



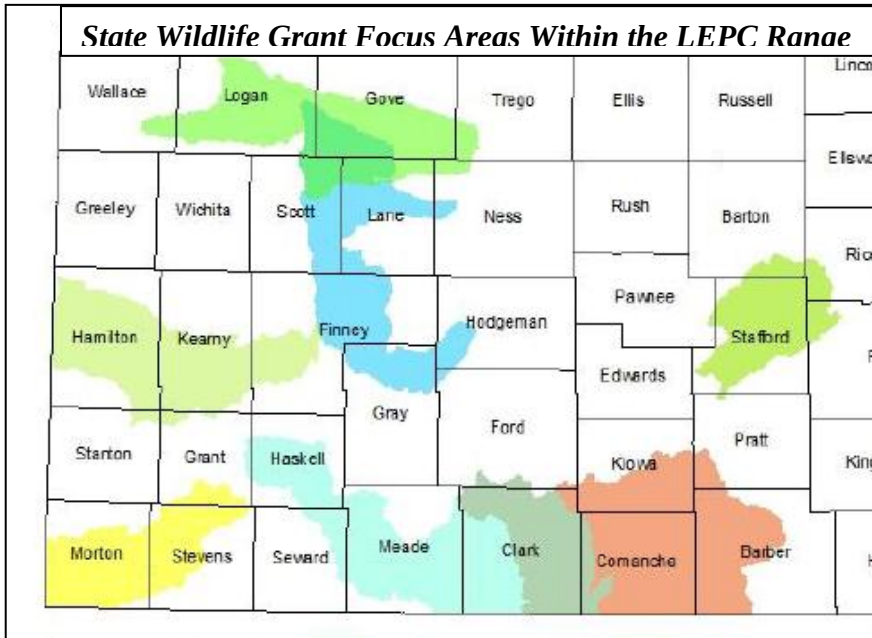
District Wildlife Biologist and Technicians Scope of Responsibilities and Constituent Services within the LEPC Initiative Area

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

Private Lands Habitat Assistance Programs

KDWPT's Upland Game Bird – Habitat Improvement Program allows for KDWPT biologist and private landowners to work together in the development of habitat management plans. These plans directly impact wildlife species and habitats specific to the individual plan and are used to address game and non-game species habitat needs. Currently, planning is focusing on CRP enhancements, including cost sharing on prescribed burning, light disking, food plot establishment, forb/legume interseeding, brush removal, and providing additional SIP (Sign-Up Incentive Payment) or PIP (Practice Incentive Payment) incentives to help increase the enrollment in several Continuous CRP practices. Additional focus has been to provide cost share for the conversion of cropland to native grass, converting cool season grasses to native warm season grass, hedgerow renovation, wetland development, and deferred grazing on native rangeland.

State Wildlife Grant Private Landowner Program In 2008, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks secured a State Wildlife Grant (SWG) to provide cost-share assistance to private landowners interested in enhancing habitat for species of greatest conservation need. Those landowners

