

Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

are a subset of all Kansas wildlife that include species with low or declining populations as well as species that are indicative of the diversity and health of Kansas' wildlife. Below are a few of the SGCN that can be found in this EFA.

American Tree Sparrow
Baltimore Oriole
Dickcissel
Eastern Meadowlark
Harris's Sparrow
Loggerhead Shrike
Northern Bobwhite
Red-headed Woodpecker
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Crawfish Frog
Eastern Newt
Monarch
Regal Fritillary
Gray Fox
Southern Flying Squirrel
Coal Skink
Eastern-Hog-nosed Snake
Smooth Softshell



Red-headed Woodpecker



Gray Fox

Eastern Forests

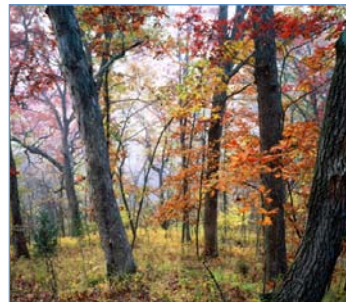


Ecological Focus Areas (EFA) represent landscapes identified within the Kansas' Wildlife Action Plan where conservation actions can be applied for maximum benefit to all Kansas wildlife. Each EFA includes a suite of Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), priority habitats and a set of conservation actions designed to address the specific resource concerns facing these species and habitats. The design of EFAs was based primarily on priority native habitats and refined using SGCN locations, and was built upon other planning efforts that address conservation priorities in the state.

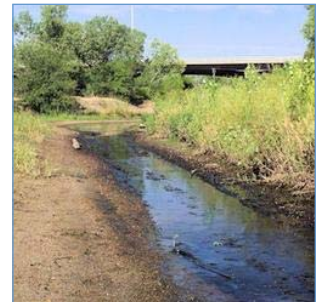
Kansas Priority Habitats were prioritized based on their dominance and importance to the conservation of SGCN. Priority habitats that occur in the Eastern Forests EFA are Tallgrass Prairie, Herbaceous Wetlands, Deciduous Forest, and Deciduous Floodplain habitat.



Tallgrass Prairie



Deciduous Forest



Deciduous Floodplain

USDA conservation programs have the potential to address conservation needs of priority species and habitats identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan. The table below illustrates the connection between conservation issues identified in the Kansas State Wildlife Action Plan with Kansas’ NRCS EQIP Priority Resource Concerns. Examples of NRCS Conservation Practices which can be applied to address these conservation issues are also provided. The full lists of conservation issues for the Eastern Forests EFA can be found in the SWAP at: <http://ksoutdoors.com/Services/Kansas-SWAP> Additional information on technical and financial assistance available to benefit wildlife can be found at: <http://ksoutdoors.com/Services/Private-Landowner-Assistance>

Conservation Issues and Actions to Address Resource Concerns.

NRCS Resource Concerns	SWAP Conservation Issues	Potential NRCS Conservation Practices*
Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife - Habitat Degradation OR Degraded Plant Condition - Inadequate Structure and Composition	Conversion of forest to agricultural purposes and/or improper grazing practices in forested areas causes fragmentation--decreasing habitat quality and availability	Prescribed Grazing (528), Access Control (472), Fence (382), Riparian Forest Buffer (391), Tree Establishment (612)
	Increased fire suppression or lack of well-planned fire management changes species dominance (fewer oaks) and forest structure (savanna has become very rare)	Prescribed Grazing (528), Access Control (472), Fence (382), Prescribed Burning (338), Forest Stand Improvement (666)
	Dikes and other structural modifications have disconnected floodplains from their natural hydrology	Stream Hab. Improvement & Management (395), Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644), Obstruction Removal (500), Stream Crossing (578), Wetland Restoration (657)
Degraded Plant Condition— Excessive Plant Pest Pressure	Spread of invasive species affecting understory and canopy	Prescribed Grazing (528), Access Control (472), Fence (382), Brush Management (314), Herbaceous Weed Control (315), Prescribed Burning (338)

*Conservation practices are not all-inclusive, other eligible practices may apply.