

Bryant Creek State Park

Informational Meeting 2022



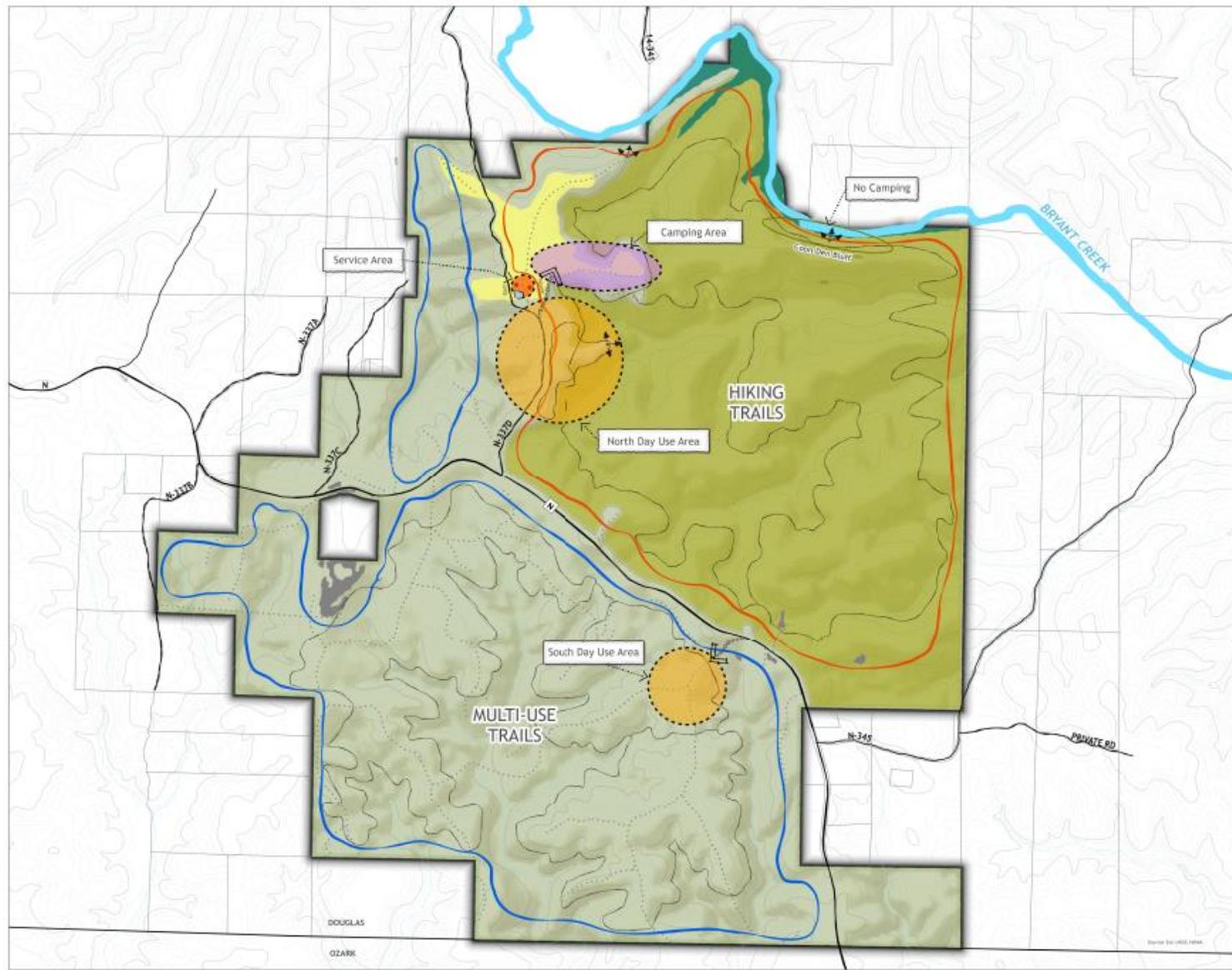
MISSOURI
STATE PARKS



BRYANT CREEK STATE PARK

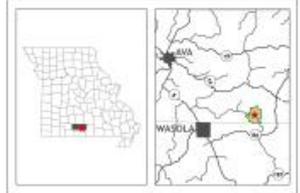
Projected Coordinate System:
NAD 1983, UTM Zone 15N
Contour Interval: 20 Feet
Absolute Scale: 1:10,500

CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN



Bryant Creek State Park	Parcel
Day Use Area	Proposed Trail
Camping Area	Multi-Use Trails
Service Area	Hiking Only Trails
Pasture	Trails
Glade	Route
Riparian Corridor	County Road
Proposed Wild Area	Logging Road
Bryant Creek	Stream
Pond	Contour
County	Structure
	Access
	Scenic View

JULY 2021



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Project and Restoration Plan

- Stated the initial purpose and proposed management of the Bryant Creek Tract
- Goals included:
 - Protection of surface and subsurface waters, springs and 1.7 miles along Bryant Creek
 - Preservation of 1,200 acres of mature woodlands/forests
 - Restoration of 1,000 acres of logged woodlands/forests on the south side
 - Restoration & preservation of the glade
 - Provide compatible recreational opportunities

Bryant Creek Project Profile
October 2016

Natural Resource Restoration Project and Restoration Plan

Bryant Creek Tracts
Douglas County, Missouri



Missouri State Parks
October 2016
Ken McCarty

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Project and Restoration Plan

- Further defined goals with objectives
- Developed a Management and Monitoring Plan:
 - Various management strategies depending upon specific area
 - The use of prescribed fire for basic woodland management and direct regeneration of logged areas
 - Detailed long-term monitoring projects to document changes
 - Listed priority organismal surveys

Bryant Creek Project Profile
October 2016

herbaceous species that persist in the fescue pasture. Scope and implementation is contingent upon plans for how and where visitor and operational amenities and facilities will be sited.

Public use will be determined through a park Conceptual Development planning process that will begin upon acquisition of the Tracts. Amenities and services may include trails, trailheads with parking and interpretation, day use facilities and a small camping area.

State Park contribution:

The Missouri State Parks Division will provide administrative, operational and law enforcement support, consistent with other units of the Missouri State Park System. Specifically for the natural resource purposes of this Bryant Creek Tracts Restoration and Project Plan, the Missouri State Parks will provide additional technical staff including Natural Resource Stewards and Interpreters to assist with planning and implementing the project objectives. Particularly to accomplish the prescribed burns, staff from nearby parks will be available to assist. State Park Natural Resource Stewards and Interpreters will also supplement the biological inventory and monitoring efforts. Regarding Objective 6, the Missouri State Parks will contribute staff to plan, operate and maintain the public use facilities and amenities.

Once the 5-year NRD funding window has lapsed, the Missouri State Parks will continue to provide staff and financial resources to manage and preserve the Tracts.

Monitoring Plan with schedule and criteria

Phase 1: Initial Biological Inventory: Beginning with acquisition, a comprehensive floristic inventory will begin across the site. The Terrestrial Natural Communities (Nelson, 2005) will be mapped, and floristic monitoring plots will be established in representative locations for the major native natural communities and within all the Management Zones except Zone 5. The monitoring protocol will be structured to track vegetation cover, species composition and natural community structure in a Floristic Quality Assessment format. It will include photo-monitoring stations and quantitative baseline reference data for ground layer, understory and canopy vegetation.

For the major faunal groups, and via contracts and Missouri State Park natural resource staff, initial biological inventories will create species lists, and maintain a Natural Resource Database to store the information along with source and location data. Priority will be placed on bird and important pollinating insect groups, with secondary emphasis on mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Breeding bird use will be monitored via point circle counts established in the major natural community types and each Management Zone.

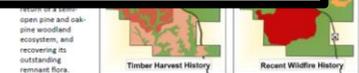
Inventory for major floral and faunal groups will include searches for species on Missouri's Species of Conservation Concern Checklist, and for highly restricted or conservative species associated with the Tract's natural communities.