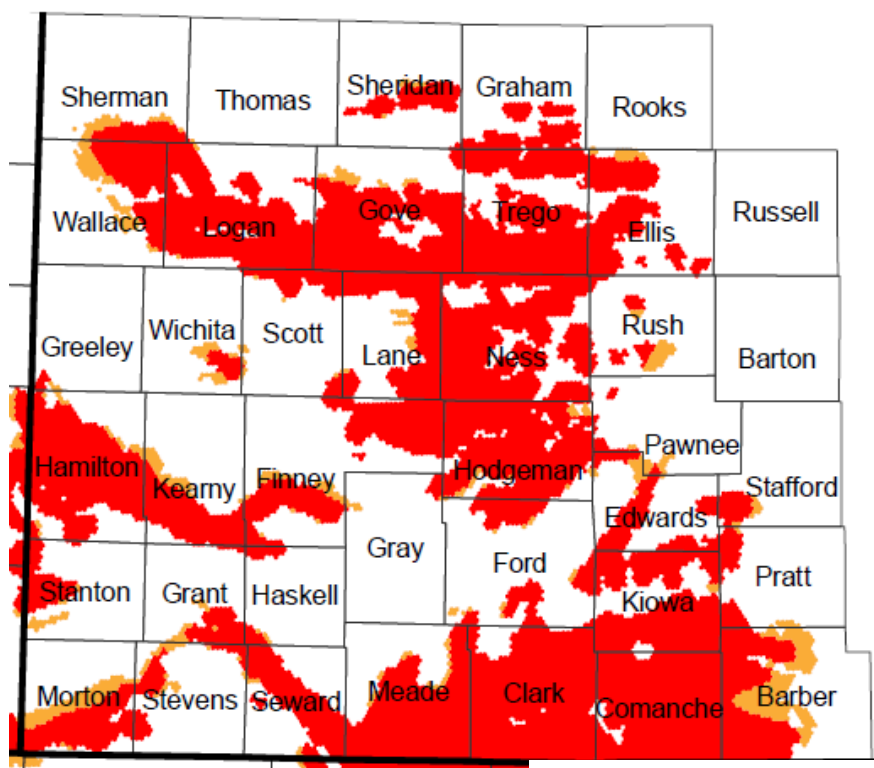


approved for funding will be required to match a minimum of 25% of the total project cost. This match can be cash from non-federal source, contributions of in-kind labor (labor, equipment and supplies) or a combination of both. Projects approved for funding will be based on the relevance to biological criteria in the Kansas Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan. The program encourages landowners to develop flexible and creative conservation plans that not only address the needs of species of greatest conservation need but also encourages landowners to become better stewards of their land. Approved practices include, but

are not limited to: chemical and mechanical brush management, prescribed fire, cover crops, 4-5 barbed wire fence, 1 wire electric fence, livestock water development, prescribed grazing, solar powered water pumps, planting trees/shrubs native grass, forbs and legumes and wetland restoration.

USDA's Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) Since 2003, KDWPT has committed to a contributory agreement with NRCS to assist with the administration and delivery of the USDA WHIP program. KDWPT WHIP responsibilities are: determine landowner objectives and document benchmark resource conditions, develop conservation plans, complete conservation job sheets, provide technical assistance with practice installation and inspection and certification of applied practices. Since the contribution agreement was signed, KDWPT has delivered over \$5.6 million dollars of habitat improvement projects.

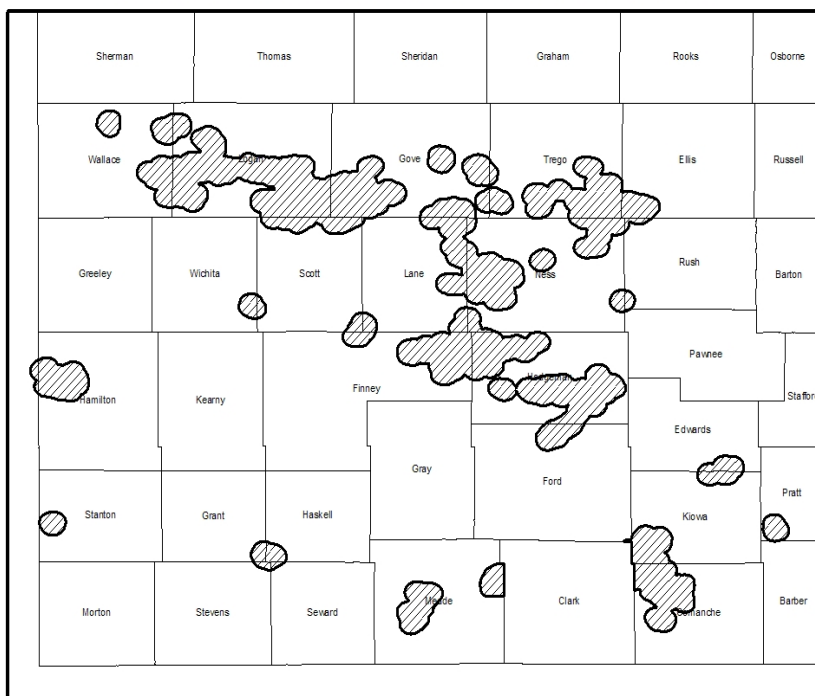
USDA LEPC Initiative Provides technical and financial assistance on expired CRP fields that will be maintained as grazing lands and promotes overall health of native grazing lands. Fencing, watering facilities, grazing incentives and other practices are available. Funds are distributed through EQIP and WHIP. KDWPT provides planning assistance, assessing suitable habitat and develops management objectives.



