



Serving nature and you[®]

Conservation Update



Conservation by the numbers

- 1.1 million anglers, 600,000 hunters, and 1.7 million wildlife watchers.
- 9 out of 10 Missourians are interested in fish, forest and wildlife.
- 92% of Missourians agree outdoor places should be protected.
- Total economic impact of \$14 billion and supports over 105,000 jobs. **Conservation Pays its way in Missouri.**



Conservation by the numbers

- Approximately 1,400 full time staff and 400 hourly staff.
- “Army” of volunteers provide over 250,000 hours of volunteer service.
- MDC administers more than 1 million acres throughout the state.
- Maintain more than \$2 billion in infrastructure. Includes over 300 boat ramps, 70 shooting ranges, 9 hatcheries, 15 intensively managed wetlands, and 14 nature/interpretive centers.



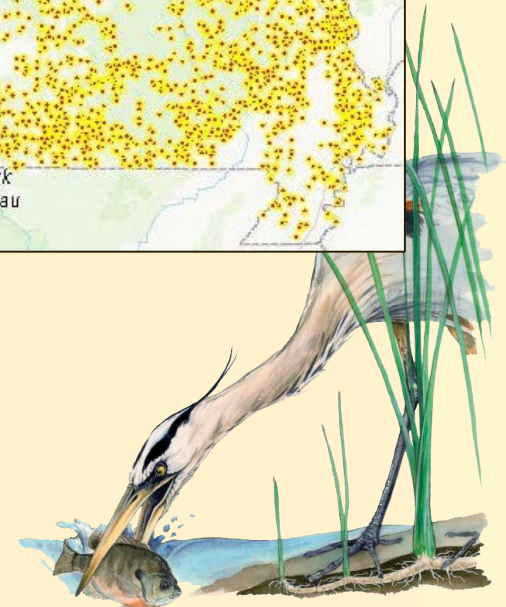
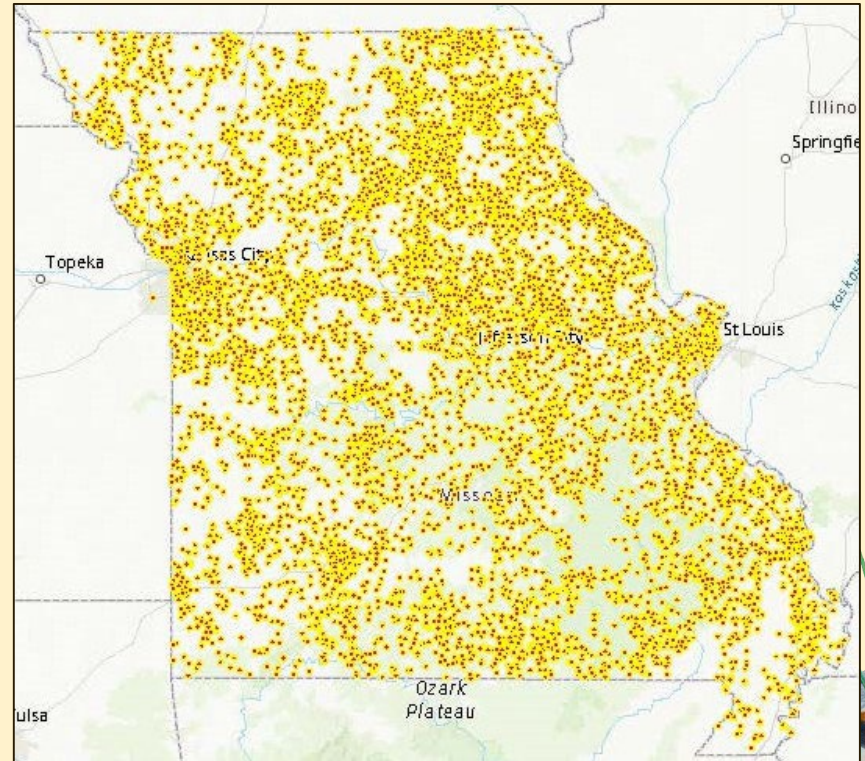
Private Land Assistance

FY 23:

- \$3.1 million in cost share to landowners and communities
- 15,000 farm visits

Cooperative Partnerships

- QF/PF
- DU
- NWTF
- QUWF
- MFA
- MO Soybean
- University Extension





Connecting People With Nature Where They Live



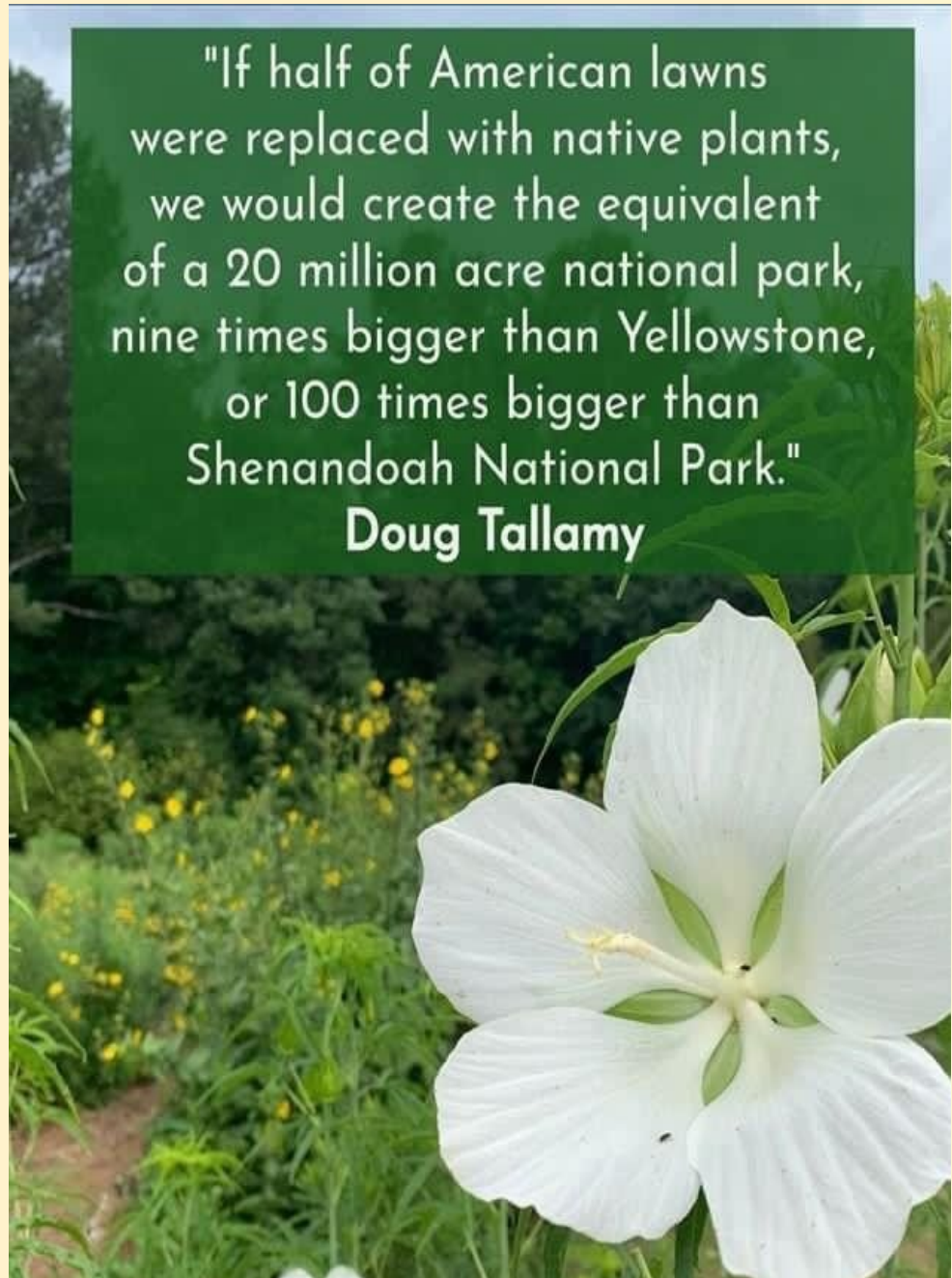
Recent survey indicated 80% of respondents connect with nature in their backyard

- Everyone can play a role whether they have 100 acres or 100 ft²



"If half of American lawns were replaced with native plants, we would create the equivalent of a 20 million acre national park, nine times bigger than Yellowstone, or 100 times bigger than Shenandoah National Park."

