

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.

Barn Owl
Burrowing Owl
Common Nighthawk
Grasshopper Sparrow
Lesser Prairie-Chicken
Lark Sparrow
McCown's Longspur
Scaled Quail
Swainson's Hawk
Western Grebe
Monarch
Sage Sphinx
Spotted Ground Squirrel
Swift Fox
Lesser Earless Lizard
Massasauga
Plains Hog-nosed Snake
Texas Horned Lizard



Lesser Prairie-Chicken



Texas Horned Lizard

Arkansas River Sandsage Prairie



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 Arkansas River Sandsage Prairie EFA are Shortgrass Prairie, Sandsage Shrubland, Herbaceous Wetlands, and the Riparian Corridor Complex. (composed of Deciduous Floodplain, lotic and lentic surface water, and Riparian Shrubland habitat).



Shortgrass Prairie



Sandsage Shrubland



Riparian Corridor Complex

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 Arkansas River Sandsage Prairie 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	Improper 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), Prescribed Burning (338), Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
Degraded Plant Condition - Inadequate Structure and Composition	Conversion of grasslands to other uses and/or haying of native grasslands causes fragmentation, destroying native flora and decreasing habitat availability	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645), Range Planting (550), Access Control (472), Forage Harvest Management (511)

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