

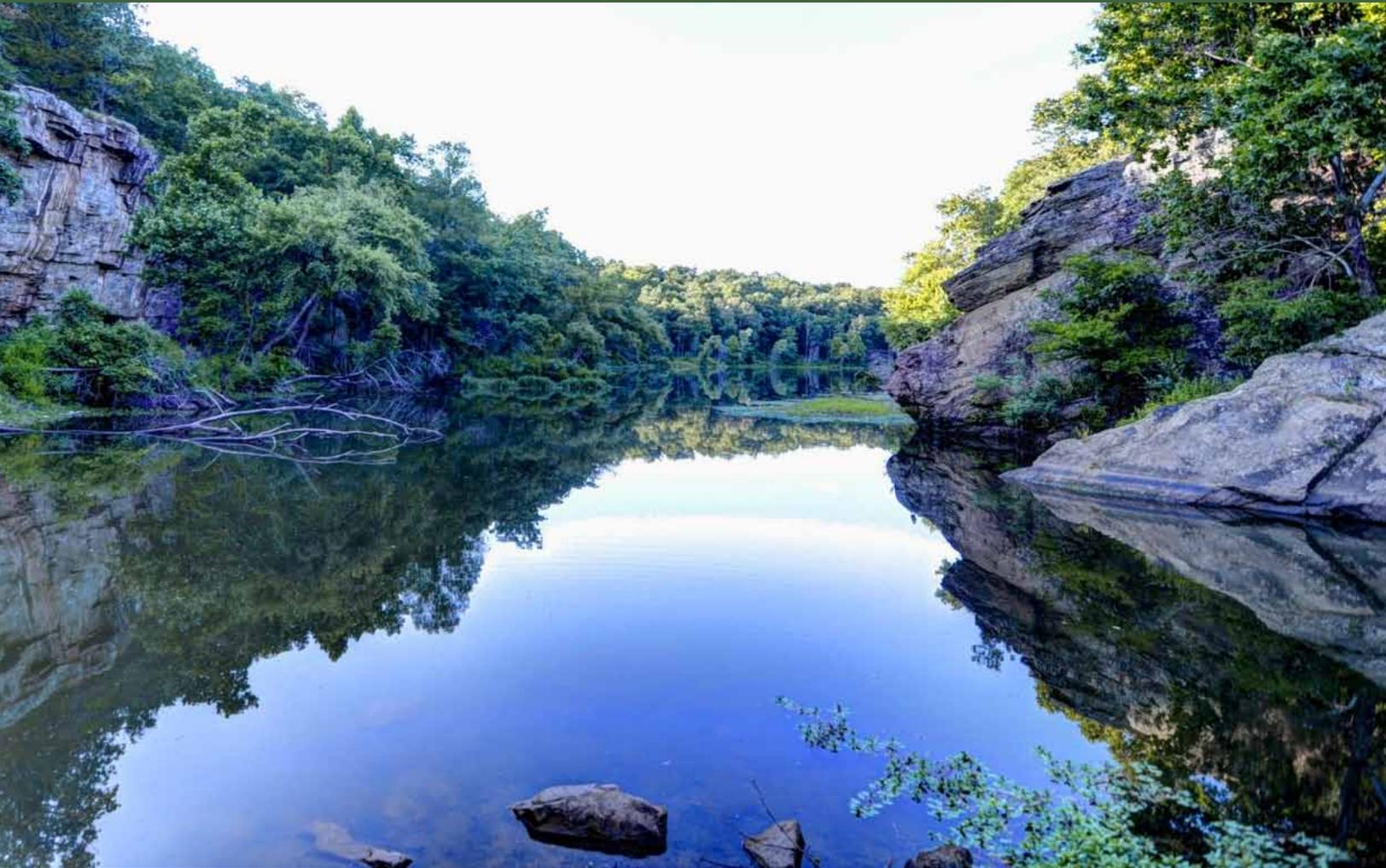
Northwest Arkansas

OPEN SPACE PLAN



APPENDIX | 2016

A: COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE MAPS | B: EXISTING PLANS | C: FUNDING RESOURCES



*Prepared for the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission
Prepared by Alta Planning + Design*



Community Open Space Maps

“Open spaces provide a multitude of public benefits and products we all need and enjoy such as clean and abundant water, clean air, wood products, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities like the Razorback Greenway. The Northwest Arkansas Open Space Plan is an important tool which communities can utilize to realize these public benefits and maximize development opportunities.” - Arkansas Forestry Commission

OVERVIEW

The maps in this appendix are one portion of the overall NWA Open Space Plan, which is a coordinated, **voluntary** program to protect and promote the region's most valued natural landscapes and open spaces.

ABOUT THE PRIORITY MAPS:

The basic methodology for prioritization is summarized on the following page, followed by some guidelines for how to use these maps.

The maps that follow are municipal-scale versions of the overall priority map for the region, and should be considered as starting points for local discussions about conservation priorities. Open space resources are shown on the maps with a priority range of 1-5, with areas that have a higher potential for conservation value shown in darker shades of green. These areas were identified

through an extensive analysis of existing conditions throughout the region (see the following page and Chapter 3 for details). Areas will only be considered as candidates for conservation when there is a willing landowner that is interested in participating through conservation easements or other methods identified in the Open Space Plan. Note that all landowners are welcome to submit ideas for land conservation, regardless of the priority ranking on these maps.

Open Space Priority Maps

Each set of open space data was organized into five main subject areas. Those data sets were then ranked by the steering committee according to their importance for each subject area. The data sets are listed below in order of their importance, and are shown in green on each of the five maps. Areas of land that have more of these features, and that have higher-value features, are shown in darker shades of green. Areas of land with fewer of these features, or that lack these features, are shown in lighter shades of green or grey/white.

1 NATURAL RESOURCES

- Forests
- Streams
- ANHC Sensitive Streams
- ANHC Sensitive Areas & Federally Protected Species
- Trough
- Wetlands
- Springs
- Recharge Areas
- Waterbodies
- Floodplains
- Indirect Recharge Areas
- Steep Slopes
- Mixed Shrub & Grassland

2 OUTDOOR RECREATION

- Parks/National Forest
- Existing NWA Trails
- Proposed Trails from the NWA Bike/Ped Plan
- Swimming Areas/River Access
- Schools (fields provide for recreation)
- Boat docks/piers/ramps

3 WORKING LANDS

- Prime Farmland
- Cultivated Crops
- Hay/Pasture
- Farmland of Statewide Significance

4 HERITAGE & CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Arkansas Archeological Survey (AAS) Sites
- Heritage Sites
- Cultural/Historical Places
- Historic Lowland Prairies
- Heritage Trail Corridors

5 CORES & CORRIDORS

- Corridor Area
- High-Quality Core Shape
- Large Cores (>500 Acres)
- Medium Cores (100-499 Acres)
- Medium-Quality Core Shape
- Small Cores (20-100 Acres)
- Low-Quality Core Shape



Overall Priority Open Space Map

The overall map combines the five maps above, with the greatest emphasis on the 'Natural Resource' features, as directed by the Steering Committee, and as supported by input from the public comment form.

For further detail on the GIS processes used, please see Chapter 3 of the Open Space Plan or contact the NWARPC.



Additional Analysis

- Priority Open Space Adjacent to Already-Protected Open Space (Chapter 4)
- Priority Open Space and Development Pressure (Chapter 4)
- Priority Open Space and Public Favorite Places (Chapter 4)
- 32 Local Community Open Space Maps (Appendix A)

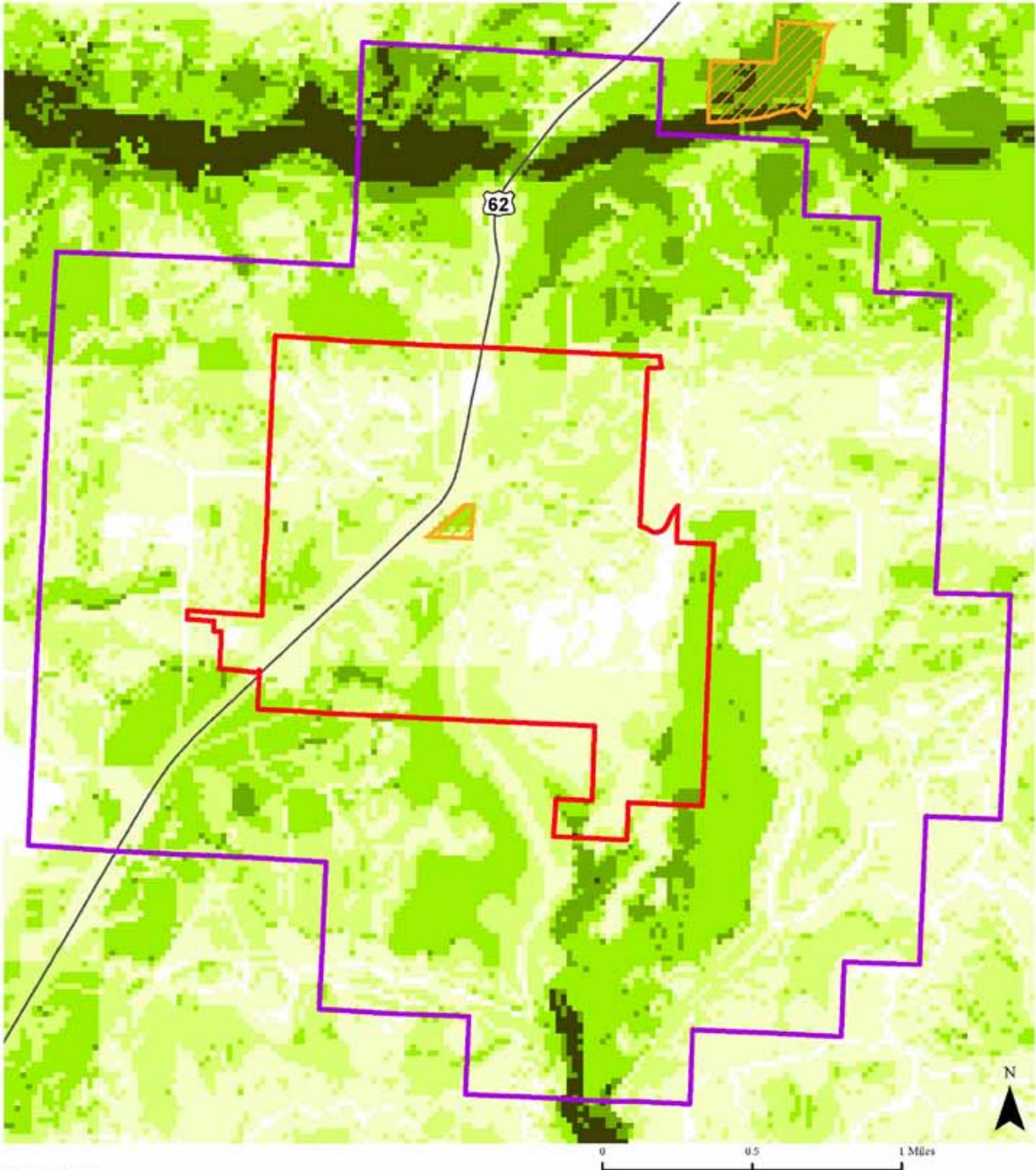
HOW TO USE THE PRIORITY MAPS

The main approach taken in most open space planning projects is to analyze the physical characteristics of a region's environment to find priority areas that would be the most beneficial to protect, according to what the community values most in terms of open space. This is the main approach covered in this chapter, and there are important aspects of this to highlight when considering how to use these priority maps:

- 1. Priority areas will be considered as candidates for protection only when there is a willing landowner that desires to conserve their land.** Willing landowners can protect their land by selling or donating their land, or through conservation easements or other methods identified in this plan's conservation toolbox.
- 2. The intention is not to protect all lands identified as a high priority, nor is it to protect land only within the high priority areas.** All landowners who wish to participate in the open space program should be considered, regardless of whether the land in question is identified as a priority in the mapping analysis.
- 3. Different sites will have different objectives for conservation.** A balanced approach should be taken in selecting a range of site types that reflect what people value most in terms of open space in Northwest Arkansas. Refer to the results of this plan's public comment form, which focused on what people feel is most important in terms of open space.
- 4. The priority mapping in this appendix is data-driven and fact-based, but is still only a tool.** The methodology used in this plan combines the best practices for geographic information system (GIS) analysis outlined by the U.S. Forest Service and the Arkansas Forestry Commission, as well as best practices for analysis from award-winning open space projects in other communities. This does not mean it is a perfect tool. Care should be taken when considering candidates for protection to be sure on-the-ground conditions reflect what is communicated by the analysis.
- 5. The priority mapping will need to be updated regularly to remain relevant.** It is recommended that a comprehensive list of data updates and needs be kept on an ongoing basis, with the actual updates to the data and analysis occurring on a quarterly or semi-annual basis. Adjustments and improvements to the methodology are also anticipated, as new tools for analysis and new data become available.
- 6. Not all aspects of this plan can be addressed by protecting priority areas identified in the mapping analysis.** The best practices related to open space, along with this plan's conservation toolbox, represent the many other ways in which the goals of this plan could be addressed.

MAP A1

AVOCA COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

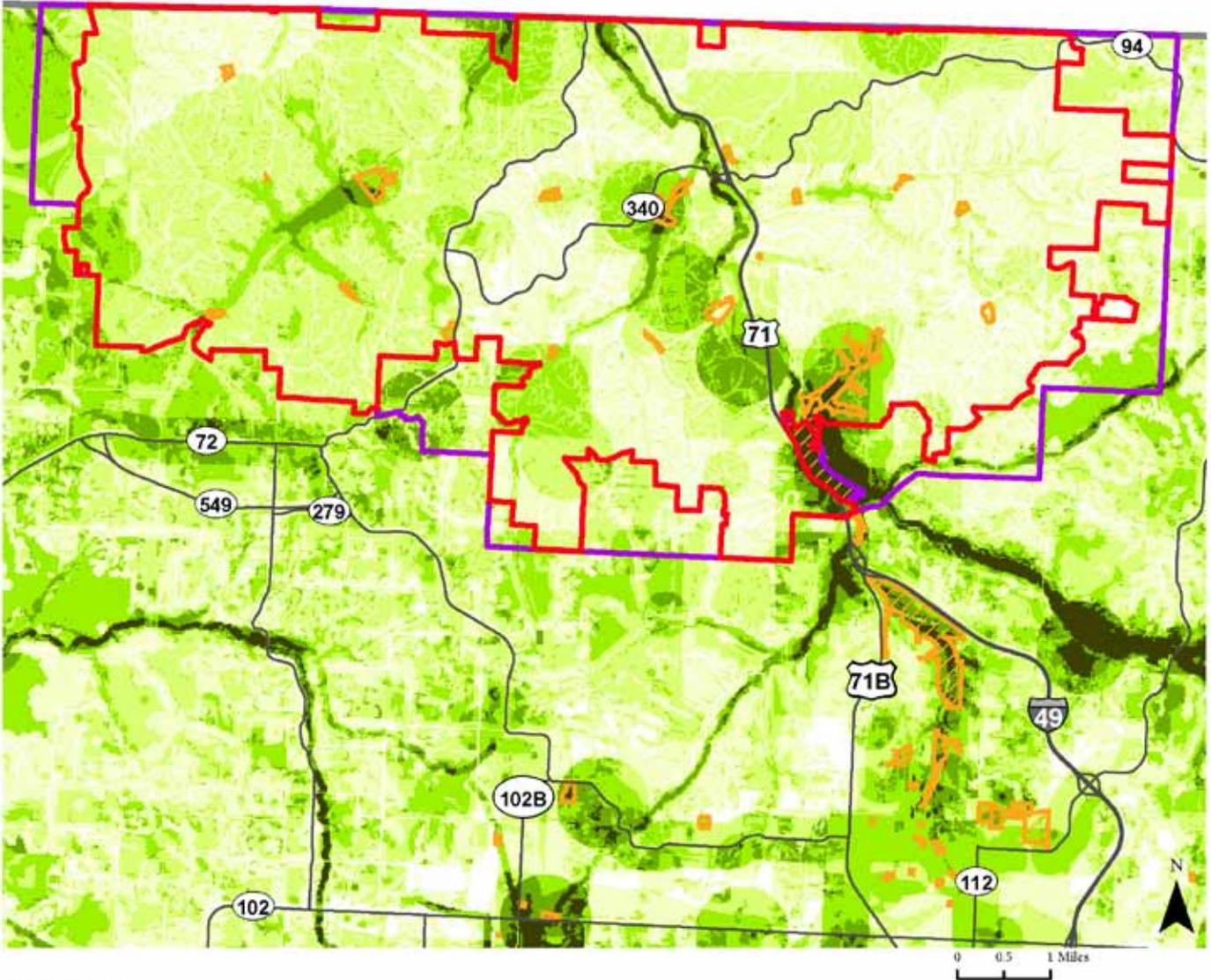
- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
- Parks/National Forest
- Planning Area Boundary
- City Limits