Doug Tallamy

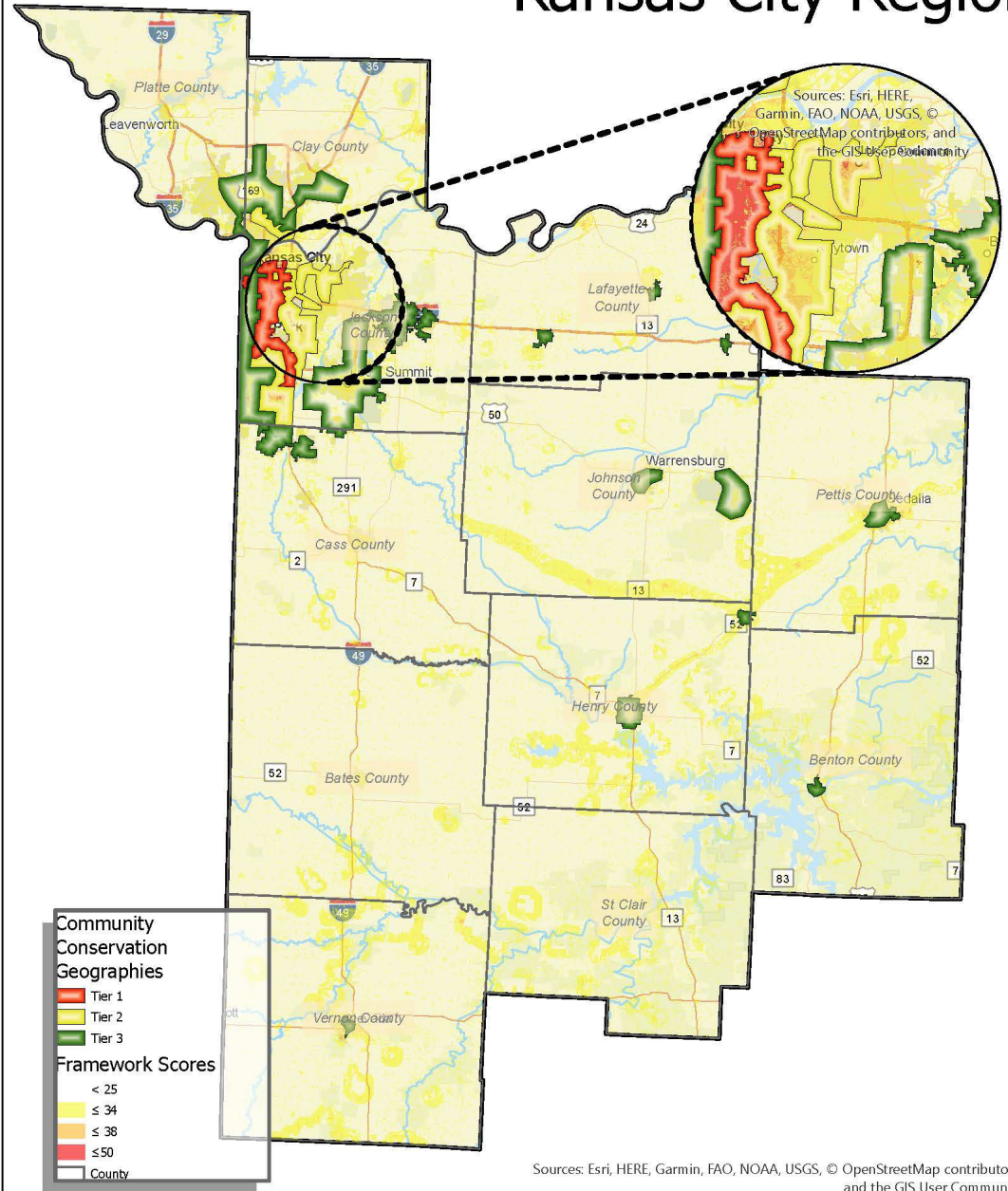


Community Conservation Framework

- Cost Share Opportunities
- Cooperative Positions
- Green Job Corps



Community Conservation Framework Kansas City Region



Green Schoolyards Program



Boone County Nature School

- Partnership between Columbia Public Schools MDC and the community



MDC and MASWCD Native Grass Partnership Program

- Available Statewide
- \$50 - \$150 incentive to use native grasses and forbs in coordination with SWCP cost-share practices
- \$300 per acre for buffers associated with Livestock exclusions (N472/N725)
- \$15/ac for wildlife friendly cover crop mixes
- Almost all SWCP establishment practices are eligible