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Fire management units will be designated by spring 2017. Control of sericea lespedeza and other exotics will be conducted annually, beginning as soon as staff is hired.

Old field rehabilitation will be largely passive for Management Zone 4, but supplemented by occasional prescribed burns to favor shortleaf pine, fire-tolerant oaks and the native

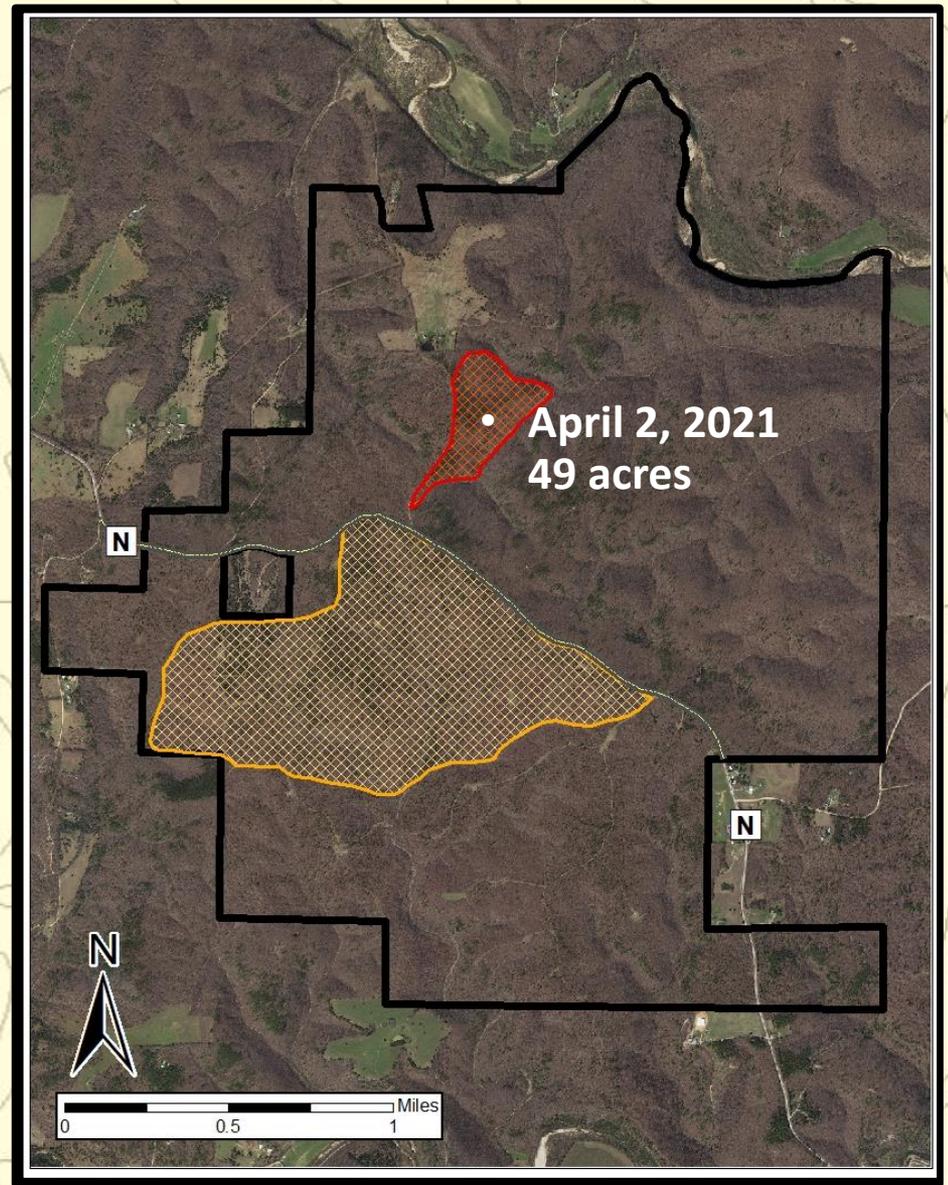
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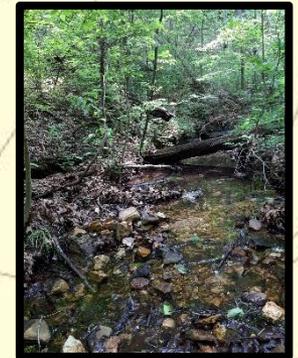
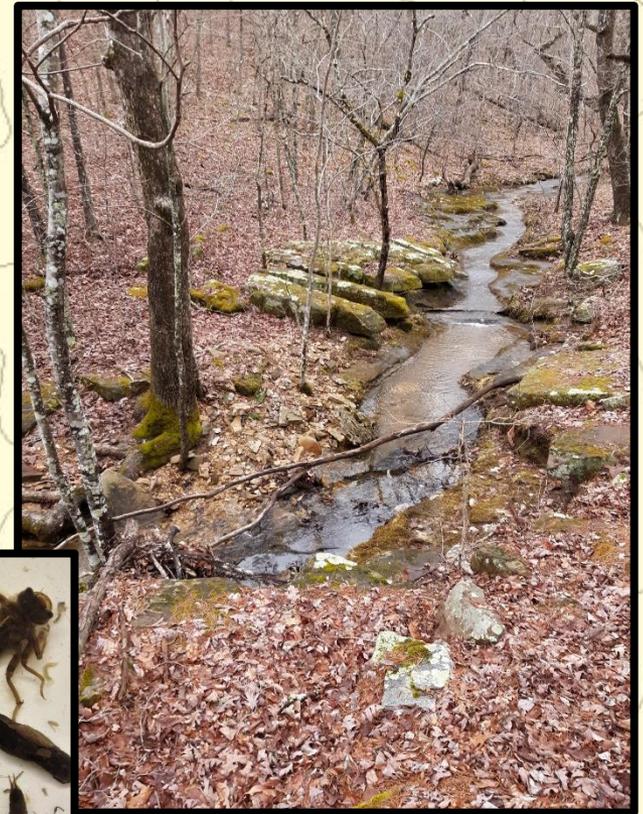