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MAP A2

BELLA VISTA COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP

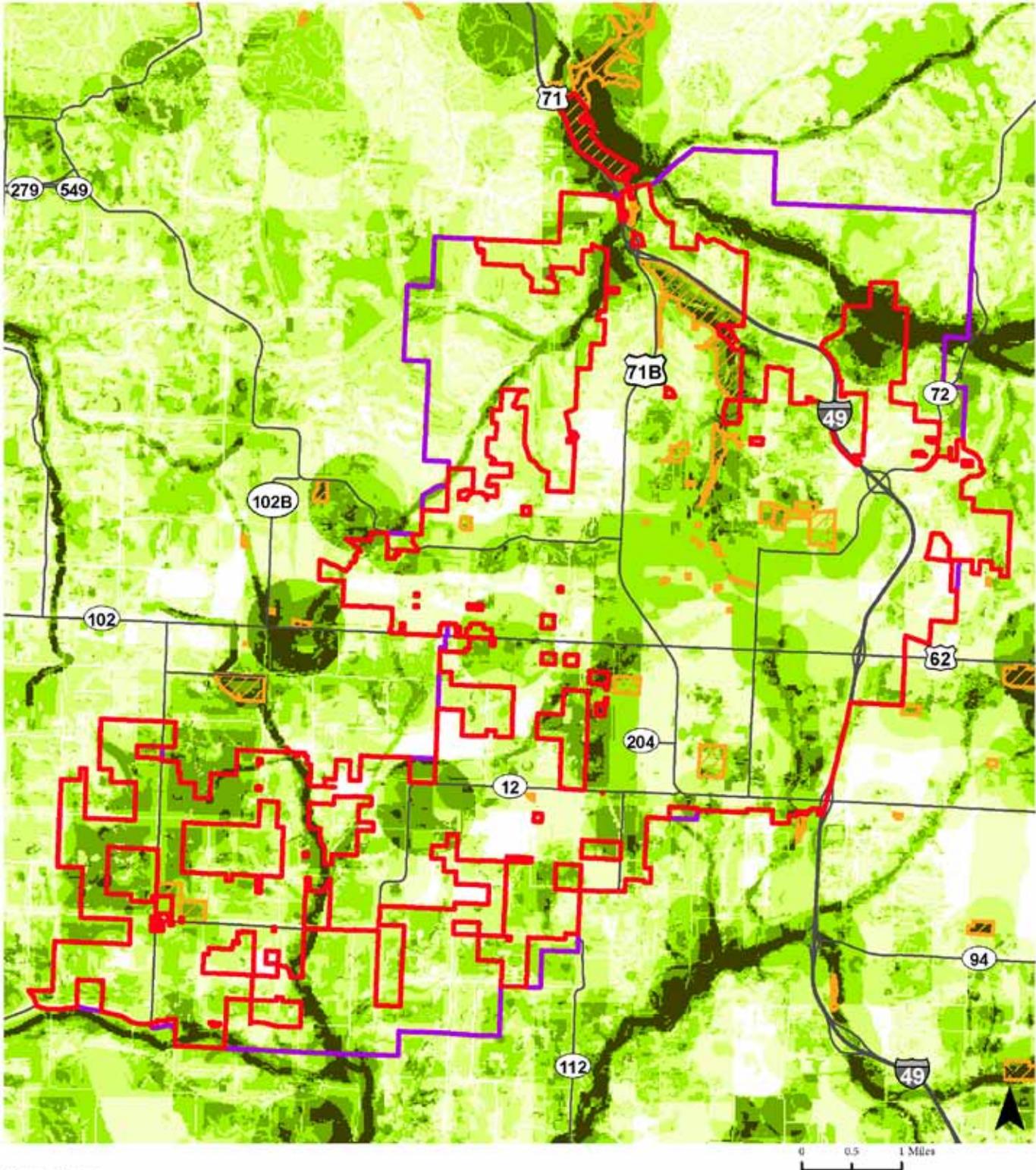


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MAP A3

BENTONVILLE COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

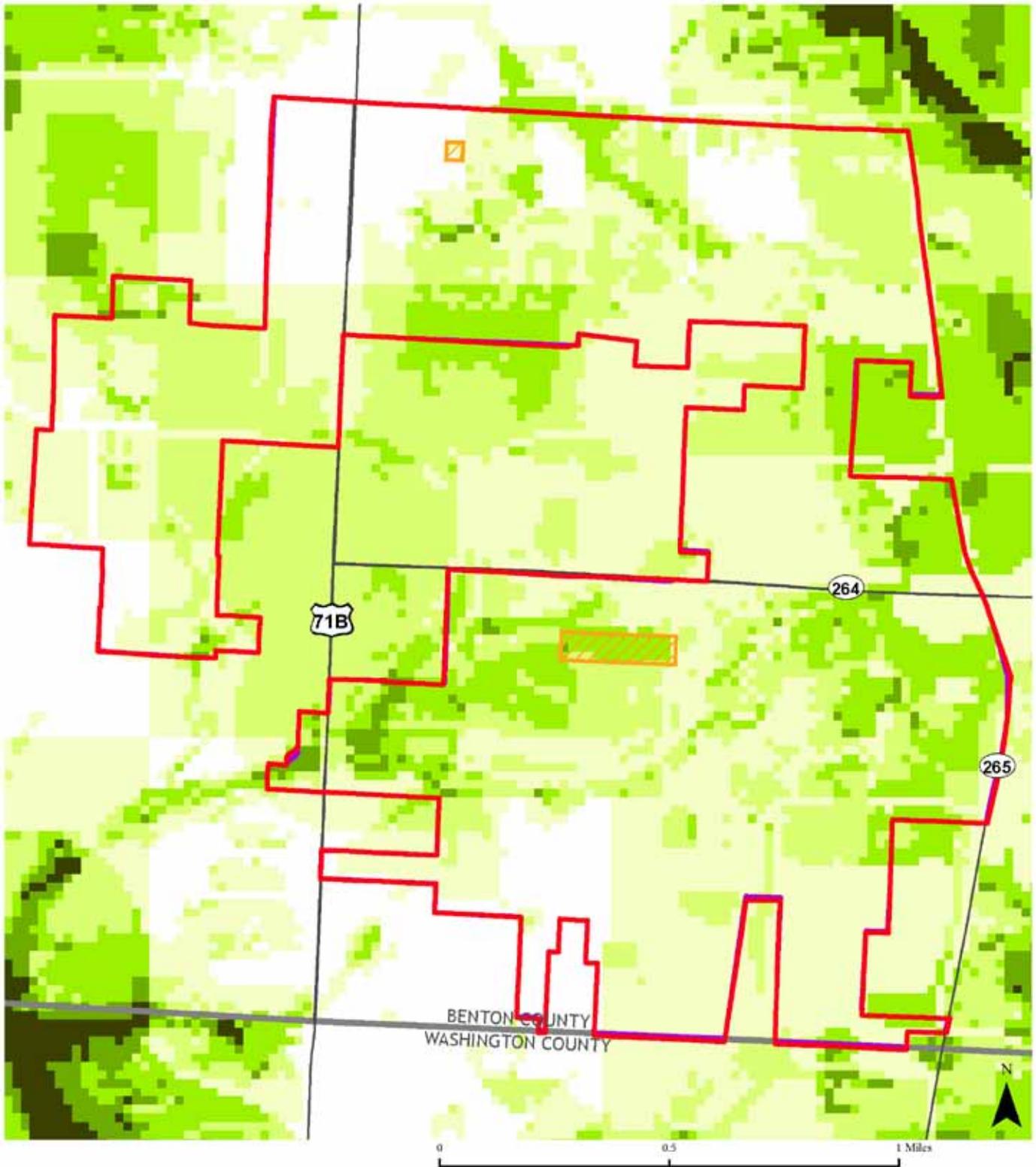
- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
- Parks/National Forest
- Planning Area Boundary
- City Limits