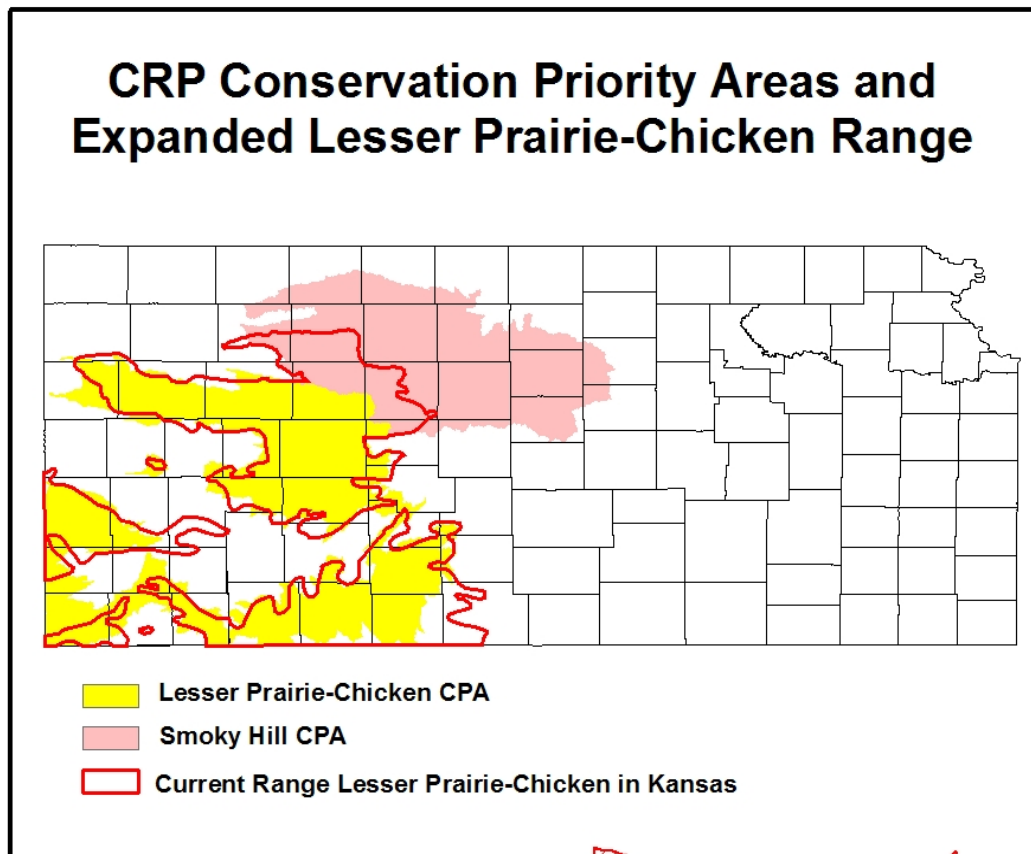
LPCI Priority Areas 2012

CRP SAFE CP38E Practice – Lesser Prairie Chicken KDWPT and other partners developed a CRP SAFE practice to restore, enhance, conserve and maintain 30,000 acres of new or expired CRP highly targeted to benefit lesser prairie-chickens. Biologists provide technical assistance on practice planning and develop marketing initiatives to promote the practice.

State Acres for Habitat Enhancement - CP38E Eligible Targeted Areas



Conservation Priority Areas – CRP In partnership with FSA, NRCS, PLJV, KWO and others, KDWPT assisted in developing a targeted Conservation Priority Area to encourage enrollment of CRP within the LEPC current range. KDWPT provides technical assistance in planning seeding mixes and targets KDWPT WHIP cost-share towards enhancing CRP within the CPA.



Other Constituent Services

Voluntary Public Access, Habitat Incentives Program - VPA-HIP

\$3 million in VPA grant funds have been provided to KDWPT to increase private land enrollment in public access programs and improve habitat on enrolled lands. VPA habitat incentives can be used to improve CRP cover by interseeding, disking, burning and establishing food plots.

Habitat Equipment Available Every District Wildlife Biologist has at their disposal various pieces of equipment available for landowners to develop habitat. Examples of equipment include: native grass drills, tree planting machines, weed barrier fabric machines, root plows, drip torches, and portable tank and sprayer for controlled burns.