

## 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 Avocet  
Burrowing Owl  
Canvasback  
Eastern Kingbird  
Grasshopper Sparrow  
Loggerhead Shrike  
Lesser Yellowlegs  
Mississippi Kite  
Snowy Plover  
Wilson's Phalarope  
Monarch  
Swift Fox  
Yellow-faced Pocket Gopher  
Eastern Hog-nosed Snake  
Lesser Earless Lizard  
Massasauga  
Texas Horned Lizard

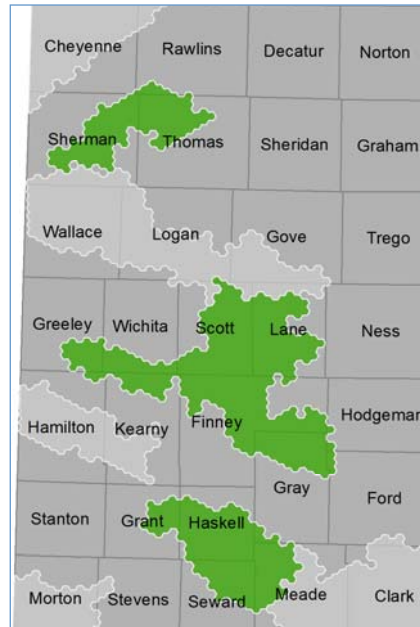


Burrowing Owl



Swift Fox

# Playa Landscape



**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 Playa Landscape 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



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 Playa Landscape 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	Grassland conversion and inappropriate grazing regimes resulting in habitat loss and fragmentation also increase sediment discharge to basins and increased nutrient runoff which alters playa hydrology (timing, duration, and depth of flooding) and water quality	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Mgmt. (644), Upland Wildlife Habitat Mgmt. (645), Access Control (472), Range Planting (550), Wetland Restoration (657)
	Practices such as wetland drainage and cropland cultivation can degrade water quality from runoff and increase sedimentation	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Mgmt. (644), Shallow Water Development & Mgmt. (646), Access Control (472), Wetland Restoration/Creation (657 & 658), Range Planting (550)
	The use of terraces built above/around playas to treat highly erodible land compliance requirement is lowering groundwater levels and degrading playa hydrology	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Mgmt. (644), Upland Wildlife Habitat Mgmt. (645), Access Control (472), Range Planting (550), Wetland Restoration (657)

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