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MAP A4

BETHEL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP

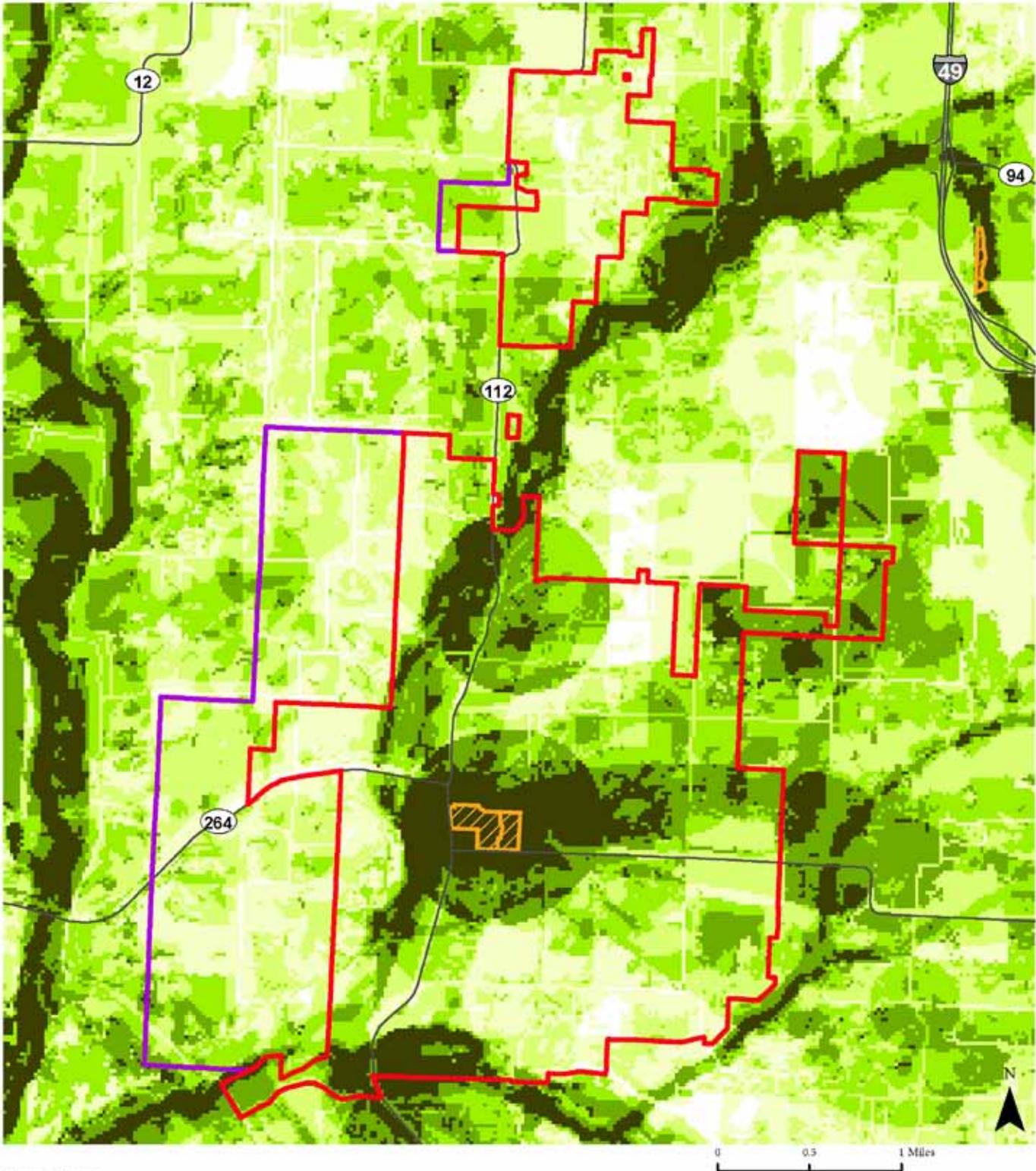


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MAP A5

CAVE SPRINGS COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP

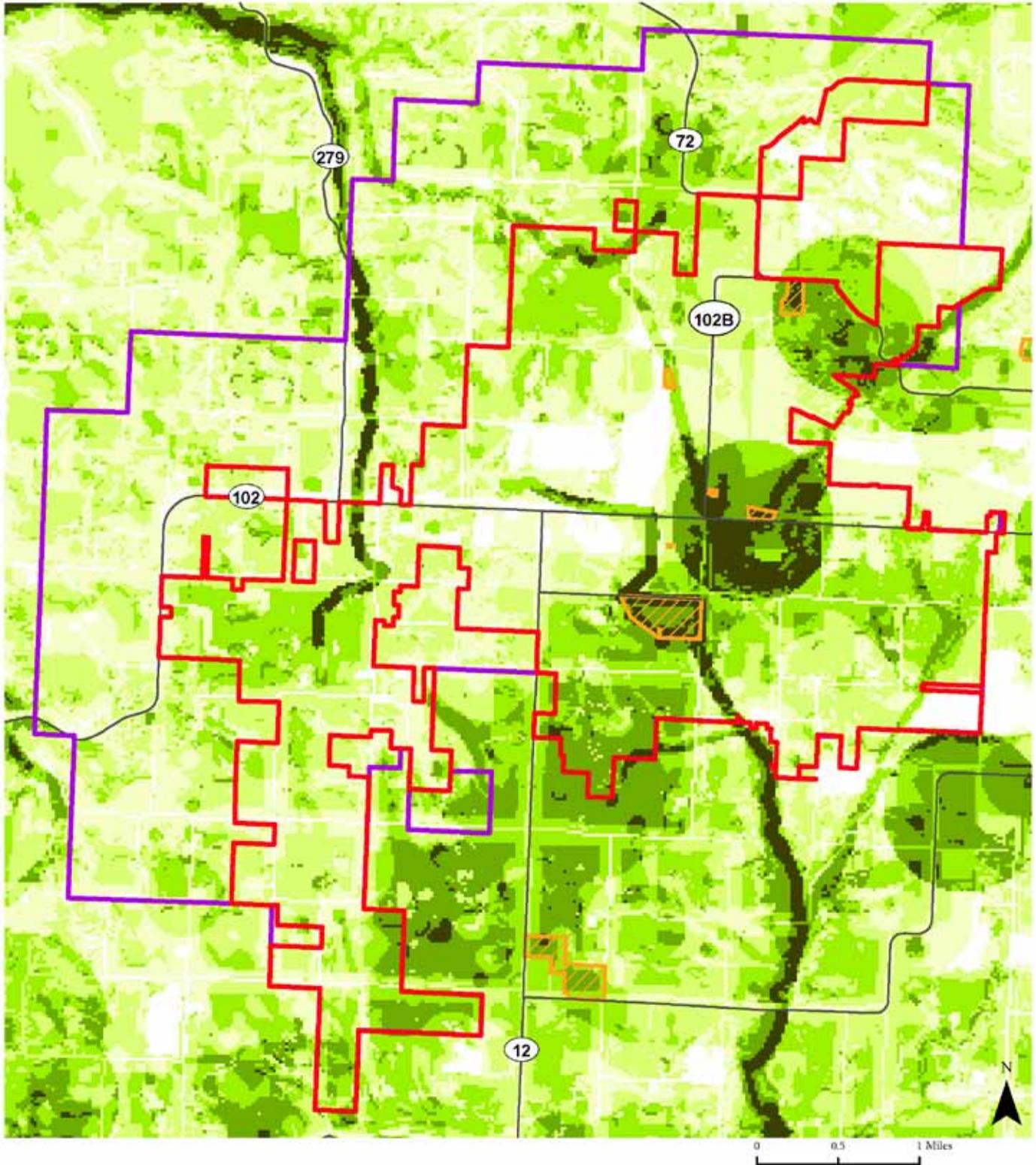


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MAP A6

CENTERTON COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



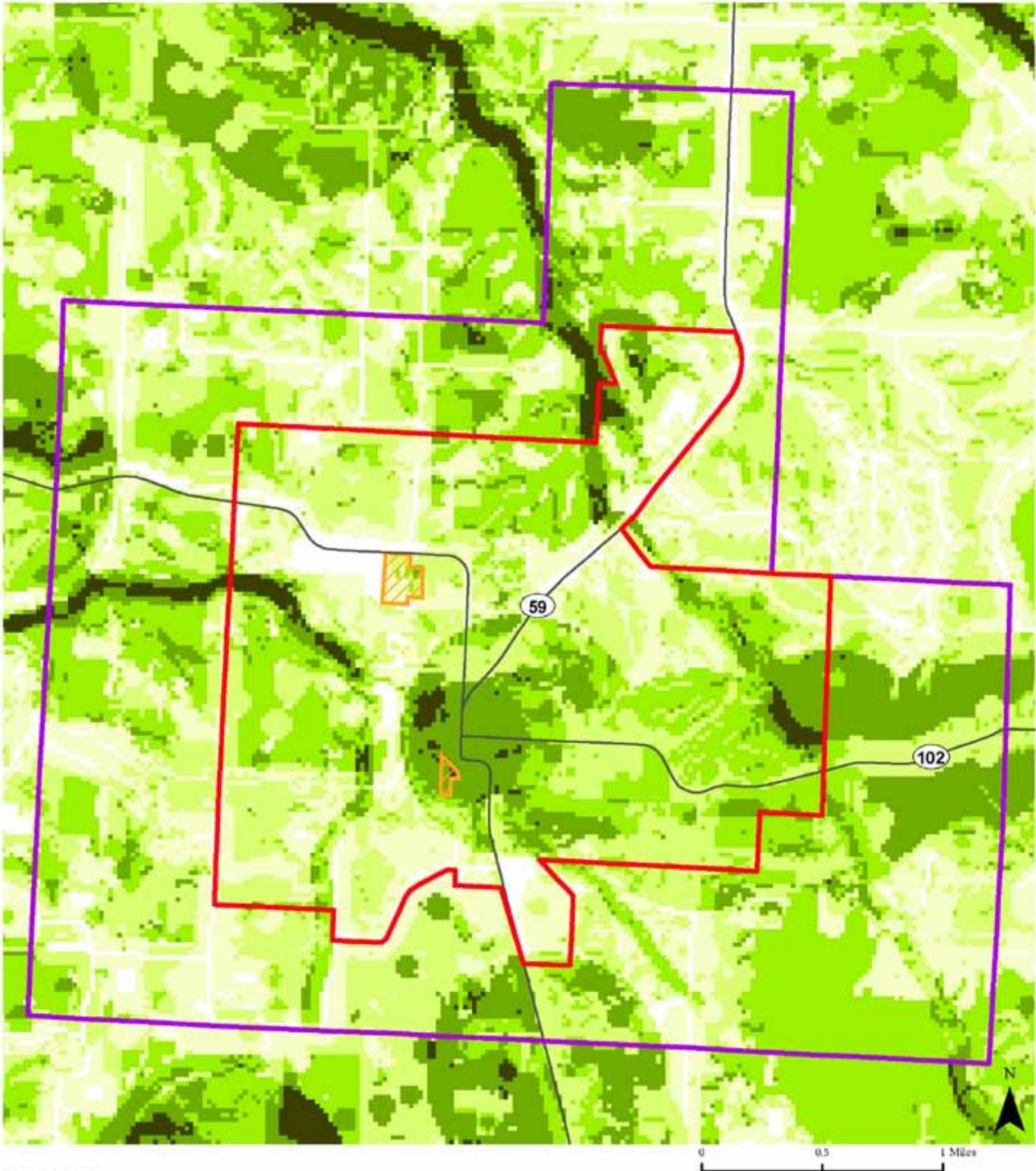
Open Space Master Score

-  5
-  4
-  3
-  2
-  1
-  Parks/National Forest
-  Planning Area Boundary
-  City Limits

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MAP A7 DECATUR COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

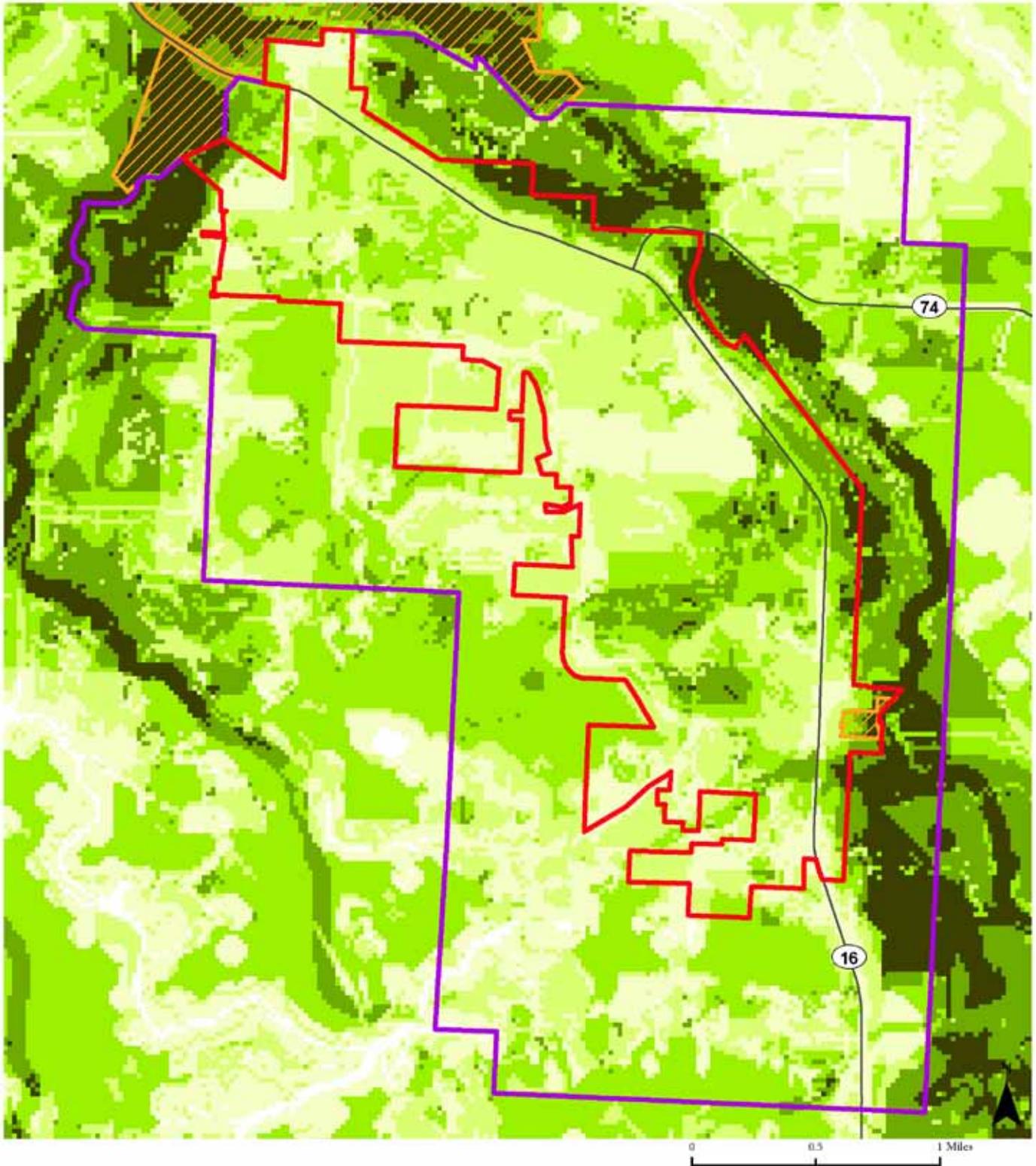
- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
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- Planning Area Boundary
- City Limits

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MAP A8

ELKINS COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

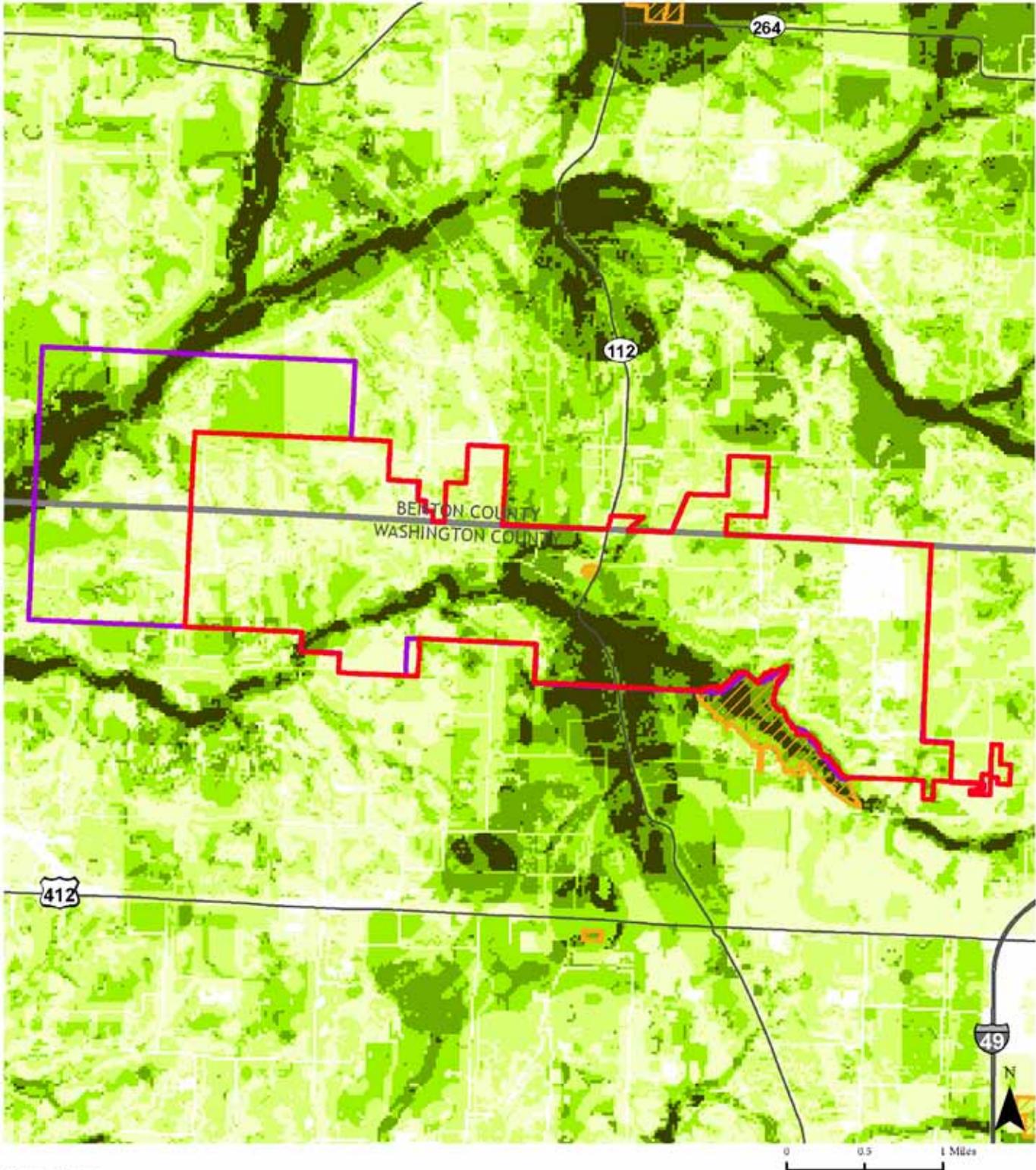
-  5
-  4
-  3
-  2
-  1
-  Parks/National Forest
-  Planning Area Boundary
-  City Limits

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MAP A9

ELM SPRINGS COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

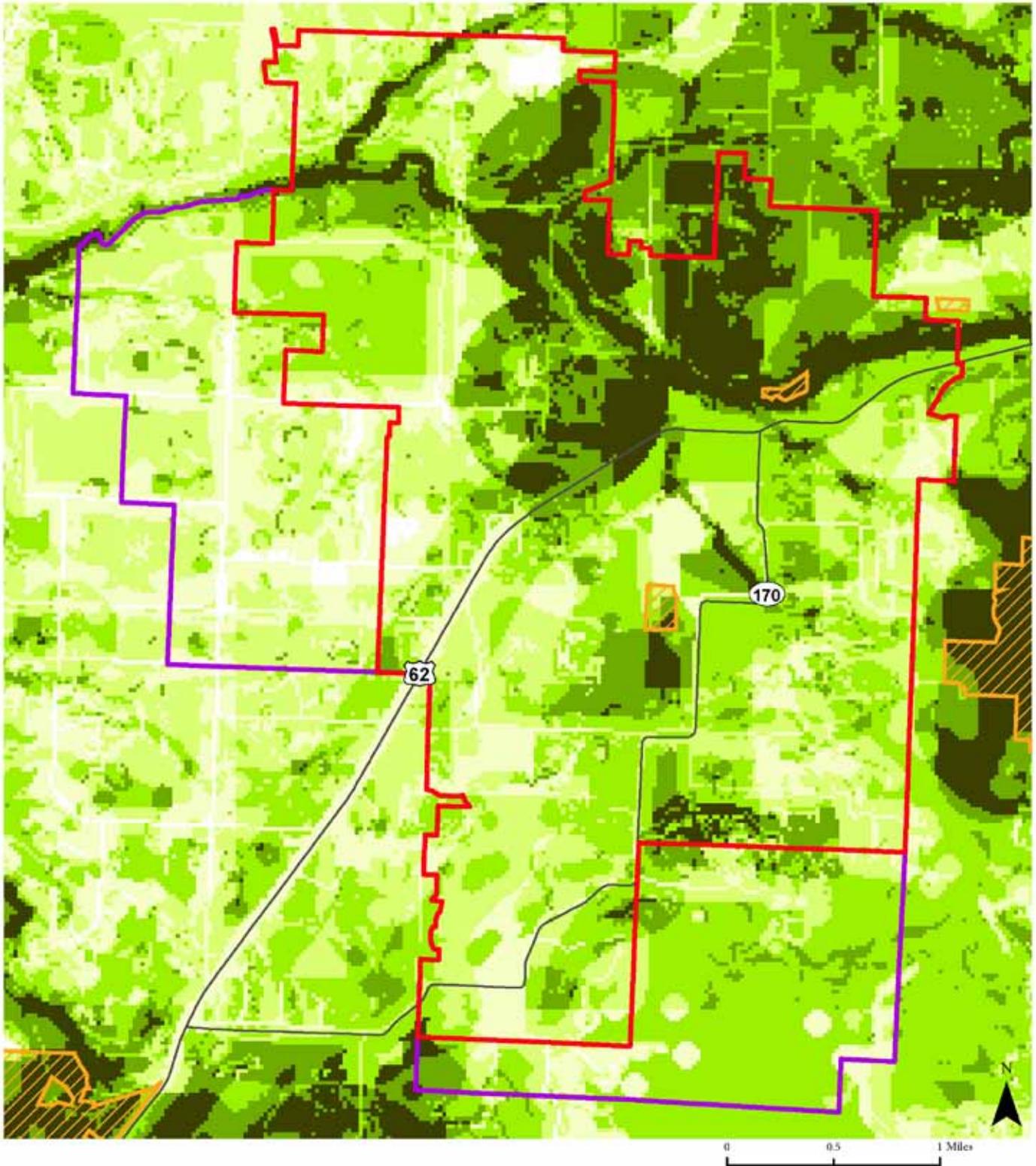
- 5
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MAP A10