Landscape Management- Prescribed Burns



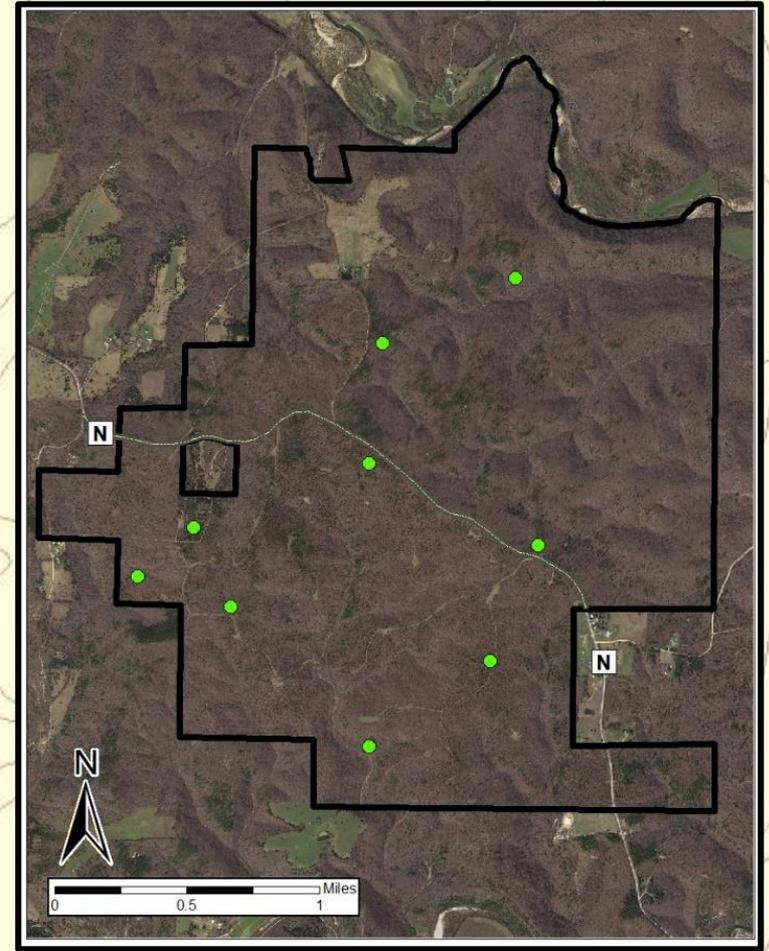
Stream Monitoring/ Aquatic Surveys

- Baseline water quality assessments
 - Stream Chemistry
 - Macroinvertebrate Surveys

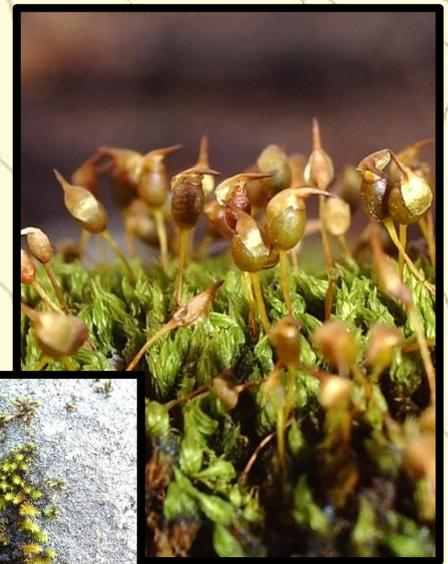


Long-Term Vegetation Monitoring