Simple Application and Payment Process



MDC AND MASWCD NATIVE GRASS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION (MDC) MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (MASWCD) AND THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SWCD) OF:		MASWCD OFFICE USE ONLY FINAL PAYMENT AMOUNT \$ _____ DATE APPROVED _____ ACCOUNT NUMBER _____ AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE AND DATE _____						
Landowner/Cooperator Name: _____								
Address: _____								
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone(s): _____								
County: _____ Township: _____ Range: _____ Section: _____ Farm Number: _____ Tract Number: _____								
CHECK OPTIONS THAT APPLY	OPTION #	PRACTICE	SWCD Cost Share Docket Practice Code	ACRES PLANNED	MDC INCENTIVE	TOTAL FUNDING REQUEST	ACRES COMPLETED /PLC INITIALS	TOTAL MDC FUNDING PAID
<input type="checkbox"/>	A1	Native Grass planting enhancements 3 species mix of native grasses			\$50/ac			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A2	3 species mix of native grasses, with at least 2 lbs. of alfalfa			\$80/ac			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A3	3 species mix of native grass and at least 2 lbs. of native forbs with at least 5 species			\$125/ac			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A4	Native Forb interseeding			\$75/ac			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A5	Missouri source identified seed (yellow tag)			\$150/ac			
Fencing/habitat buffer enhancements								
<input type="checkbox"/>	B1	N472 (use exclusion): fence and habitat buffer incentive			\$0.002/ft ² or \$87/ac			
<input type="checkbox"/>	B2	Buffer Planting: At least 2 species of native grass and 20 species of native forbs.			\$300/ac			
<input type="checkbox"/>	B3	Native Forb interseeding for existing buffers.			\$150/ac			
Cover Crop enhancements								
<input type="checkbox"/>	C1	Wildlife-friendly cover crop mix			\$15/ac			
I REQUEST MDC INCENTIVE FUNDING FOR THE ABOVE SELECTED PRACTICE(S). I AGREE TO REFUND ALL OR PART OF THE MDC INCENTIVE PAID TO ME IF, BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE SWCD PRACTICE MAINTENANCE LIFE, I REMOVE OR DESTROY THE PRACTICE OR I VOLUNTARILY RELINQUISH CONTROL OR TITLE TO THE LAND ON WHICH THE PRACTICE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND THE NEW OWNER AND/OR OPERATOR OF THE LAND DOES NOT MAINTAIN THE PRACTICE FOR THE REMAINDER OF ITS LIFESPAN, WHETHER OR NOT THE NEW OWNER AGREES TO MAINTAIN THE PRACTICE. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS AGREEMENT MAY MAKE ME INELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE MDC COST SHARE PROGRAMS. PRACTICES MUST BE COMPLETED WITHIN 1 YEAR OF ENROLLMENT. AFTER 1 YEAR, IF THE PRACTICE(S) ARE NOT COMPLETED, THE CONTRACT WILL BE CANCELLED AND FUNDING WILL BE DE-OBLIGATED FROM THE CONTRACT.								
MDC PLANNER SIGNATURE _____				DATE _____				
APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____				DATE _____				
SWCD BOARD SIGNATURE _____				DATE _____				
July 2021								

- MDC or QF Planner works with SWCD local staff to complete application
- Application is sent to Jim Boschert - MASWCD Executive Director
- Payment is approved by the local SWCD Board
- MASWCD sends check to the landowner after practice completion.



Native Forage Initiative

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Native Forages Initiative

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

Overview

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Climate Smart Agriculture - Native Forages Initiative is a targeted initiative for producers interested in addressing resource concerns associated with managing moisture and drought susceptibility reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing carbon sequestration by converting non-native forages to native forages for haying or grazing, or converting cropland to native forages for haying or grazing.