FARMINGTON COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



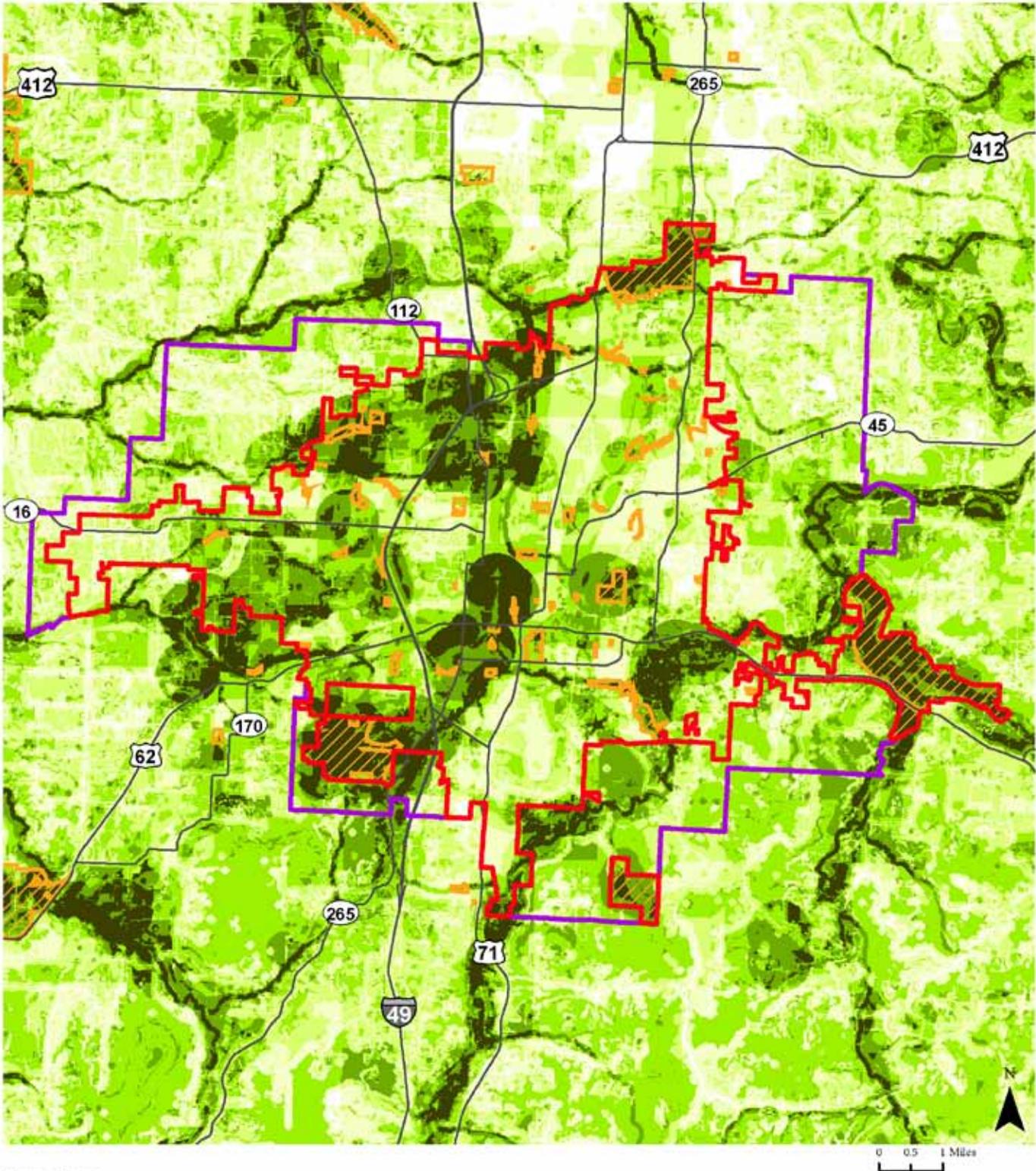
Open Space Master Score

-  5
-  4
-  3
-  2
-  1
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-  City Limits

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MAP A11 FAYETTEVILLE COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

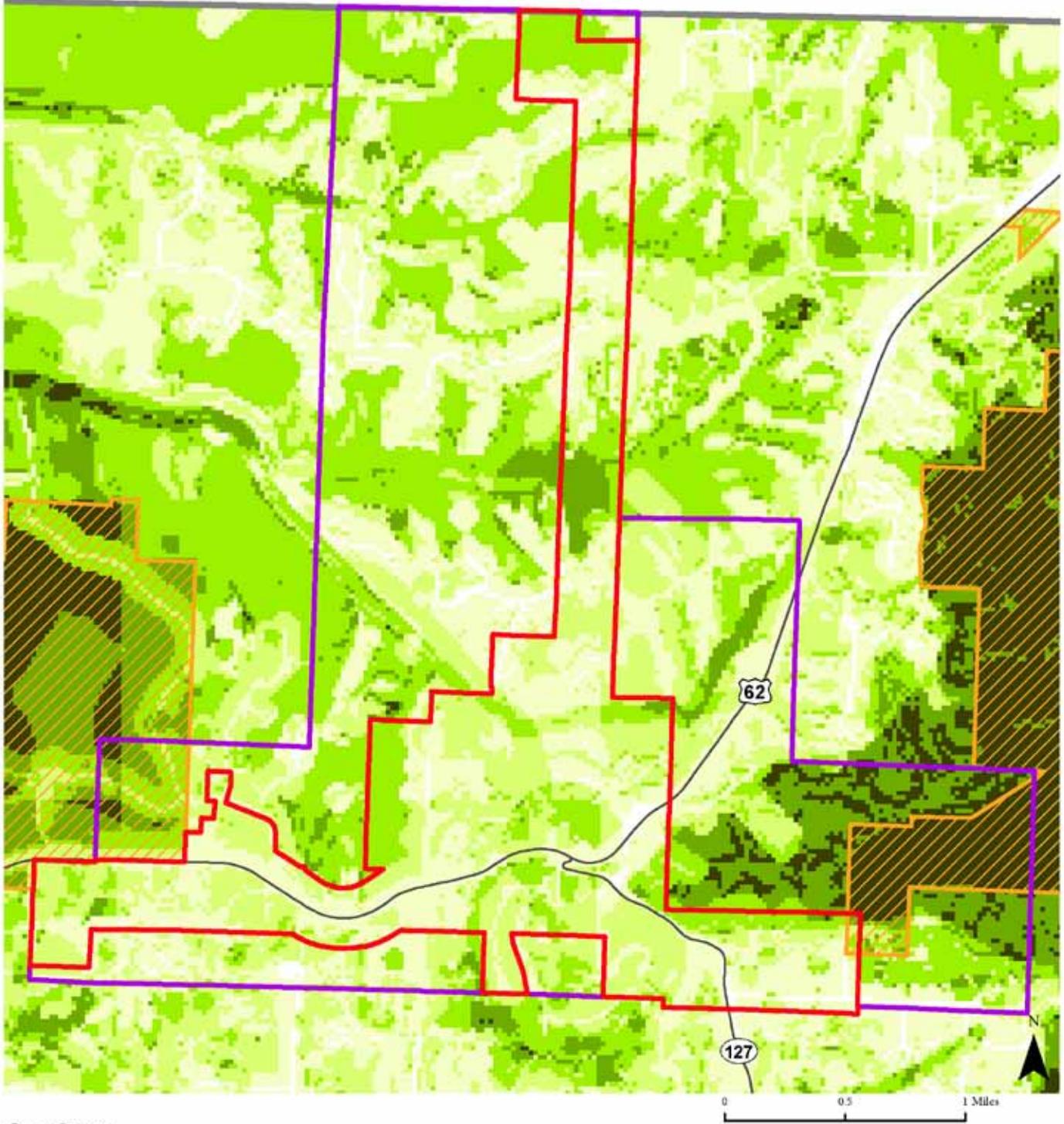
- 5
- 4
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MAP A12

GARFIELD COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

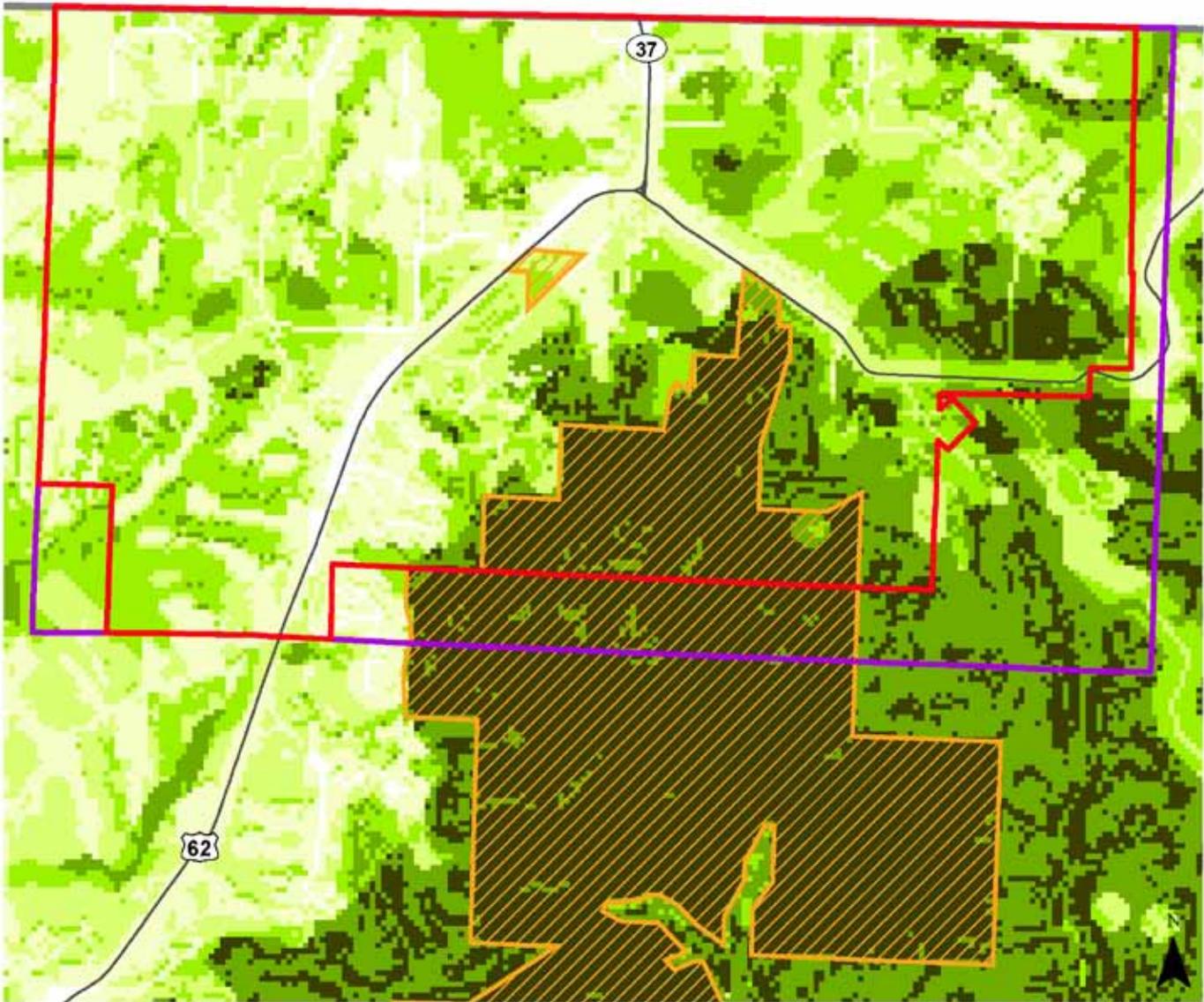
- | | | | |
|---|---|---|------------------------|
|  | 5 |  | Parks/National Forest |
|  | 4 |  | Planning Area Boundary |
|  | 3 |  | City Limits |
|  | 2 | | |
|  | 1 | | |

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MAP A13

GATEWAY COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



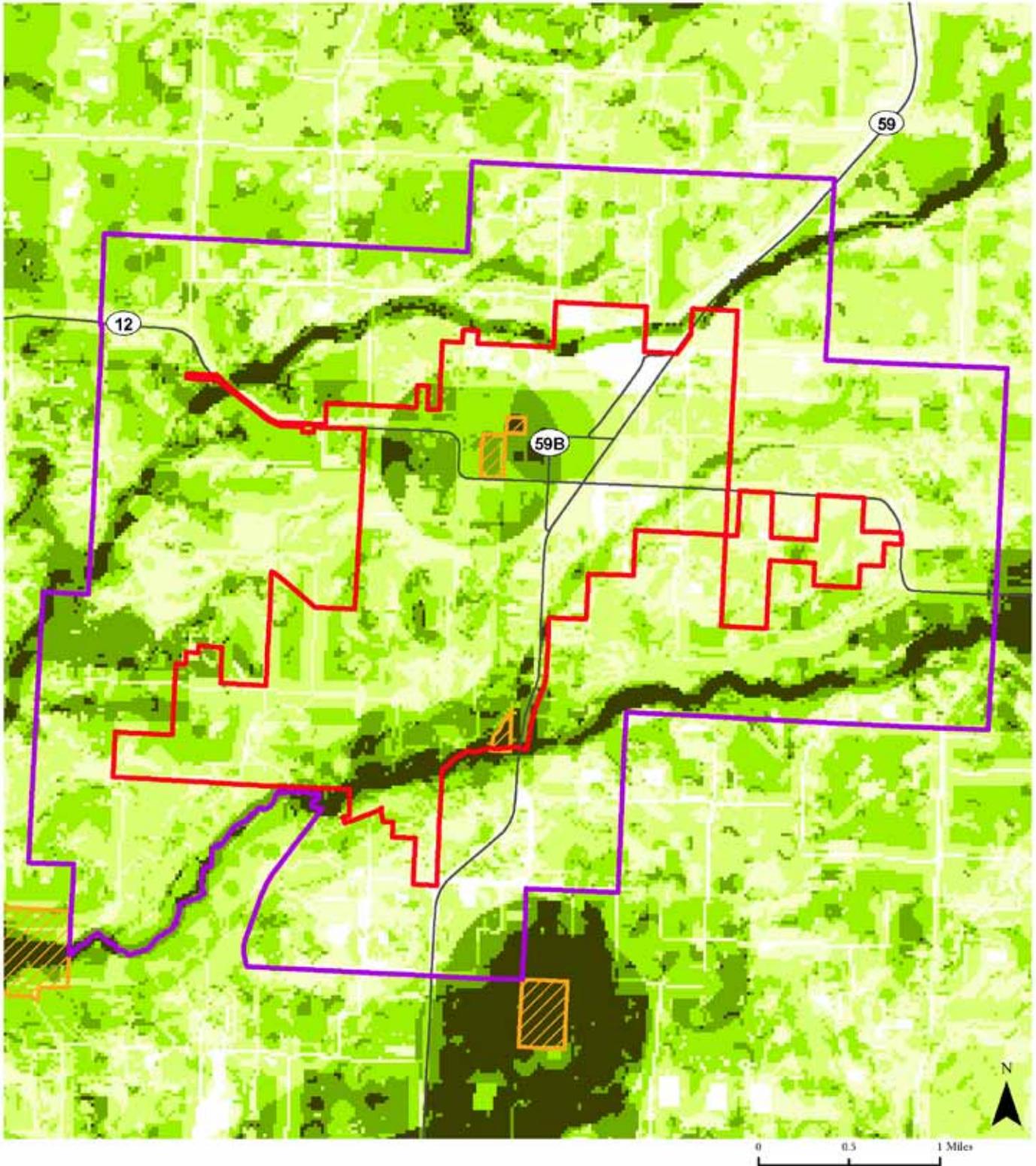
Open Space Master Score

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|------------------------|
|  | 5 |  | Parks/National Forest |
|  | 4 |  | Planning Area Boundary |
|  | 3 |  | City Limits |
|  | 2 | | |
|  | 1 | | |

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MAP A14 GENTRY COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



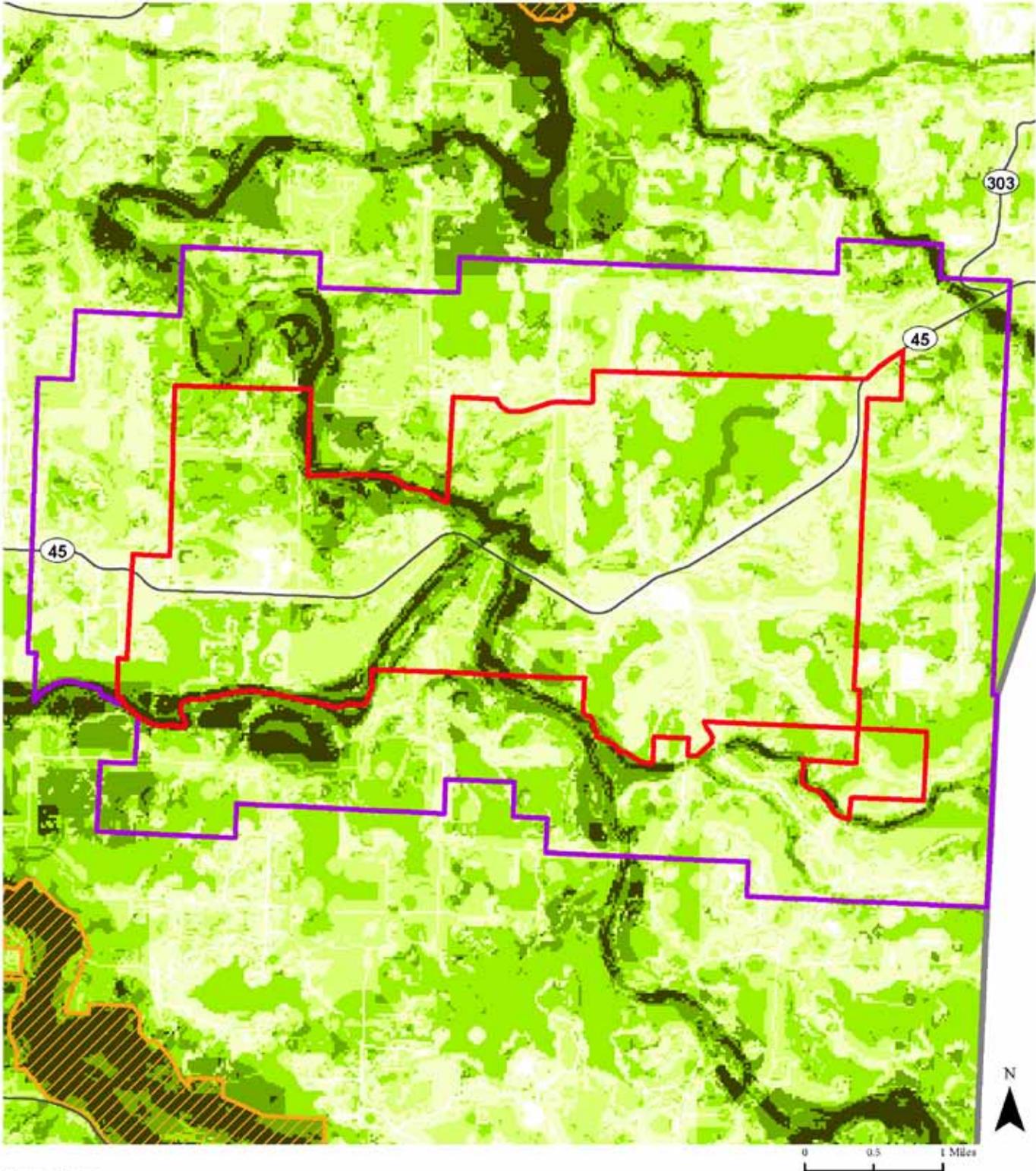
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-  5
-  4
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MAP A15 GOSHEN COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