- To track changes of vegetation (ground flora & canopy) based on management actions.
- Initial data (baseline) collected in August 2019



Bryophyte Survey (2019)

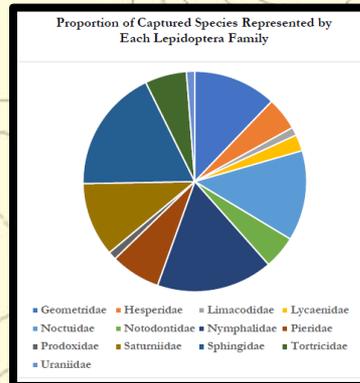


- *44 Moss spp.*
- *16 Liverwort spp.*
- *1 Hornwort spp.*

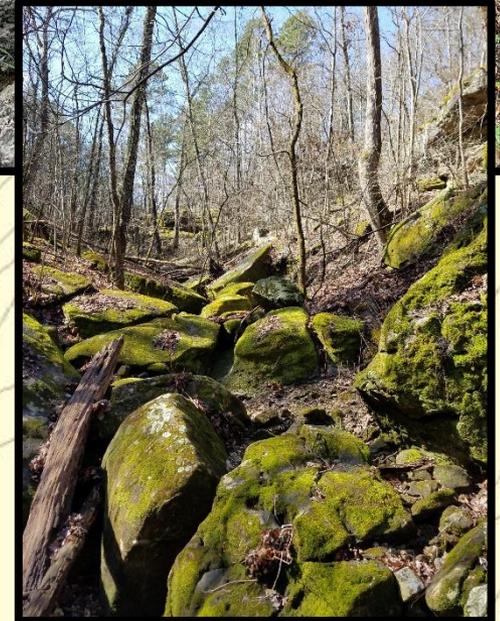
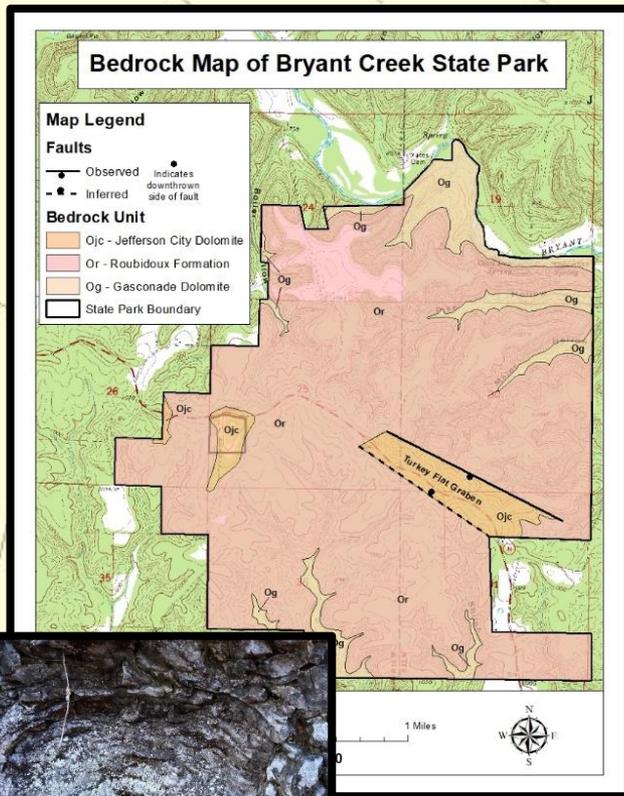