Benefits

Through EQIP, NRCS provides agricultural producers with one-on-one help and financial assistance to plan and implement improvements, or what NRCS calls conservation practices. Together, NRCS and producers invest in solutions that conserve natural resources for the future while improving agricultural operations. The Native Forages Initiative will provide focused technical and financial assistance for the establishment of native forages through either renovating existing non-native forage for haying or grazing, or converting cropland to native forage for haying or grazing.



Non-native Cool Season Forages

Program at a Glance

The EQIP Climate Smart Agriculture - Native Forages Initiative will utilize an expedited contracting process called ACT NOW to immediately approve and obligate a ranked application in the designated ranking pool when the application meets or exceeds the state-determined ranking score without waiting until the NRCS field office ranks all applications in the ranking pool.

Who is Eligible

Farmers, ranchers and landowners who own or rent agricultural land are eligible. EQIP Native Forages Initiative assistance can be used on all types of agricultural operations, including:

- Conventional and organic
- Historically under-served farmers
- Livestock operations
- Crop and hay operations

How to Apply

Deadline: Aug. 1, 2023

Visit your local USDA-NRCS Field Service Center. Locate yours at www.nrcs.usda.gov.



Benefits of Native Forages

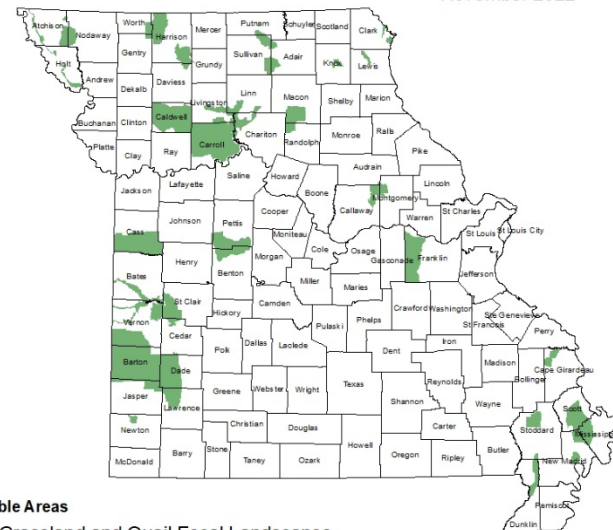
- Increase Tolerance Drought
- High Yields
- Wildlife Friendly
- Extends Grazing Season
- Reduces Fertilizer Input
- High Forage Quality
- Fill the Summer Forage Gap
- Rest Cool Season Forages



Native Warm Season Forages

- NRCS Launched ActNow Enrollment Process
 - NWSG forages Only
- Over \$5 million allocated in ~6 months
- MDC offers \$100/ac incentive on top of NRCS payments in important grassland geographies

EQIP Climate Smart Agriculture - Native Forages Initiative
MDC \$100/Acre Sign-up Incentive Eligible Areas
November 2022



Eligible Areas

Grassland and Quail Focal Landscapes



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Missouri | December 2022
Helping People Help the Land

nrcs.usda.gov/mo

Grassland Summit - Save the Date



- Topics will vary from remnant prairies to workings lands establishment and management.
- Collaborate on ideas and solutions to reverse the current trend in habitat loss.

April 9-11, 2024

Capitol Plaza Hotel
Jefferson City, Missouri

Attendance will be limited.
Early registration begins in
December 2023.

Visit confedmo.org/grasslands
for more information.

As a result of a multi-agency and partner conversation in the summer of 2022, The Missouri Department of Conservation, Conservation Federation of Missouri, and Missouri Natural Resources Conservation Service are proud to present the 2024 Missouri Native Grasslands Summit. This all-inclusive event is designed for attendees to take a collective, deeper look into our state's native grassland ecosystems, from remnant prairies to workings lands establishment and management, and collaborate with ideas and solutions to reverse the current trend in habitat loss. Recommendations from the Summit will be shared with the leadership of partner organizations that have an interest in Missouri's native grasslands.

Who should attend: Anyone who has an interest in enhancing, protecting, and restoring Missouri's prairie remnants and the expansion and management of native grass plantings.