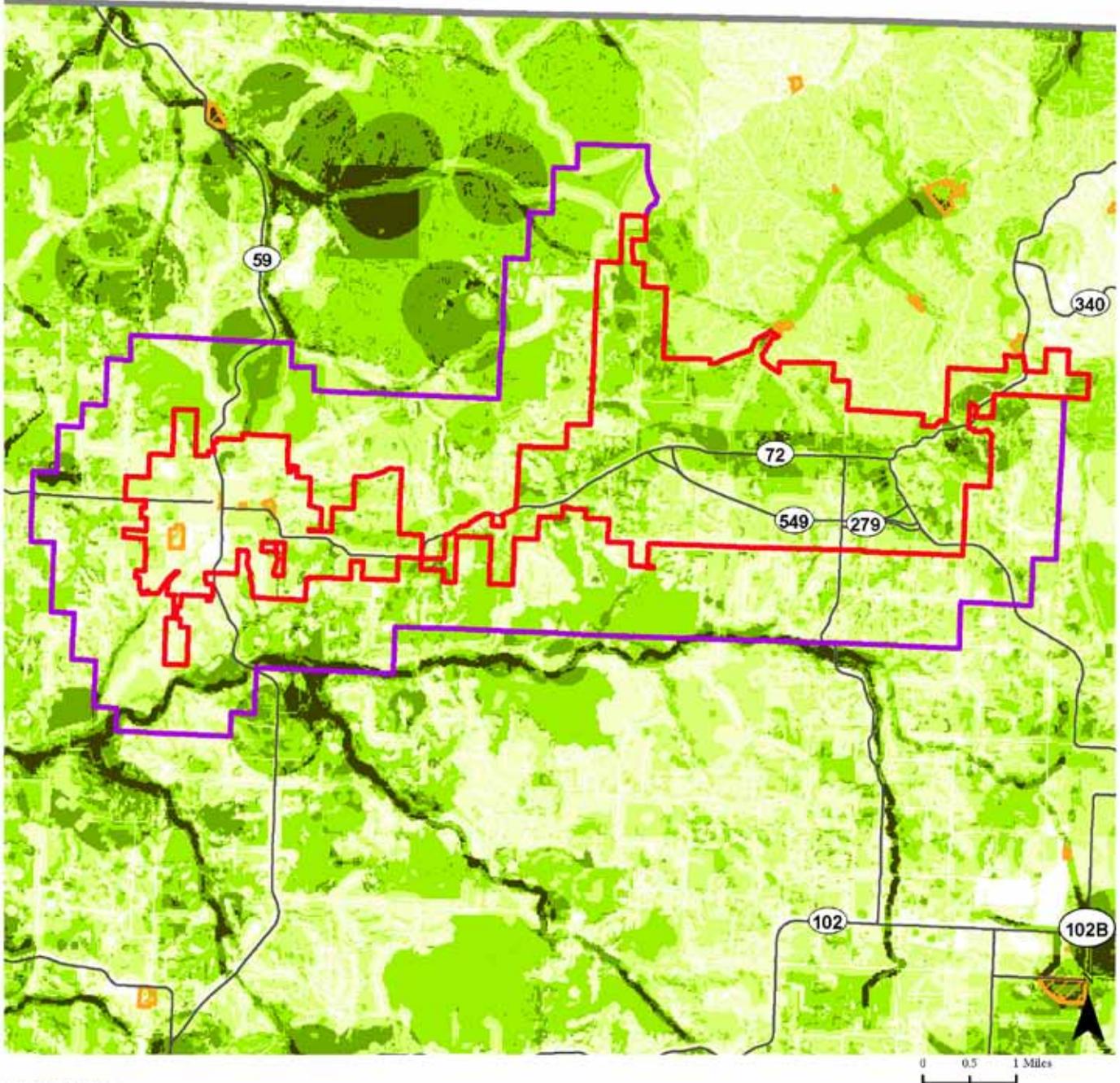
-  5
-  4
-  3
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MAP A16

GRAVETTE COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



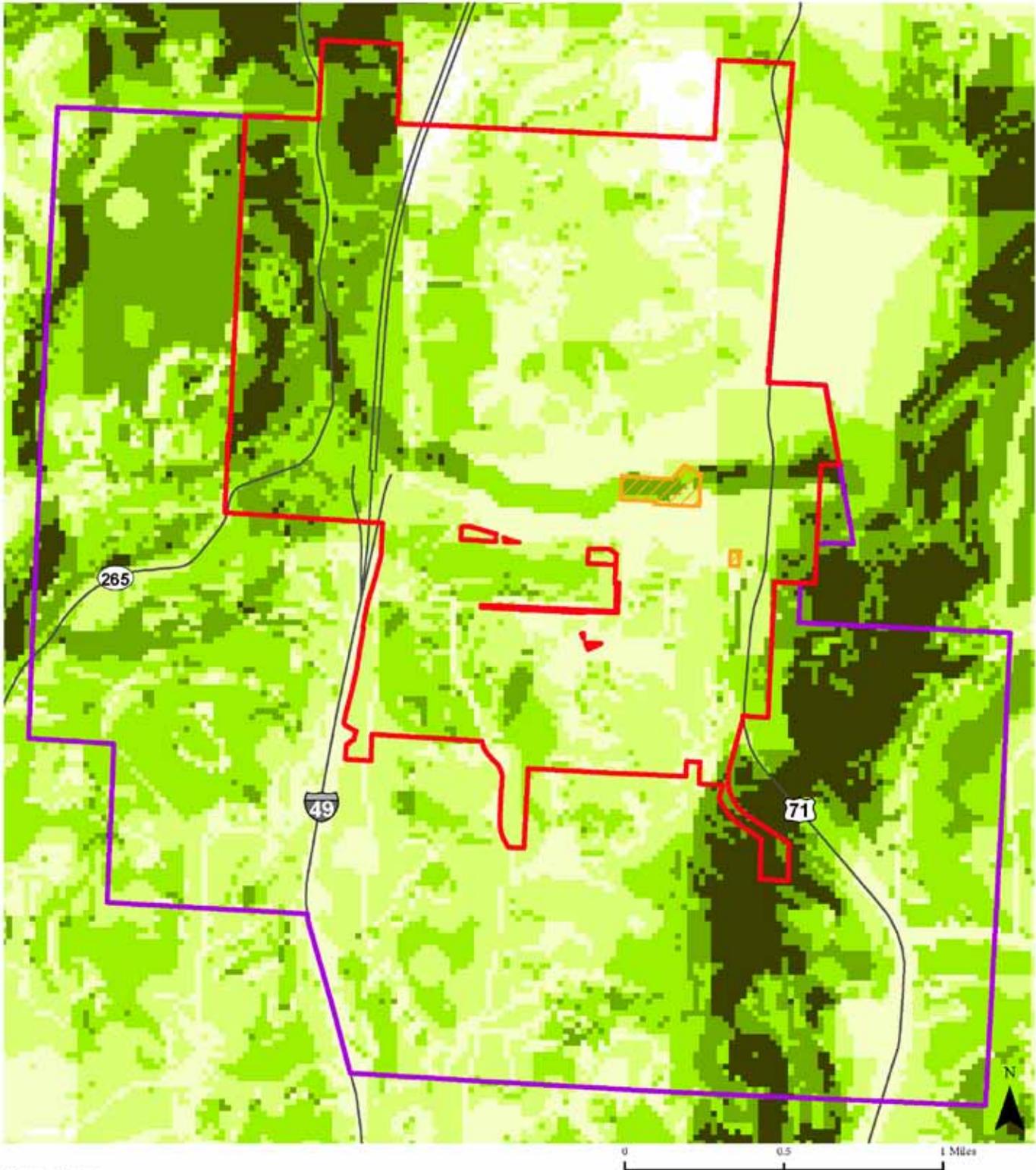
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MAP A17

GREENLAND COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



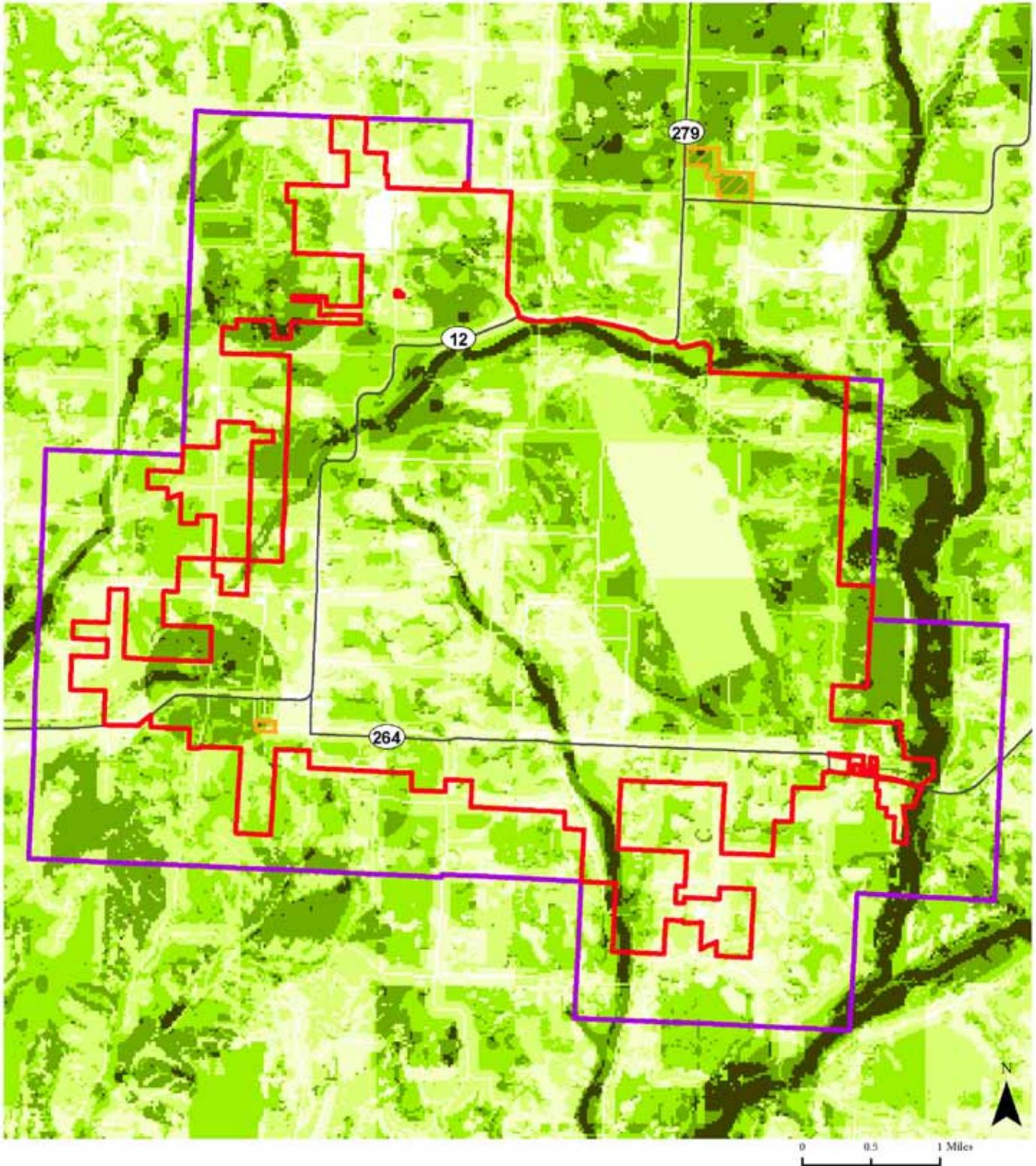
Open Space Master Score

- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
- Parks/National Forest
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MAP A18 HIGHFILL COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



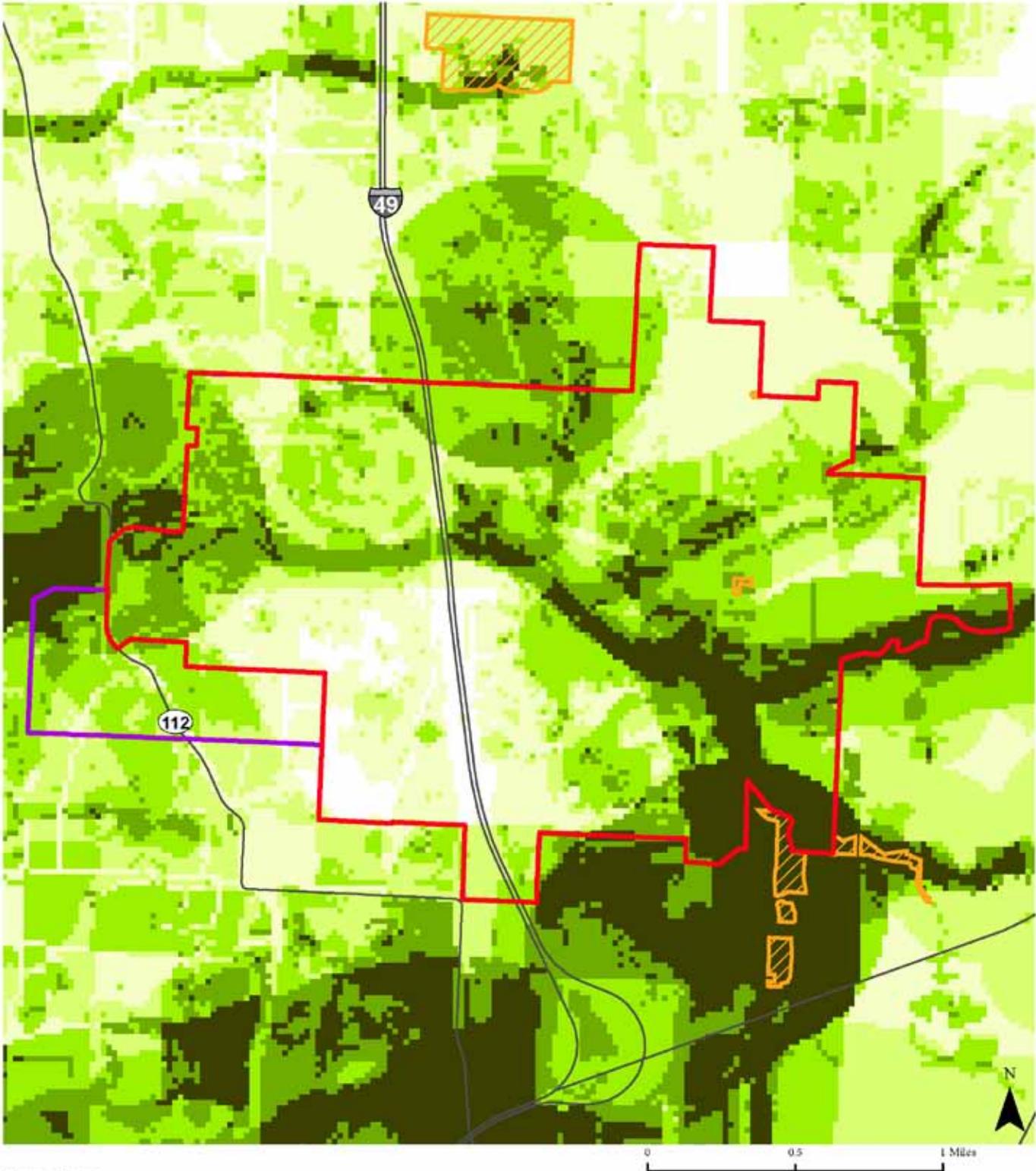
Open Space Master Score

-  5
-  4
-  3
-  2
-  1
-  Parks/National Forest
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MAP A19 JOHNSON COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



