

# Nodaway County Community Lake

## Ten-Year Area Management Plan FY 2018-2027



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wildlife Division Chief

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Nodaway County Community Lake Area Management Plan Approval Page

### PLANNING TEAM

Tory Mason, Fisheries Management Biologist

Craig Crisler, Wildlife Management Biologist

Jason Severe, Resource Forester

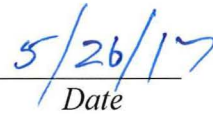
Christine Campbell, Conservation Agent

Steve Buback, Natural History Biologist

### NORTHWEST REGION

RCT Chair

  
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Signature

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### WILDLIFE DIVISION

Wildlife Management Chief

  
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Signature

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## OVERVIEW

- **Official Area Name:** Nodaway County Community Lake, # 6107
- **Year of Initial Acquisition:** 1962
- **Acreage:** 320 acres
- **County:** Nodaway
- **Division with Administrative Responsibility:** Wildlife
- **Division with Maintenance Responsibility:** Wildlife
- **Statements of Purpose:**
  - A. Strategic Direction**

The purpose of this area is to provide fishing and hunting opportunities for the public in and around the Maryville area.
  - B. Desired Future Condition**

The desired future condition of the lake is a lake in an agricultural environment that provides high quality fishing for multiple species, and other public uses along with excellent water quality.
  - C. Federal Aid Statement**

N/A

## GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

- I. Special Considerations**
  - A. Priority Areas:** None
  - B. Natural Areas:** None
  
- II. Important Natural Features and Resources**
  - A. Species of Conservation Concern:** Species of conservation concern are known from this area. Area managers should consult the Natural Heritage Database annually and review all management activities with the natural history biologist.
  - B. Caves:** None
  - C. Springs:** None
  
- III. Existing Infrastructure**
  - Nodaway County Community Lake (fishing lake, 73 acres)
  - Concrete boat ramp
  - Fishing jetty, Americans with Disability Act (ADA) accessible
  - Privy (ADA accessible)
  - Three parking areas (one is ADA accessible).
  - One designated primitive camping area

- Hiking trails, 2.6 miles
- Five fishless ponds (1 acre total)

**IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations**

**A. Deed Restrictions or Ownership Considerations:** None

**B. Federal Interest:** Federal funds may be used in the management of this land. Fish and wildlife agencies may not allow recreational activities and related facilities that would interfere with the purpose for which the State is managing the land. Other uses may be acceptable and must be assessed in each specific situation.

**C. Easements:** None

**D. Cultural Resource Findings:** No known cultural resources.

**E. Endangered Species:** None observed.

**F. Boundary Issues:** None

**MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

**V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations**

**Challenges and Opportunities:**

- 1) Manage to benefit species of conservation concern.
- 2) Control invasive species.
- 3) Improve quality of early successional wildlife habitat.

**Management Objective 1:** Manage to benefit species of conservation concern.

**Strategy 1:** Consult with natural history biologist prior to any new soil disturbance or vegetation management practices near species of conservation concern locations. (Wildlife)

**Management Objective 2:** Control invasive species.

**Strategy 1:** Annually treat sericea lespedeza, Johnson grass, Canada thistle, and any other invasive species. Apply treatments as is appropriate for the species and site. (Wildlife)

**Management Objective 3:** Increase and maintain quality of early successional habitat.

**Strategy 1:** Manage open lands using various wildlife management techniques, such as, but not limited to, prescribed fire, herbicides, native plantings, disking. (Wildlife)

## **VI. Aquatic Resource Management Considerations**

### **Challenges and Opportunities:**

- 1) Provide quality sport fish populations.
- 2) Manage for native aquatic vegetation.
- 3) Prevent the infestation and spread of nuisance aquatic species.
- 4) Provide more fish habitat.
- 5) Protect the Nodaway County Community Lake watershed.
- 6) Maintain fishless ponds.

