast on land that is a foot or two higher elevation. Some are growing just west of the access road too. These trees are growing very rapidly, and all are high quality trees. Most are doing fine, but some need subtle management work (releasing, pruning or vine removal). I would estimate that there may be 200 trees growing over seven of the described acres. This would make a wonderful demo area for private landowners to study for "how to manage walnut trees". In fifty years these trees will be more valuable than the land they are growing on. I'm not sure if

these trees need to be addressed in the plan, but they sure need to be recognized for the valuable resource that they are. Thanks for the opportunity to comment. *****

(Phone call) - Commenter called to express concerns with Stringtown Bridge Access. He goes down there quite a bit (over past 20 years) to fish. The path down to the river is so eroded that it's very difficult to get from the parking lot to the river with a tackle box and rod/reel. You have to be in terrific shape to get up and down the path because the bank has eroded so much. He's not asking for a stairway, just some repairs to the path to make it easier to access the river. They do a great job mowing the grass, keeping the area clean, etc. He requests a hard copy of the plan when it is final.