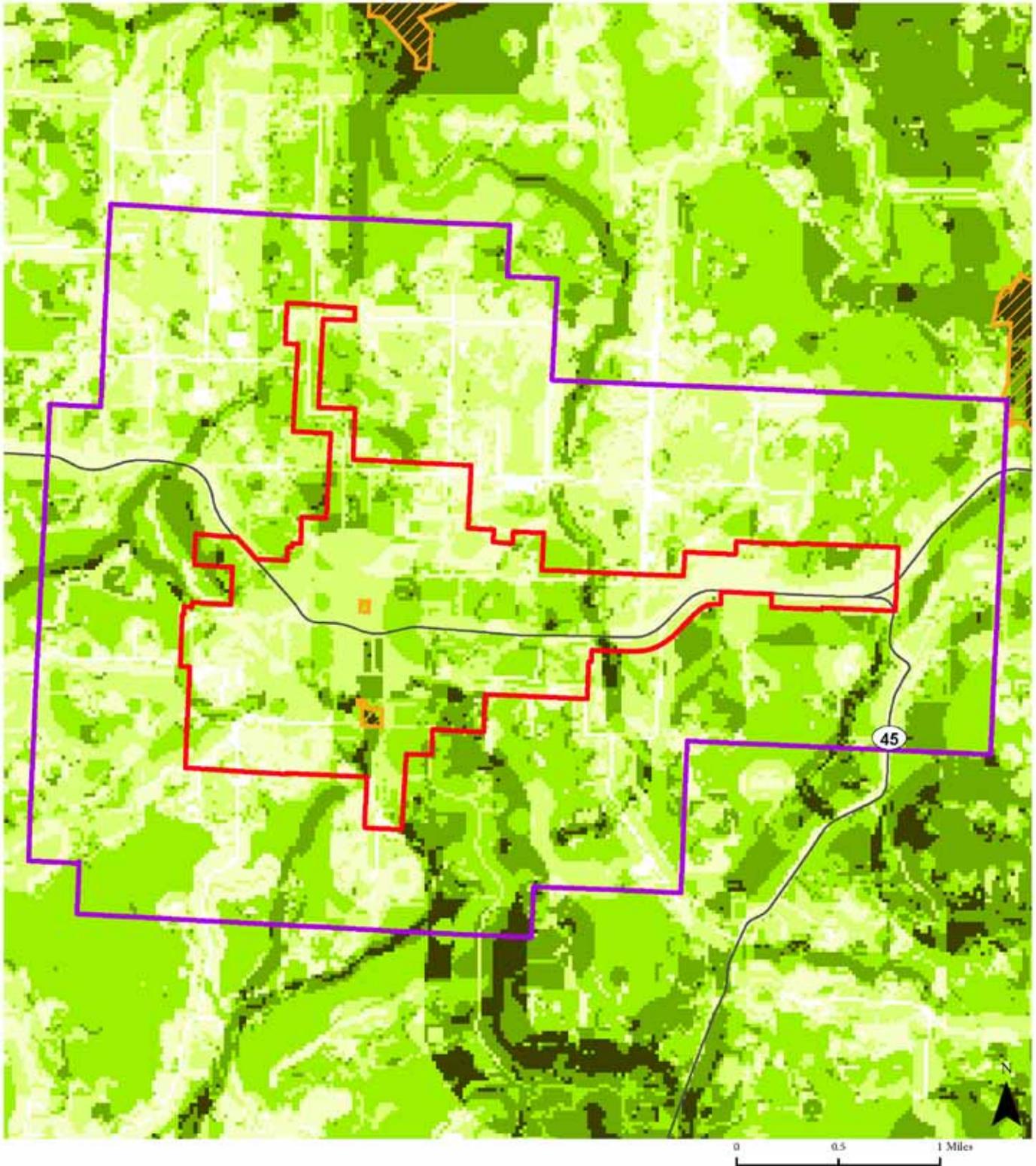
Open Space Master Score

- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
- Parks/National Forest
- Planning Area Boundary
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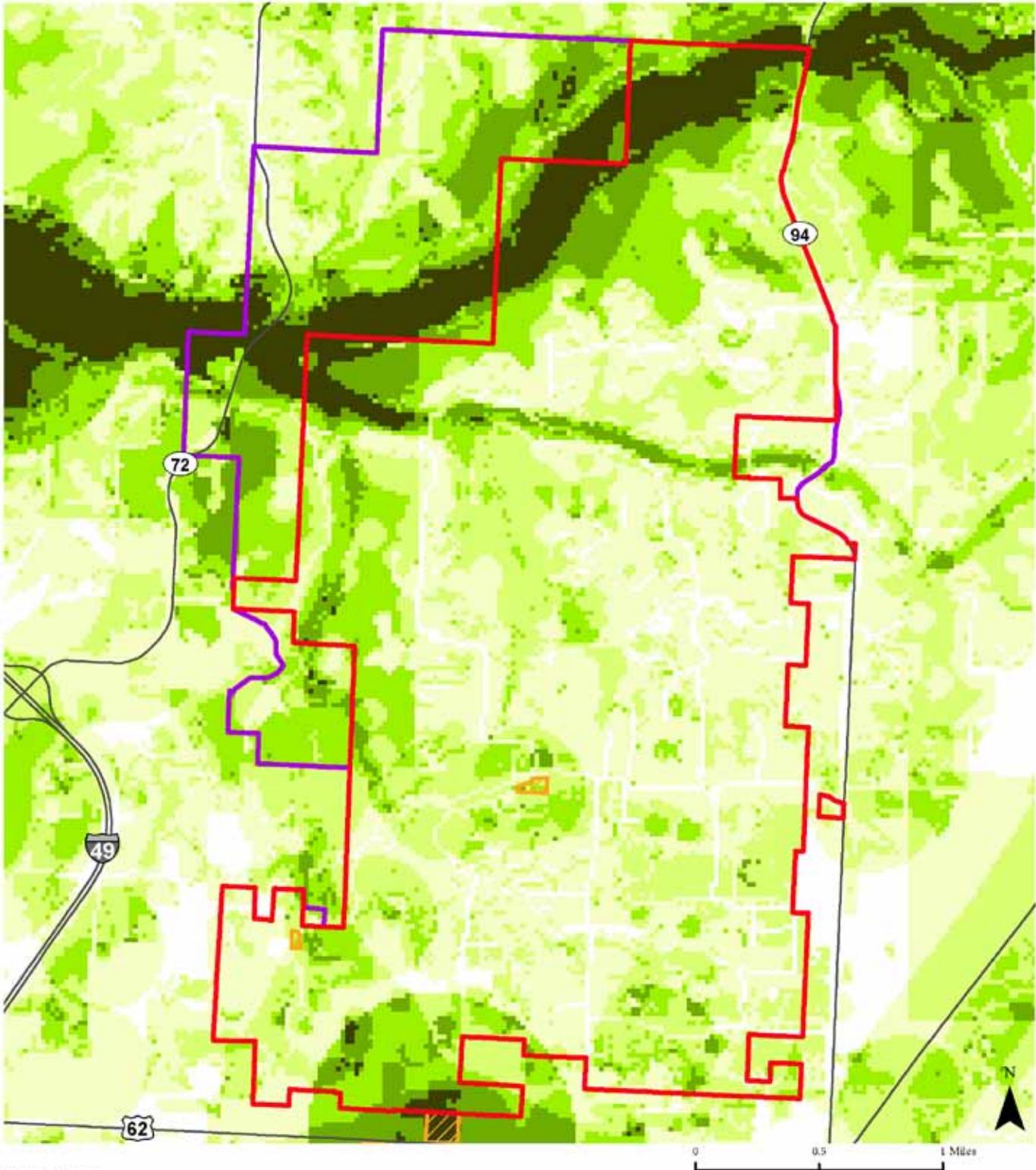
MAP A20 LINCOLN COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



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MAP A21 LITTLE FLOCK COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



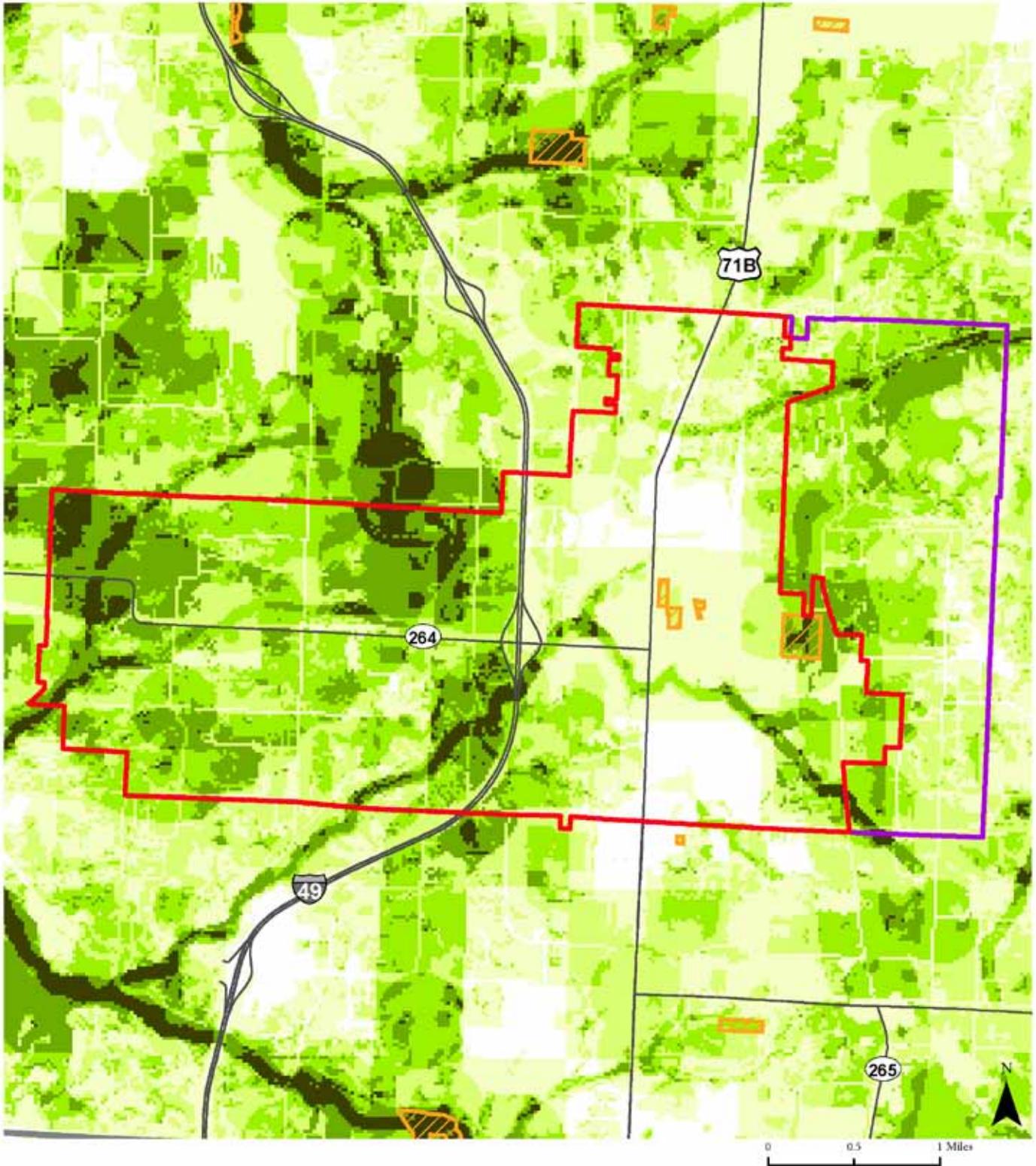
Open Space Master Score

- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
- Parks/National Forest
- Planning Area Boundary
- City Limits

About this map: This map should be considered as a starting point for local discussions about conservation priorities. Open space resources are shown with a priority range of 1-5, with the higher values shown in darker shades of green. These areas were identified through an extensive analysis of existing conditions throughout the region (see full plan for details). Areas will only be considered as candidates for conservation when there is a willing landowner that is interested in participating through conservation easements or other methods identified in the Open Space Plan. Note that all landowners are welcome to submit ideas for land conservation, regardless of the priority ranking on these maps.

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MAP A22 LOWELL COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



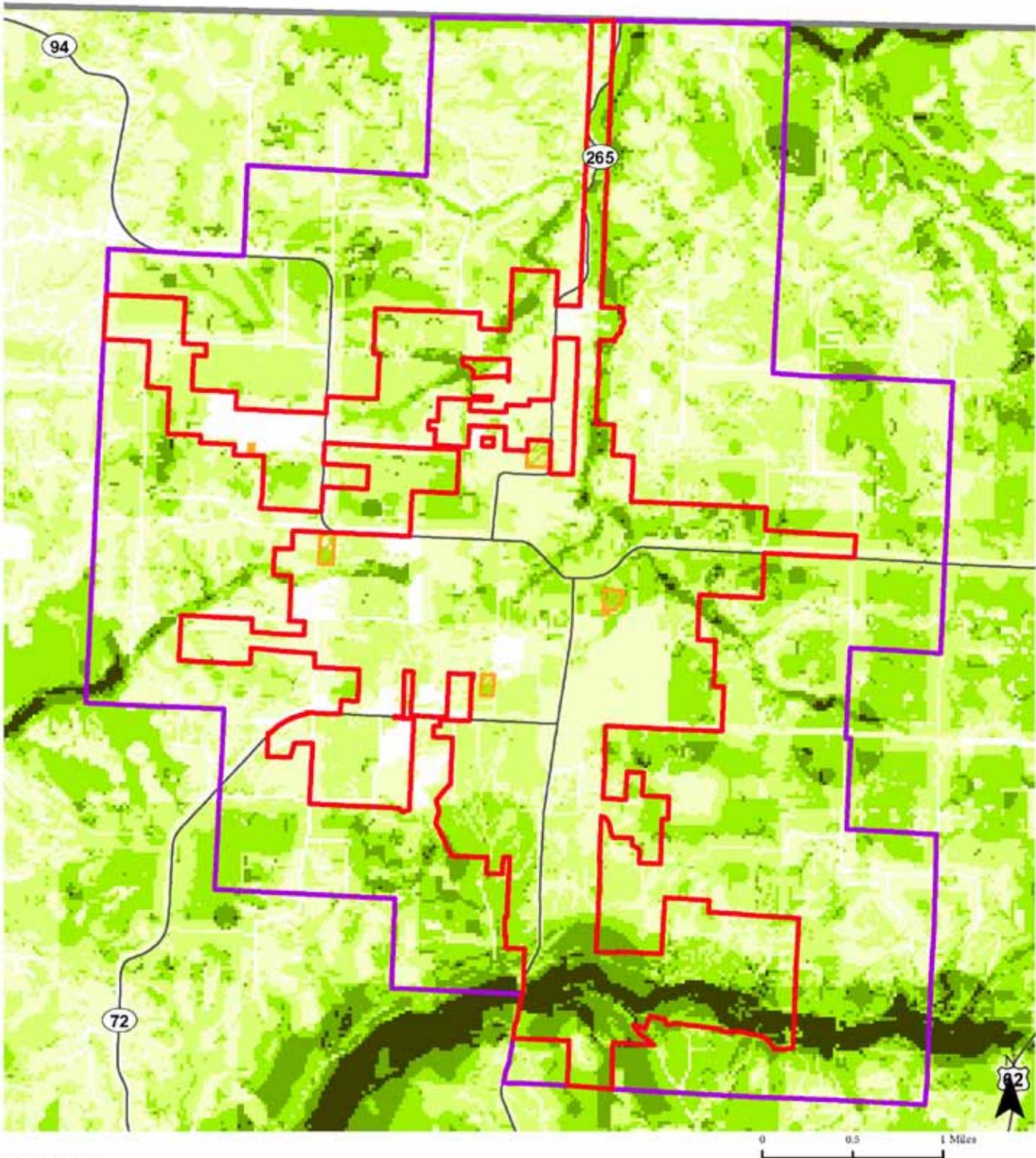
Open Space Master Score

-  5
-  4
-  3
-  2
-  1
-  Parks/National Forest
-  Planning Area Boundary
-  City Limits

About this map: This map should be considered as a starting point for local discussions about conservation priorities. Open space resources are shown with a priority range of 1-5, with the higher values shown in darker shades of green. These areas were identified through an extensive analysis of existing conditions throughout the region (see full plan for details). Areas will only be considered as candidates for conservation when there is a willing landowner that is interested in participating through conservation easements or other methods identified in the Open Space Plan. Note that all landowners are welcome to submit ideas for land conservation, regardless of the priority ranking on these maps.

