

## 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.

Baltimore Oriole  
Burrowing Owl  
Common Nighthawk  
Dickcissel  
Eastern Meadowlark  
Lesser Prairie-Chicken  
Northern Bobwhite  
Red-headed Woodpecker  
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher  
Swainson's Hawk  
Upland Sandpiper  
Monarch  
Townsend's Big-eared Bat  
Red-spotted Toad  
Checkered Garter Snake  
Lesser Earless Lizard  
Prairie Rattlesnake  
Texas Horned Lizard



Lesser Prairie-Chicken



Townsend's Big-eared Bat

# Red Hills



**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 Red Hills EFA are Mixed Grass Prairie, Sand Prairie, Herbaceous Wetlands, and Seeps and Springs.



Mixed Grass Prairie



Sand Prairie



Herbaceous Wetlands

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 Red Hills 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	Practices such as wetland drainage and cropland cultivation can degrade water quality from runoff and increase sedimentation	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644), Wetland Restoration (657), Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645), Range Planting (550), Access Control (472), Prescribed Grazing (528)
	Grazing practices on native grasslands that decrease habitat heterogeneity and change vegetative community composition	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645), Access Control (472), Prescribed Grazing (528), Watering Facility (614), Fence (382)
	Conversion of grasslands to other uses and/or haying of native grasslands causing fragmentation, destroying native flora and decreasing habitat availability	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645), Range Planting (550), Access Control (472), Forage Harvest Management (511)
Degraded Plant Condition— Excessive Plant Pest Pressure	Invasive woody and herbaceous plants ( <i>e.g.</i> Eastern red cedar, tamarisk, Old World bluestems) compete with native flora and modify habitat structure and function for fauna	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645), Brush Mgmt. (314), Herbaceous Weed Control (315), Prescribed Burning (338), Prescribed Grazing (528)

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