**Management Objective 1:** Manage for quality angling opportunities on the 73-acre lake.

**Strategy 1:** Conduct annual fish surveys to monitor for fishery quality. (Fisheries)

**Strategy 2:** Stock fish (channel catfish and hybrid striped bass), when needed to maintain quality angling opportunities. (Fisheries)

**Strategy 3:** Assess and modify creel and length limits, as needed, to maintain a quality fishery. (Fisheries)

**Management Objective 2:** Manage for native aquatic vegetation on area.

**Strategy 1:** Conduct native vegetation plantings on 73-acre lake. (Fisheries)

**Strategy 2:** Treat aquatic nuisance species with herbicide, as needed. (Fisheries)

**Management Objective 3:** Increase sport fish habitat in 73-acre lake.

**Strategy 1:** Install brush piles to enhance sport fish recruitment and add fish holding structures, as needed, in lake as natural fish structure deteriorates. (Fisheries)

**Management Objective 4:** Protect the Nodaway County Community Lake watershed.

**Strategy 1:** Maintain the existing grass and forest buffer along the shore of the lake and on Department owned land on each side of the main tributary that enters the lake. (Wildlife)

## **VII. Public Use Management Considerations**

### **Challenges and Opportunities:**

- 1) Maintain access to quality fishing
- 2) Provide primitive camping opportunities.
- 3) Maintain area hiking trails.

**Management Objective 1:** Maintain access to quality fishing.

**Strategy 1:** Maintain access to angling opportunities on 73-acre lake through maintenance of concrete boat ramp, fishing jetty, privy, and parking lot.  
(Wildlife)

**Management Objective 2:** Provide opportunities for primitive camping.

**Strategy 1:** Maintain the primitive campground area (adjacent to Highway 148) in a condition that encourages camping by area users. (Wildlife)

**Management Objective 3:** Maintain hiking trails for public use and enjoyment.

**Strategy 1:** Maintain hiking trails according to the current Area and Facility Maintenance Policy located in the Department's Resource Policy Manual.  
(Wildlife)

## **VIII. Administrative Considerations**

### **Challenges and Opportunities:**

- 1) Maintain existing infrastructure.
- 2) Consider land acquisition, when available.

**Management Objective 1:** Maintain existing infrastructure.

**Strategy 1:** Maintain area facilities and grounds according to the current Area and Facility Maintenance Policy located in the Department's Resource Policy Manual.  
(Wildlife)

### **Lands Proposed for Acquisition:**

When available, lands within the lake watershed may be considered for acquisition from willing sellers. Tracts that improve area access, provide public use opportunities, contain unique natural communities and/or species of conservation concern, or meet other Department priorities, as identified in the annual Department land acquisition priorities, may be considered.

## **MANAGEMENT TIMETABLE**

All strategies for this management plan are considered ongoing.

## APPENDICES

### Area Background:

Nodaway County Community Lake is in Nodaway County. The area was donated to the Missouri Department of Conservation in 1962 by the Harris, Tobin, Neil, and Spriggs families. The purpose of the area was to create lake and angling opportunities for the public in the Maryville area.

The area features a 73-acre lake. Facilities at the lake include an ADA-accessible fishing jetty, privy, and parking area along with a concrete boat ramp.

### Current Land and Water Types:

Land / Water Type	Acres	% of Area
Old field	100	31
Lakes/ponds	74	24
Grassland (non-native prairie)	60	19
Crop land	30	9
Forest and woodland	30	9
Other (roads, parking area, campground)	27	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>100</b>

### Public Input Summary:

The draft Nodaway County Community Lake Management Plan was available for a public comment period June 1–30, 2016. The Missouri Department of Conservation received comments from six respondents (Appendix A). The Nodaway County Community Lake Planning Team carefully reviewed and considered these ideas as they finalized this document. A brief summary of public input themes, including how they were incorporated or why they were not, can be found below. Rather than respond to each individual comment, comments are grouped into general themes and are addressed collectively.