Pollinators: Moths & Butterflies (2019/2020)

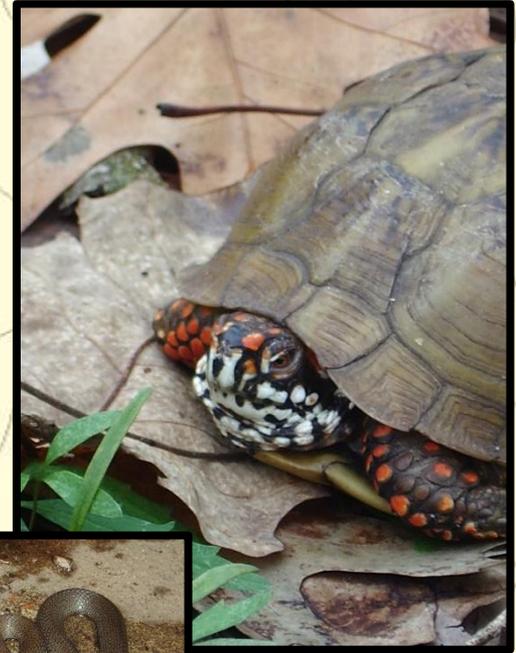
• 132 species documented



Geologic Features Survey & Mapping (2020)



Reptile & Amphibian Survey (2020)



- *5 Salamander spp.*
- *8 Frog and Toad spp.*
- *6 Turtle spp.*
- *5 Lizard spp.*
- *7 Snake spp.*



Lichen Survey (2021/2022)