Hosts/Contacts

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

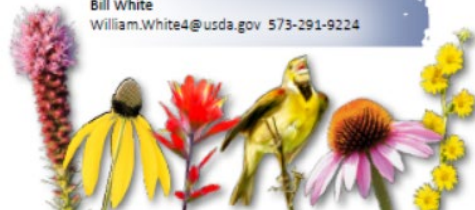
Bill White
William.White4@usda.gov 573-291-9224



Frank Loncarich
Frank.Loncarich@mdc.mo.gov
417-451-4158



Micaela Haymaker
mhaymaker@confedmo.org
573-634-2322, ext. 101



Elk Season

2020: 5 elk

2021: 5 elk

2022: 3 elk

2023: 8,562

applicants

Herd estimated
at 280 with 10%
growth



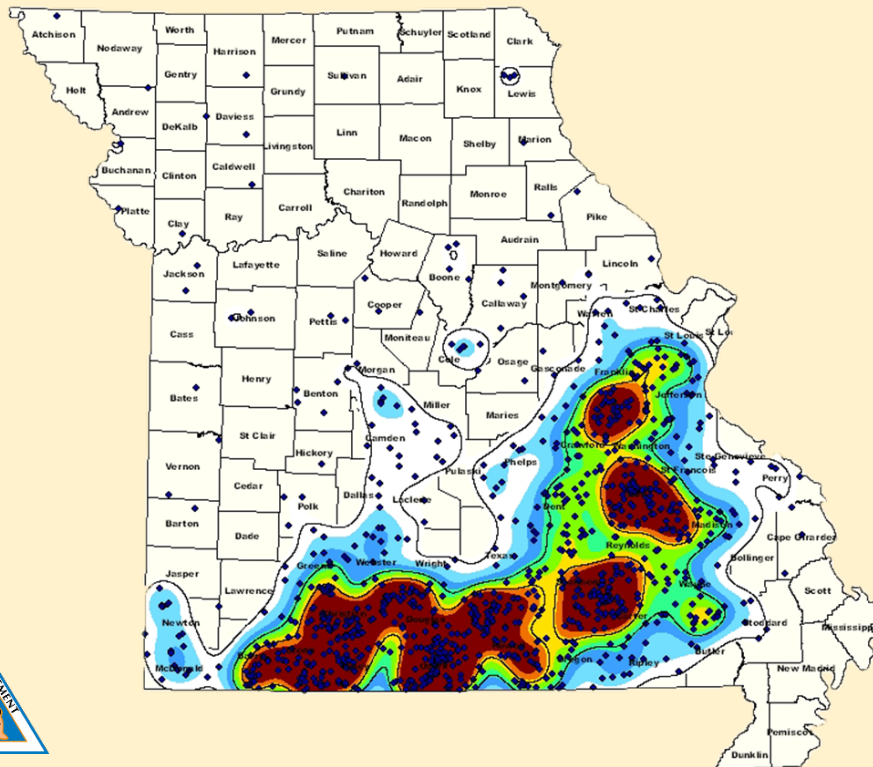
Black Bear Season

Population estimated at 900 with 9% growth

2021: 12 bears

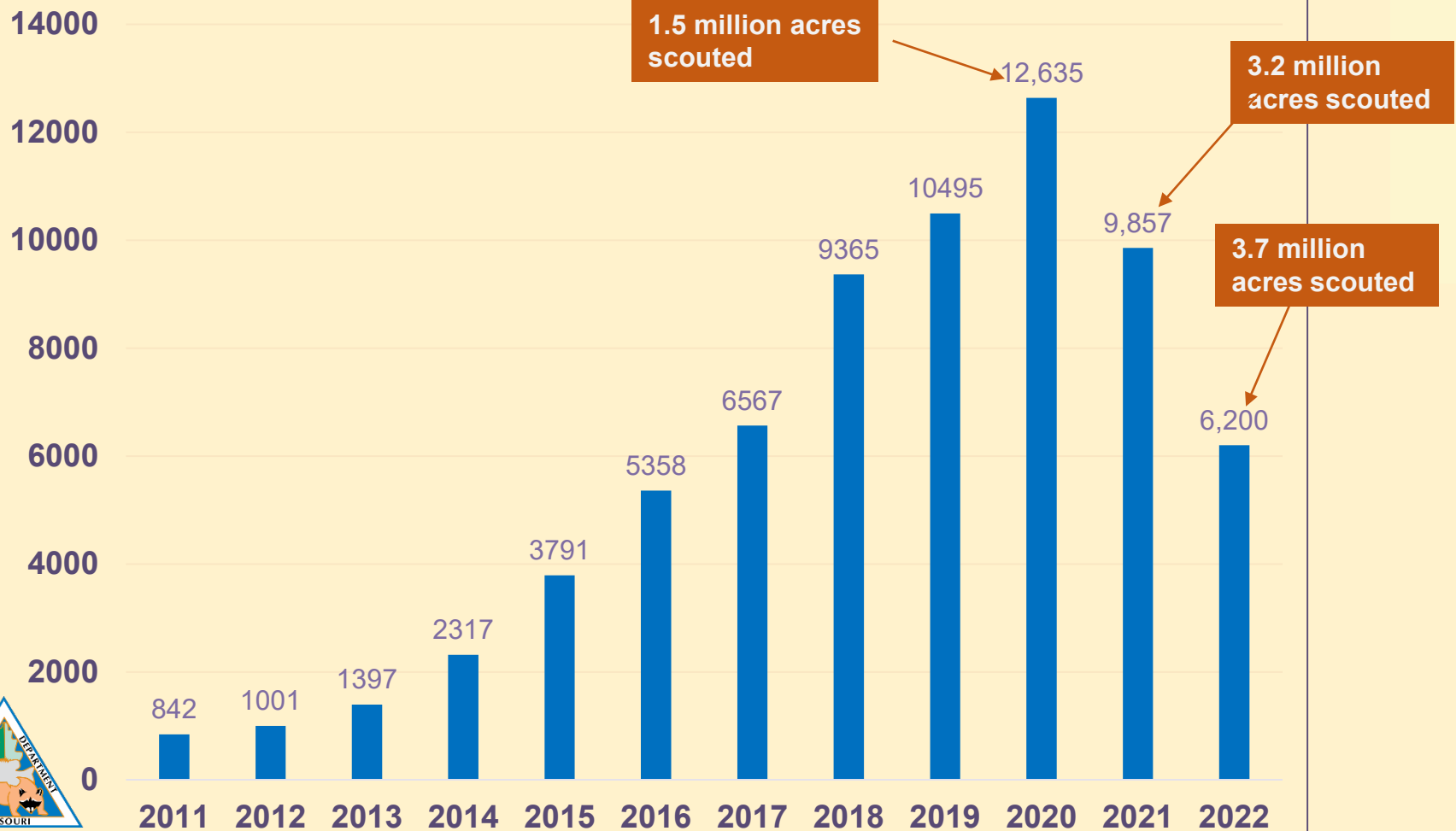
2022: 8 bears

2023: 5,374 applicants



Feral Hogs

Hogs removed per year



MRAP - MO Outdoor Recreational Access Program