Department responses to themes and issues identified through the Nodaway County Community Lake public comment period.

#### **Would like pavilion rebuilt.**

Building a pavilion is not in the plans at this time. The city of Maryville offers pavilions and shelter houses at locations within their park system.

#### **Concerned about the lack of maintenance of trail on the west side of the lake. Suggests mowing trails more often.**

Area infrastructure will be maintained at current levels due to budget and staffing restraints.

**Suggests holding more tournaments/events at Nodaway Community Lake to attract more visitors.**

Planning team members support public use events and allow special events through our special use permit process.

**Suggests allowing camping. Suggests allowing primitive camping on the west side. Suggests adding gravel camp sites.**

Primitive camping is currently allowed in one designated location and is sufficient for the size of this conservation area. Improved camping sites are available at the city of Maryville's nearby Mozingo Lake Park which has a diverse level of campsite improvements available to the public.

**Suggests allowing horseback riding and camping.**

This area is not suitable to horseback riding. Multiple conservation areas exist in the region that allow horseback riding, including Honey Creek, Riverbreaks, and Poosey conservation areas. The city of Maryville's Mozingo Lake Park also provides 9 miles of horse trails and an equestrian RV park.

**Wonders if there are roads that would allow closer access the west side of the lake?**

There are no roads on the area that access the west side of the lake. The trail that encircles the lake is the best access at this time.

**Suggests keeping area as is.**

Thank you for taking advantage of the opportunity to comment.