Trail Development



BRYANT CREEK STATE PARK MAP



PO Box 178
Jefferson City, MO 65102
mostateparks.com

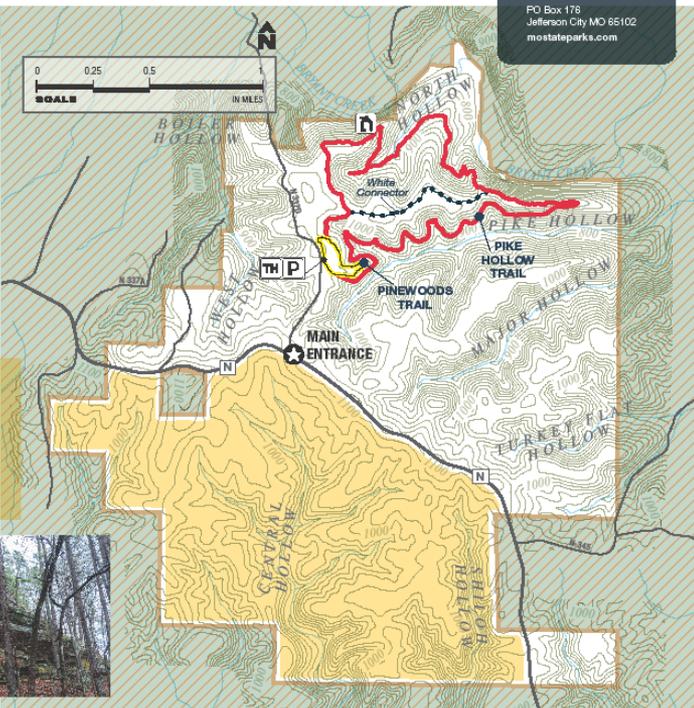
TRAIL INFORMATION

Bryant Creek State Park
7406 HWY 21
Bellevue, MO 63623-7390
573-546-3454

LEGEND

- Main entrance
- State route
- Land contour
- Not state park property
- Park boundary
- Stream or creek
- Trail blazed in red
- Trail blazed in yellow
- Phase 2 development
- Hiking trail
- Picnicking
- Overlook
- Parking
- Trailhead
- Vault toilet

The Conceptual Development Plan Phase 2 Development Area is currently in the planning stages. Visit mostateparks.com and search for the Conceptual Development Plan for more information.



DISCLAIMER: This map is not a legal survey. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources makes no warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy of the data or related materials and is not responsible for any damage or loss resulting from its use.

TRAIL NAME	MILEAGE	BLAZE COLOR	APPROVED USAGE	RATING	TRAIL EXPERIENCE*
Pike Hollow Trails	4.50	Red		Easy	2, 3, 7, 8, 10
Pinewoods Trail	0.60	Yellow		Easy	2, 3
Connector Trail	(- - -)	White			

Connector trails are available on some trails, are numbered and will modify your hike. See map for more information.

* YOU MAY EXPERIENCE: Slippery conditions and/or downed vegetation Natural surface, dirt, mud, gravel, loose rocks, slippery surface, etc. Rocks, roots and/or downed vegetation on trail Low hanging vegetation Physically challenging obstacles Wood or stone steps Steep grades and inclines over 10% Bluffs or drop-offs next to trail Bridges and/or structural crossings Water/stream crossings without bridges Occasional water over trail Road/highway crossing Emergency response signs Narrow passages Raised or protruding obstacles Electric fence crossings Bison Rapidly changing weather conditions Motorized boat traffic Unexpected waves Changing water levels Surface or submerged objects

PIKE HOLLOW TRAIL

4.50-mile loop TRAIL RATING: Rugged
ESTIMATED HIKING TIME: 4 hours, 30 minutes

A distinctive sandstone outcrop layer will intrigue hikers along most of the length of Pike Hollow Trail. Long ledges of rough-hewn sandstone marked two or three layers tall follow the rim and outs of every hill and hollow in the park. The outcrops form intriguing, weather-worn shapes. On wet days, water can be seen dripping from mantles of mosses, lichens and ferns. Many species of plants – some uncommon or even rare – cling to these moist sandstone walls. Banks of green plants come alive in spring rains and add patterns of green to the summer woods. The plant life along the trail harbor forest insects and occasional salamanders or frogs. In the winter, icicles sometimes cover entire ledge expanses, and ice waterfalls grow where water seeps from the rock.

The landform of Bryant Creek State Park is heavily forested, deeply carved and sharply incised. It exhibits three major geologic layers. Rugged and diverse river hills lead from the Gainesville Plains to Bryant Creek itself, 400 feet in elevation below. The deep relief of the landscape and complex geology are what lead to the remarkable abundance and variety in the park's plant and animal life.

Bryant Creek SP preserves more vascular plant species than any area of Missouri. Within the 3,000 acres of the park, nearly one third of Missouri's total known flora grow, a total of 940 kinds of plants and wildflowers. The trail winds contain extensive groves of shortleaf pine – Missouri's only native pine tree. At least 60 kinds of mosses, liverworts and hornworts exist in the park. More species of lichens have been discovered at Bryant Creek State Park than in all but one other Missouri State Park.

Bears live in these woods, sometimes using the small cavities at their base for shelter. The park is also home to bats, eastern woodrats, bobcats and other animals. Nearly 70 kinds of forest, woodland and shrubland birds are known to nest in the park, and many more pass through during spring and fall migrations.