<https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/mrap-Missouri-outdoor-recreational-access-program>



Public Access Options



**All Access
Hunting &
Fishing**



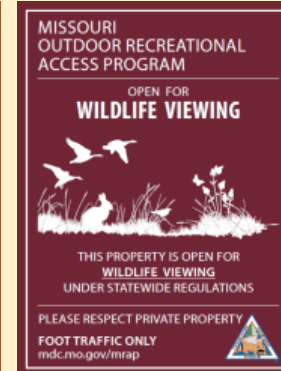
**Small Game
& Turkey
Hunting**



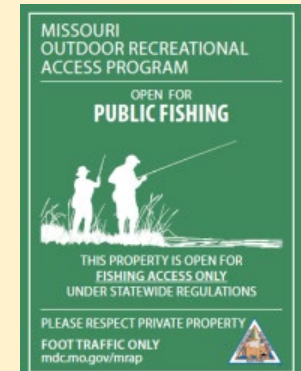
**Youth Only
Hunting &
Fishing**



**Archery
Hunting**



**Wildlife
Viewing**



**Fishing
Only**

- Over 15,000 acres enrolled statewide open for public use
- Goal to enroll at least 15,000 more acres
- Continuous enrollment opportunities for landowners
- On average \$23-\$25/acre; currently in process to increase payments rates



Thank you.



Serving nature and you