**Maps:**

Figure 1: Area Map

Figure 2: Land Cover Map

**Additional Appendices:**

Appendix A. Nodaway County Community Lake Management Plan Public Comments



Figure 1: Area Map

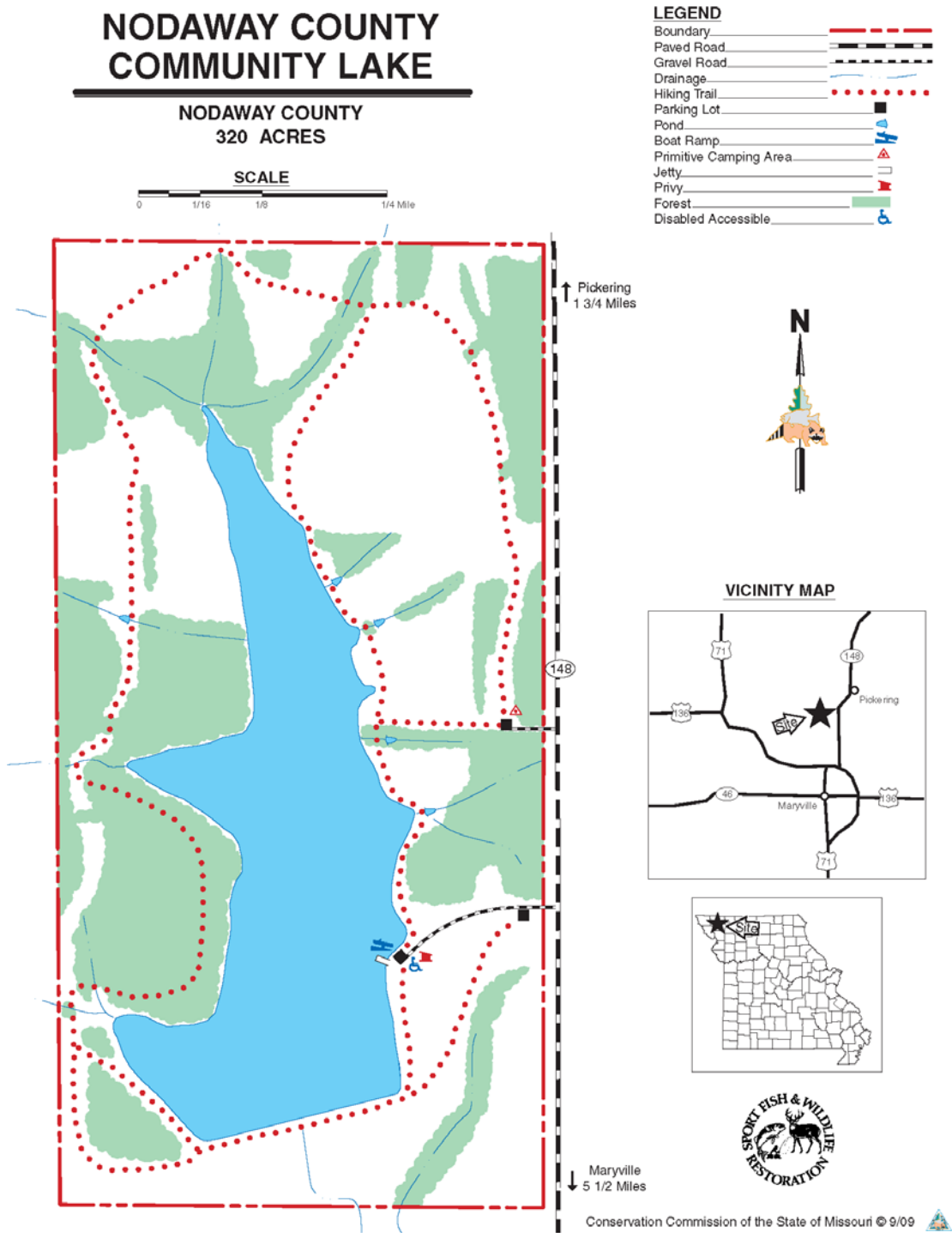
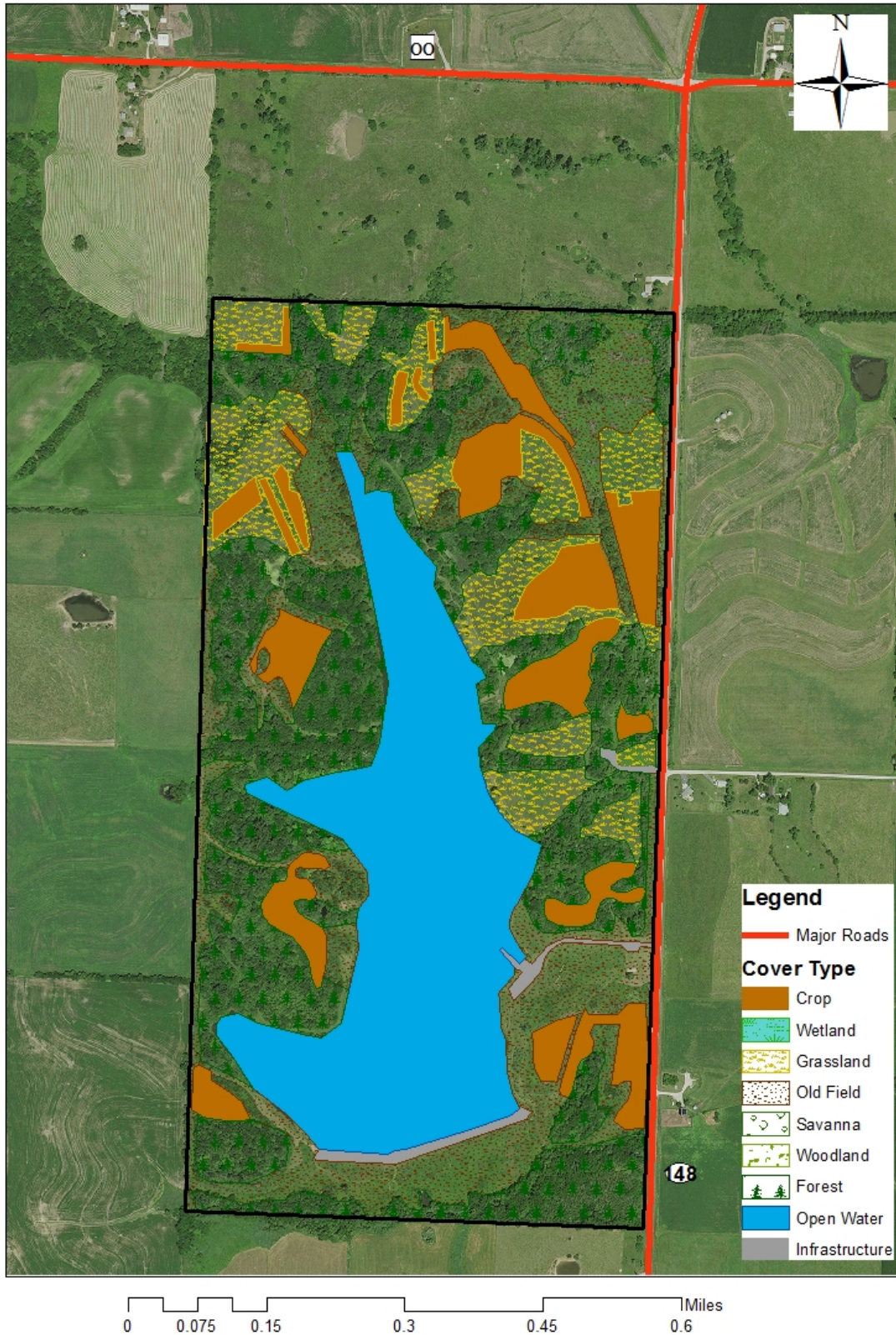