PINEWOODS TRAIL

0.60 miles loop TRAIL RATING: Easy
ESTIMATED HIKING TIME: 20 minutes

Pinewoods Trail leisurely leads visitors through the narrow ridge-top covered in native pine, just to the edge of the rugged drop off to the sandstone geography below. This 0.6-mile trail is a great way to see Missouri's only native pine.



BRYANT CREEK STATE PARK

Bryant Creek

By following the Pike Hollow trail to this overlook, you are following a longstanding tradition of travel and exploration established by the American Indian tribes and first European settlers who lived in this vicinity. Long before there were logging roads and highways, tribes such as the Osage and early 19th century frontiersmen, used pre-existing game trails, rivers and streams to navigate the wild and rugged Ozark landscape. Hunters and trappers were among the first Europeans to explore the region, attracted by the isolation of the area along with its abundant game and numerous navigable rivers and streams. It was one such hunter and trapper, settling near the creek around 1830 in what would later become Douglas County, who lent his name to Bryant Creek.

A wave of immigrants followed the early frontiersmen, mostly arriving from western

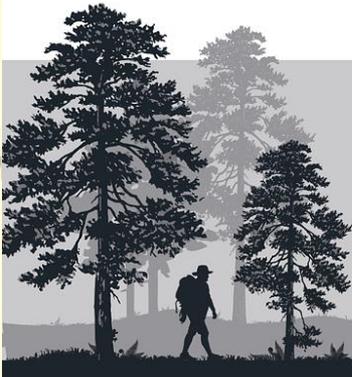
Tennessee and Kentucky as well as the Appalachian region of the eastern United States. Drawn by the promise of cheap land and the fact that the area was sparsely populated, the incoming homesteaders took advantage of the forested landscape and rivers to establish logging operations and sawmills. Instilled with a fierce independence and a ruggedness of spirit that matched the landscape, these early pioneers exhibited incredible fortitude as they wrested a living from the sometimes harsh countryside. Several descendants from the original families who settled the area still remain, carrying on the family traditions passed down from generation to generation.

Because the challenging terrain made large-scale agricultural cultivation difficult, much of the landscape diversity and native flora and fauna the early homesteaders would have encountered still

survives. With 940 kinds of plants, Bryant Creek State Park preserves more wildflowers, shrubs, trees and other vascular plant species than any area of Missouri yet studied, encompassing within these 3,000 acres nearly one-third of Missouri's total known flora. The hills and bluffs through which the trail winds contain extensive groves of shortleaf pine – Missouri's only native pine tree. There are at least 60 kinds of mosses, liverworts and hornworts documented, and more species of lichen have been discovered at Bryant Creek than in all but one other Missouri State Park. The small cavities and overhangs of the sandstone ledges provides shelter for many animals such as black bears, bats, eastern woodrats and bobcats. People of various times and cultures have also used them throughout history. Nearly 70 kinds of forest, woodland and shrubland birds are known to nest here, and many more pass through during spring and fall migrations.



Above: The abundant forests are the most distinctive and enduring features of Bryant Creek State Park.
Left: Sandstone ledges are very visible and ever present throughout the park. Often after rain, these geologic features are expressed in many fashions – from weeping outcrops to small cascades, poe-weers and small waterfalls.



Red-headed Woodpecker



Black Bear



Toothwort



Bald Eagle



Luna Moth



Pine Warbler



Western Slimy Salamander



Palmer's Saxifrage



Turkey Vulture



Three-toed Box Turtle



For general questions, please contact the following:
moparks@dnr.mo.gov or call **1-800-334-6946**

For questions or comments concerning natural resources of Bryant Creek, please contact:

- Ken McCarty, Program Director- Ken.mccarty@dnr.mo.gov
- Christopher Crabtree, Regional MSP Ecologist- Christopher.crabtree@dnr.mo.gov
- Carl Bonnell, Park Manager- Carl.Bonnell@dnr.mo.gov