Figure 2: Land Cover Map



**Appendix A. Nodaway County Community Lake Management Plan Public Comments**

Received during public comment period (June 1-30, 2016):

Our family used to picnic at Nodaway Lake frequently before a weather-related incident destroyed the shelter house. It was a nice, quiet, family place to go, away from crowds. We would appreciate a shelter house being rebuilt there so we could once again enjoy Nodaway Lake. We no longer visit, and it's a shame.

Hello,

I generally agree with the plan, but not sure about the implementation of the plan. My main concern is the walking/hiking trail on the west side of the lake. It is currently not well maintained and has some washout areas that make it difficult to use at times. I know the plan doesn't get into specifics like I just mentioned, but do want to bring it to the attention of those developing the area plan and then the implementation of such plan.

Thank you!

Russ Schuster

Since I live right across from the lake and walk the lake many times throughout the year, I have a pretty good sense for use. The lake during prime fishing times, has only 2 -4 cars parked in the area, with maybe 1 - 2 boats on the water fishing. The lake is not utilized much, and even on the "Big Fish" weekend, with a nice prize, it appears they cannot attract a very big crowd to join in the fun. The lake is a nice lake and has plenty of water fishing areas. It may be that Mozingo being close and a larger lake has taken away those that may have come here in the past. Would suggest keeping it mowed up better, as many times when try to walk the trails in late summer it is grown up pretty badly and hard to walk. I know it was wet last year, but does seem to be left undone on trails. It seems there is a lot of money spent on this lake with small results or use of lake. Maybe if there were some better tournaments for fishing, maybe some contests etc. more would be involved. Nice lake, just not used that much.

PRIMITIVE camping is way to far from fishing. could use more primitive camping on the west side. the shelter that was once there at the entry would be nice to have again as well as bathrooms. we used that on several occasions when it was there. why doesn't nodaway lake have gravel camping spots like brick yard hill/charity lake. i use nodaway lake more than i use mozingo lake . nodaway lake would be a good change for others when mozingo is full and no camping left. other than that i think it is maintained well .i could use an easier way to get over to the west side to fish ,having knee problems an unable to walk over and back a lot.and i don't own a boat. is there a back road that could be used on the west side?

I think it would be nice if camping was allowed. And have a nice picnic area. I hiked there years ago and at that time don't remember there really being a " trail" to follow. My horseback riding friends are always looking for places to ride and camp. Good luck! It's a nice lake.

Keep it like it is!!