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MAP A23 PEA RIDGE COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

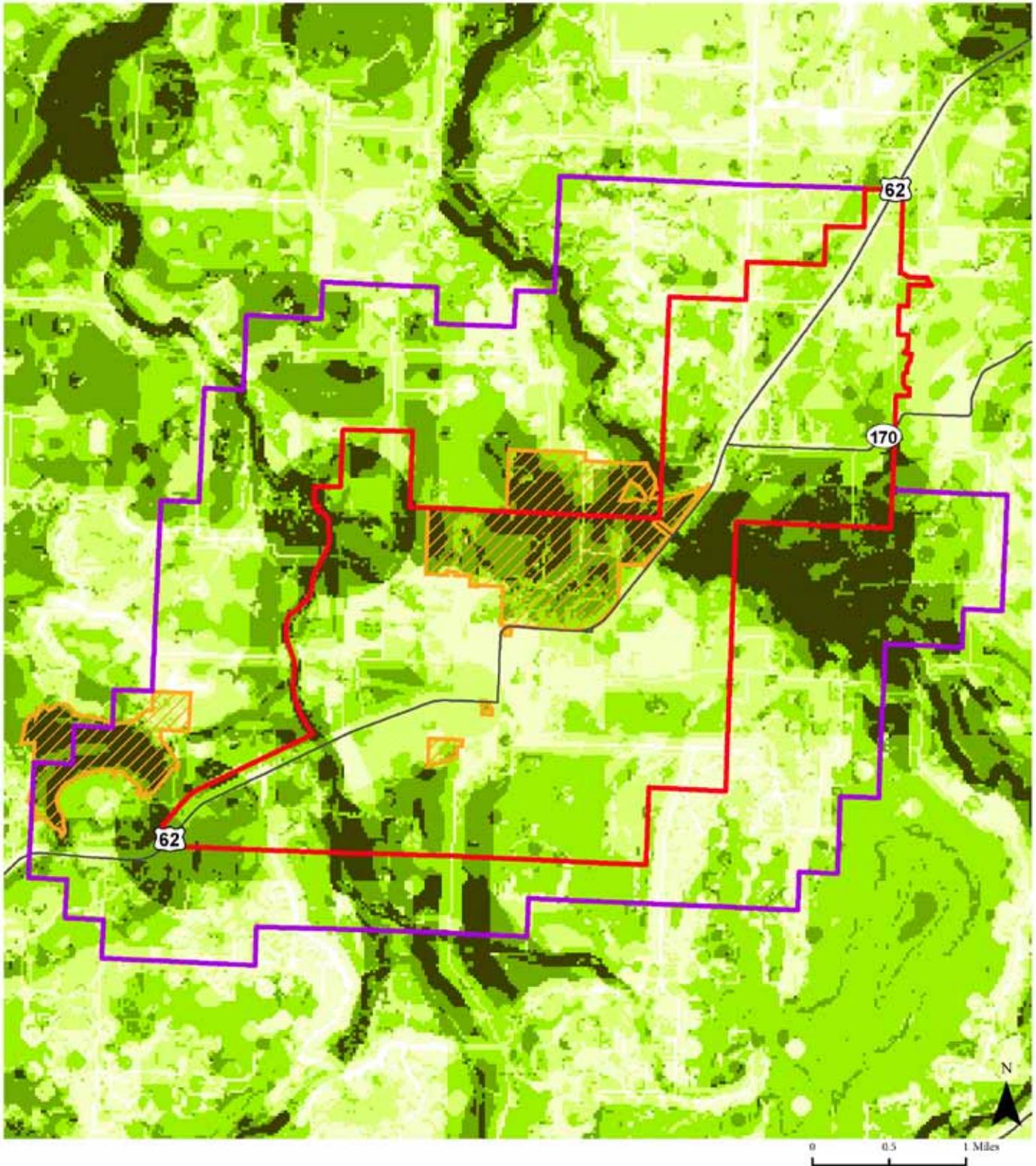
- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
- Parks/National Forest
- Planning Area Boundary
- City Limits

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MAP A24

PRAIRIE GROVE COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



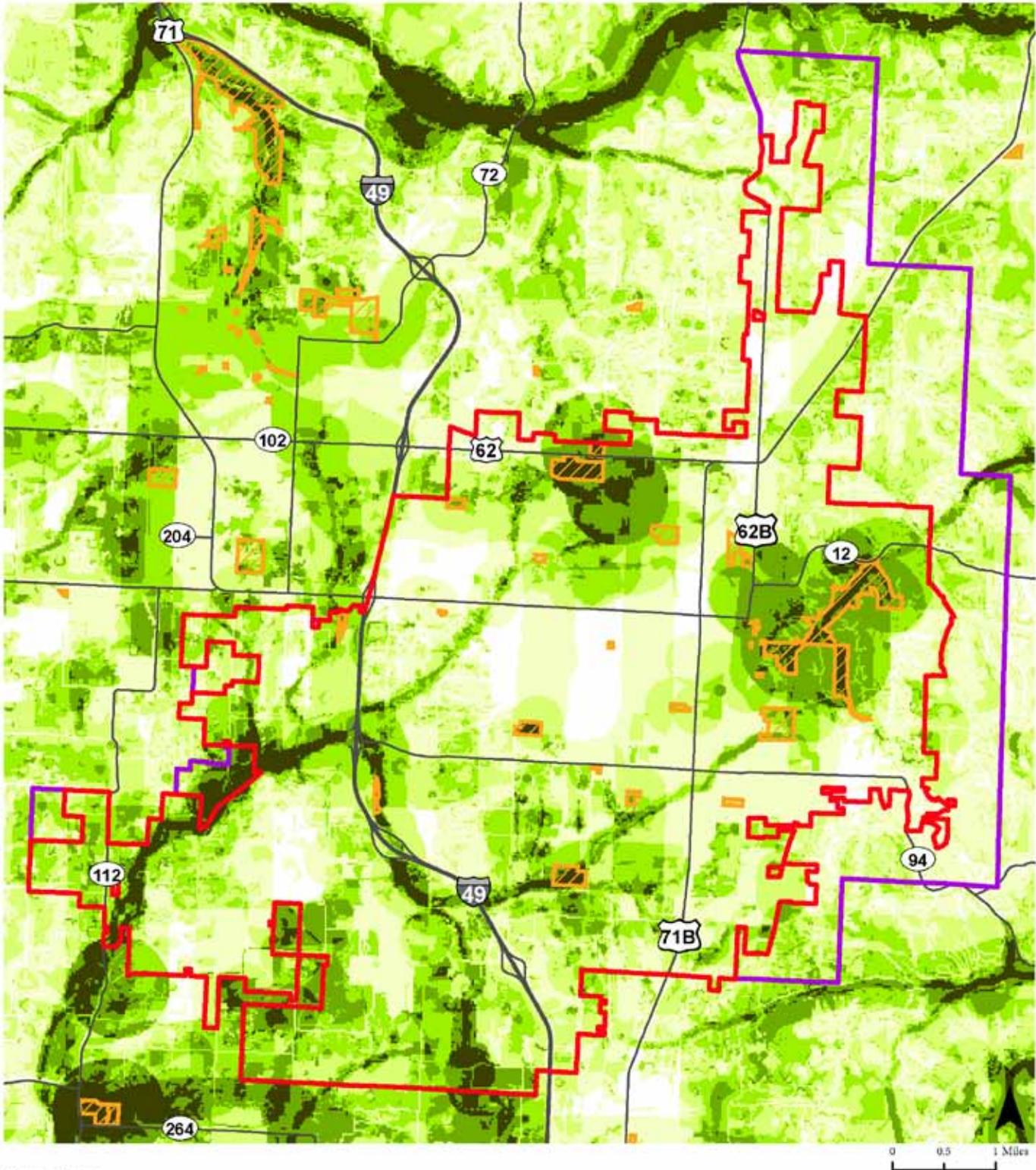
Open Space Master Score

-  5
-  4
-  3
-  2
-  1
-  Parks/National Forest
-  Planning Area Boundary
-  City Limits

About this map: This map should be considered as a starting point for local discussions about conservation priorities. Open space resources are shown with a priority range of 1-5, with the higher values shown in darker shades of green. These areas were identified through an extensive analysis of existing conditions throughout the region (see full plan for details). Areas will only be considered as candidates for conservation when there is a willing landowner that is interested in participating through conservation easements or other methods identified in the Open Space Plan. Note that all landowners are welcome to submit ideas for land conservation, regardless of the priority ranking on these maps.

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MAP A25 ROGERS COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

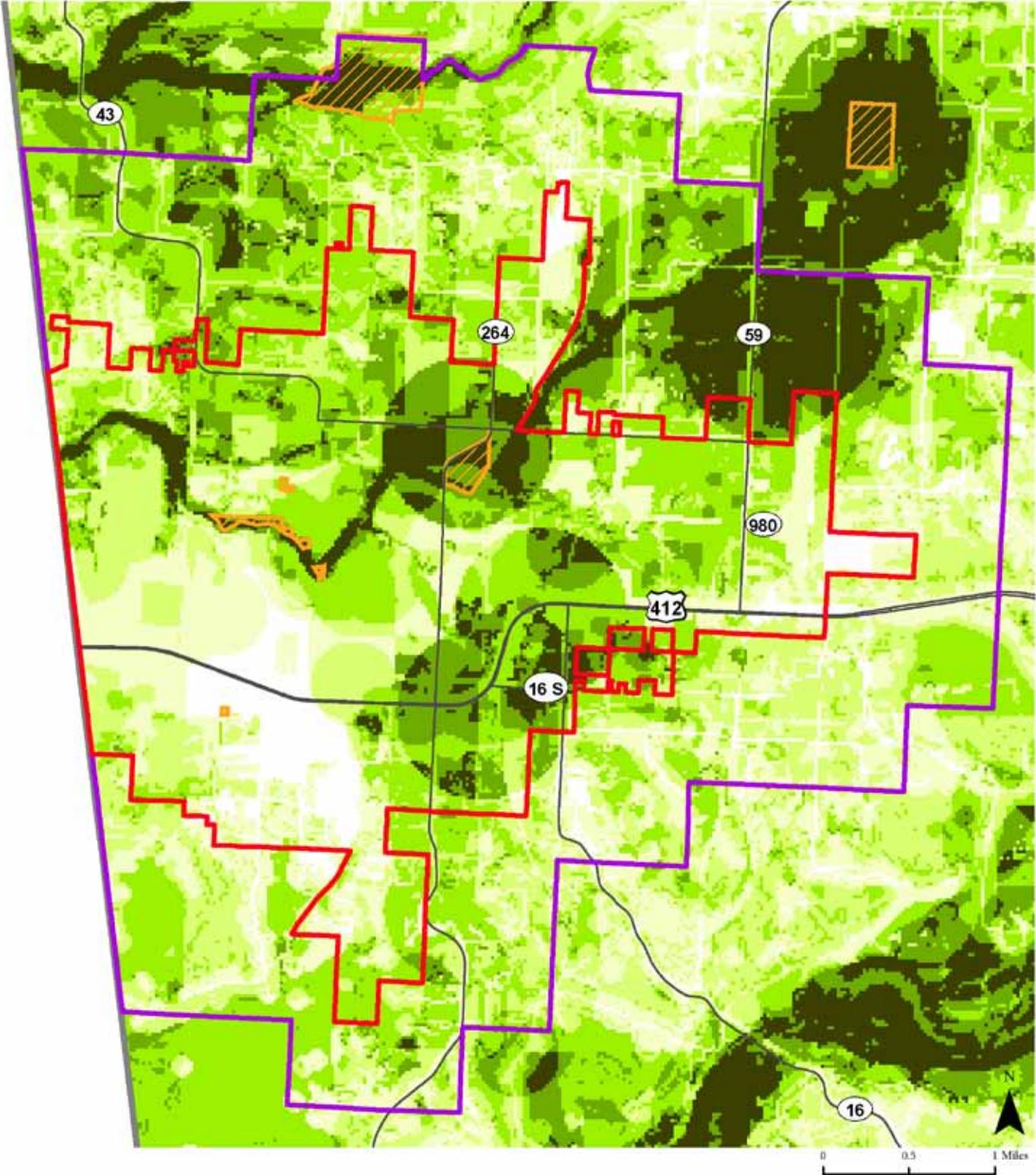
- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
- Parks/National Forest
- Planning Area Boundary
- City Limits

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MAP A26

SILOAM SPRINGS COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



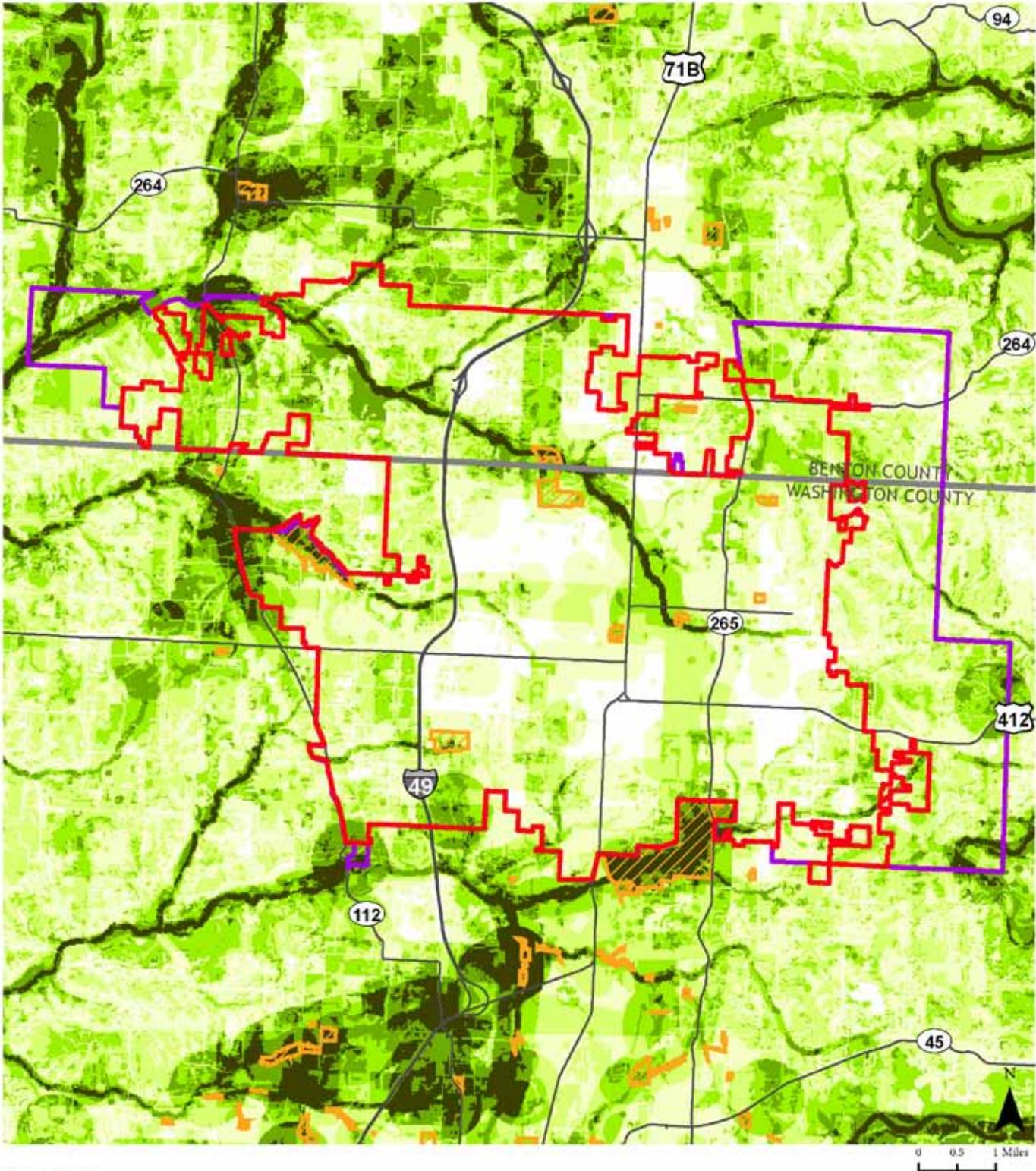
Open Space Master Score

	5		Parks/National Forest
	4		Planning Area Boundary
	3		City Limits
	2		
	1		

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MAP A27 SPRINGDALE COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP

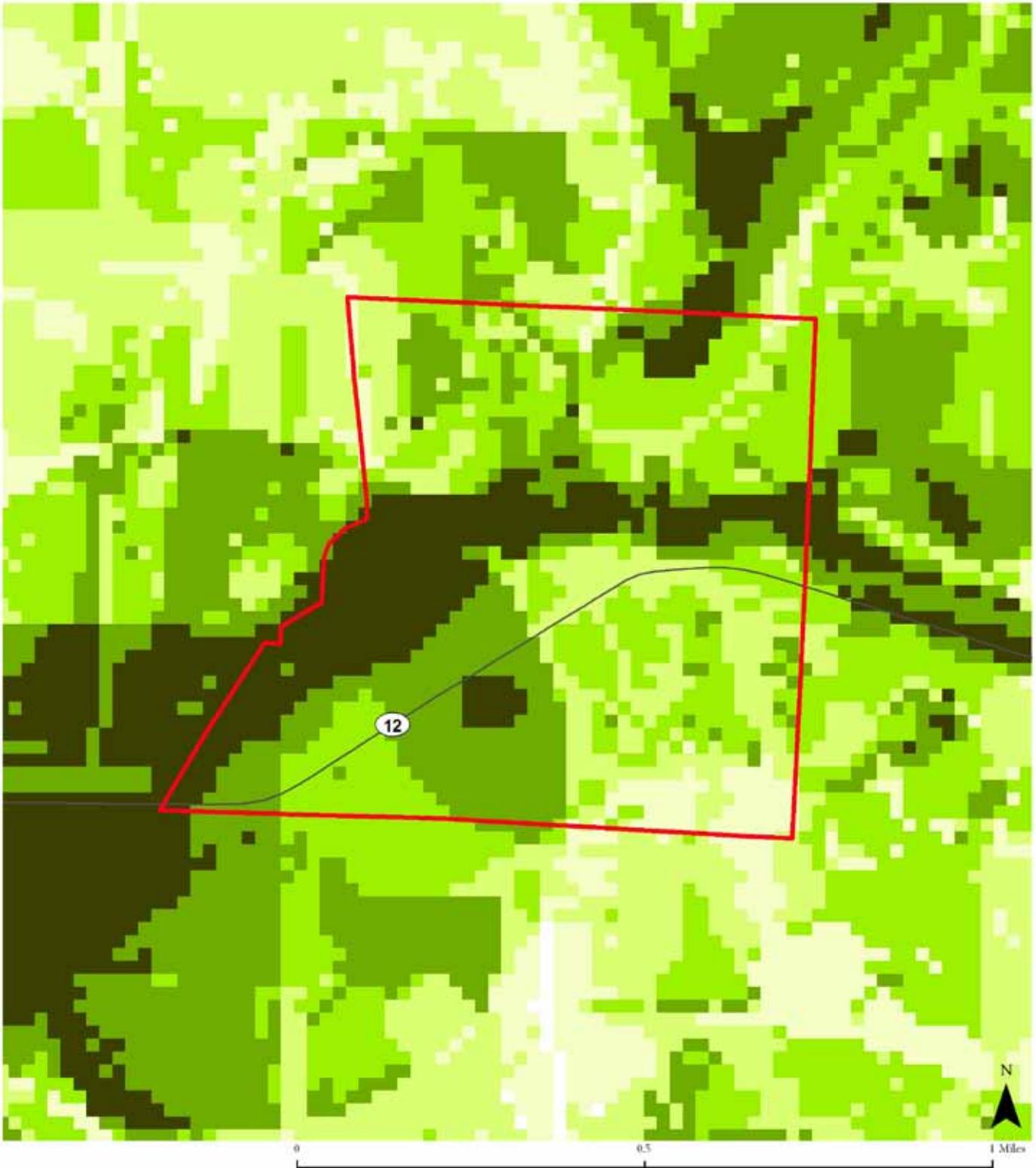


About this map: This map should be considered as a starting point for local discussions about conservation priorities. Open space resources are shown with a priority range of 1-5, with the higher values shown in darker shades of green. These areas were identified through an extensive analysis of existing conditions throughout the region (see full plan for details). Areas will only be considered as candidates for conservation when there is a willing landowner that is interested in participating through conservation easements or other methods identified in the Open Space Plan. Note that all landowners are welcome to submit ideas for land conservation, regardless of the priority ranking on these maps.

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MAP A28

SPRINGTOWN COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

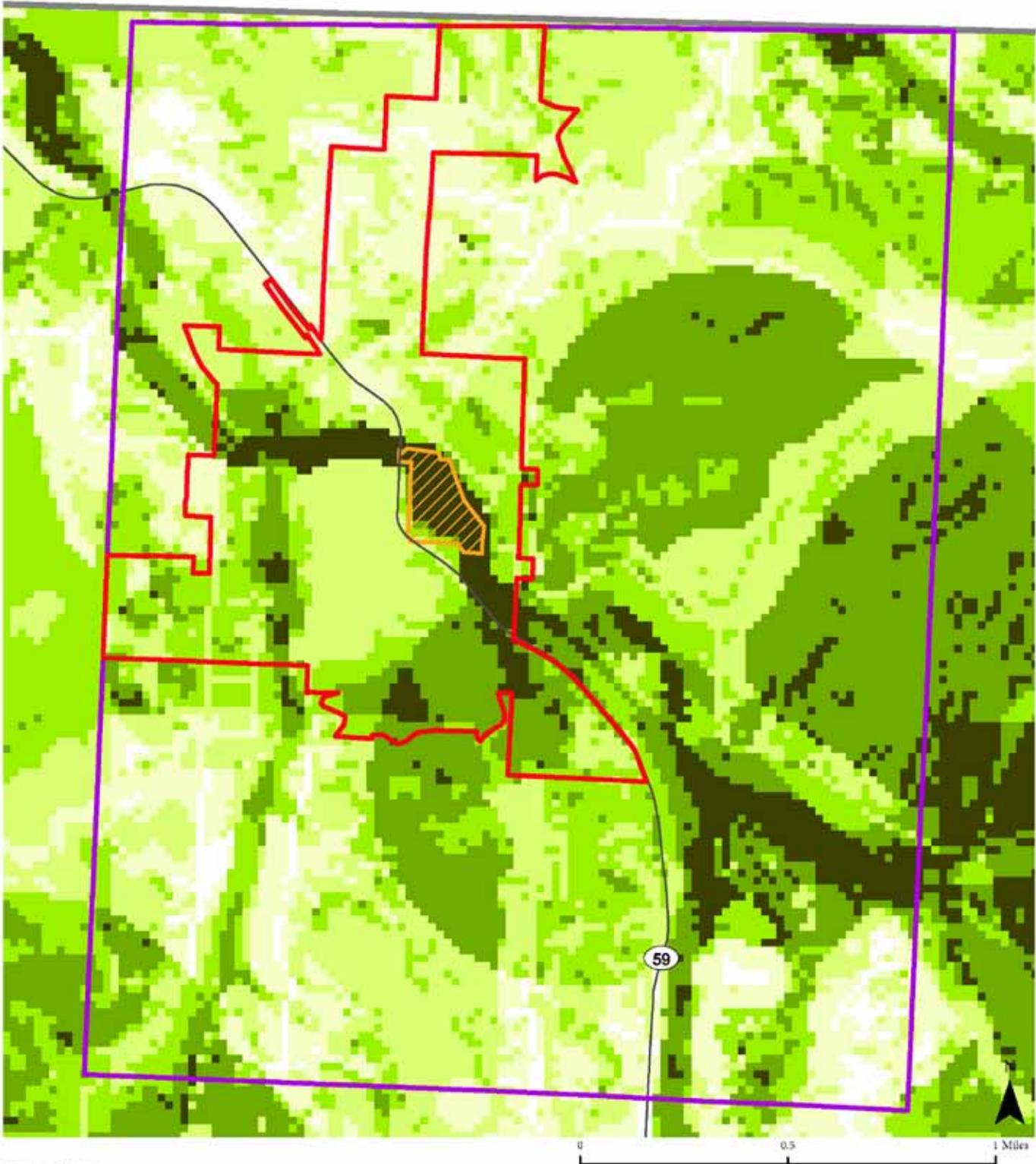
-  5
-  4
-  3
-  2
-  1
-  Parks/National Forest
-  Planning Area Boundary
-  City Limits

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MAP A29

SULPHUR SPRINGS COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

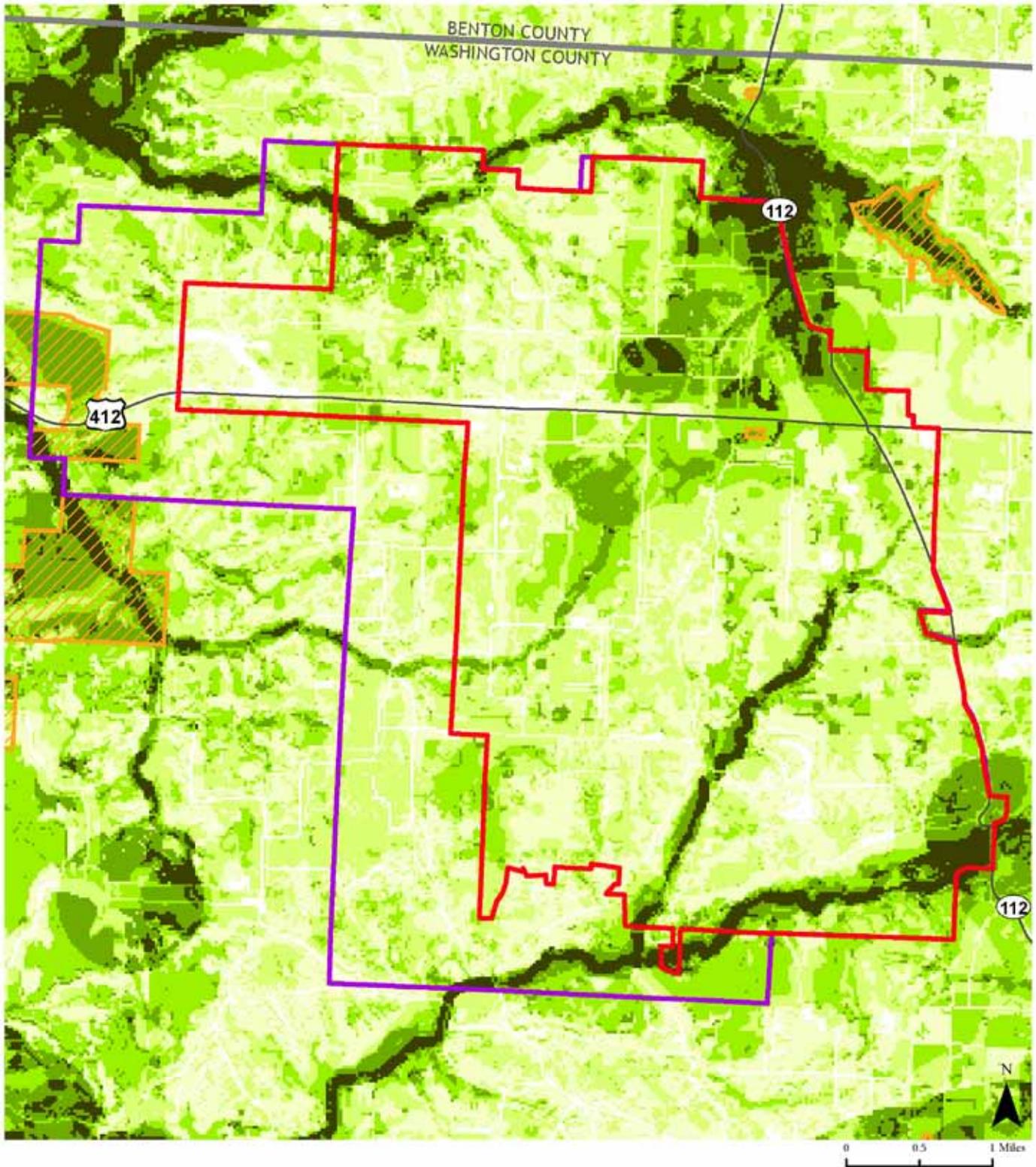
- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
- Parks/National Forest
- Planning Area Boundary
- City Limits

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MAP A30

TONTITOWN COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



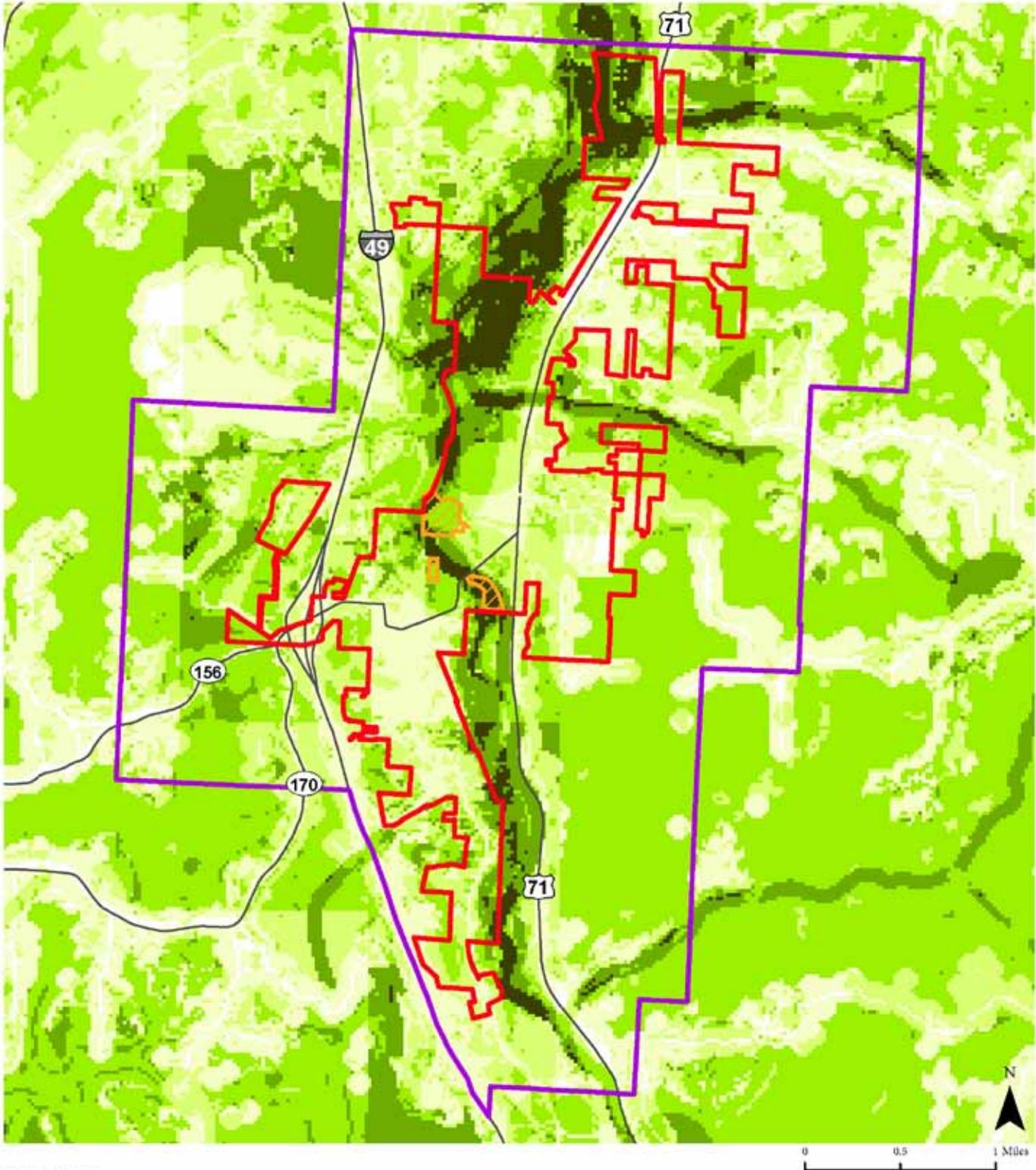
Open Space Master Score

-  5
-  4
-  3
-  2
-  1
-  Parks/National Forest
-  Planning Area Boundary
-  City Limits

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MAP A31 WEST FORK COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



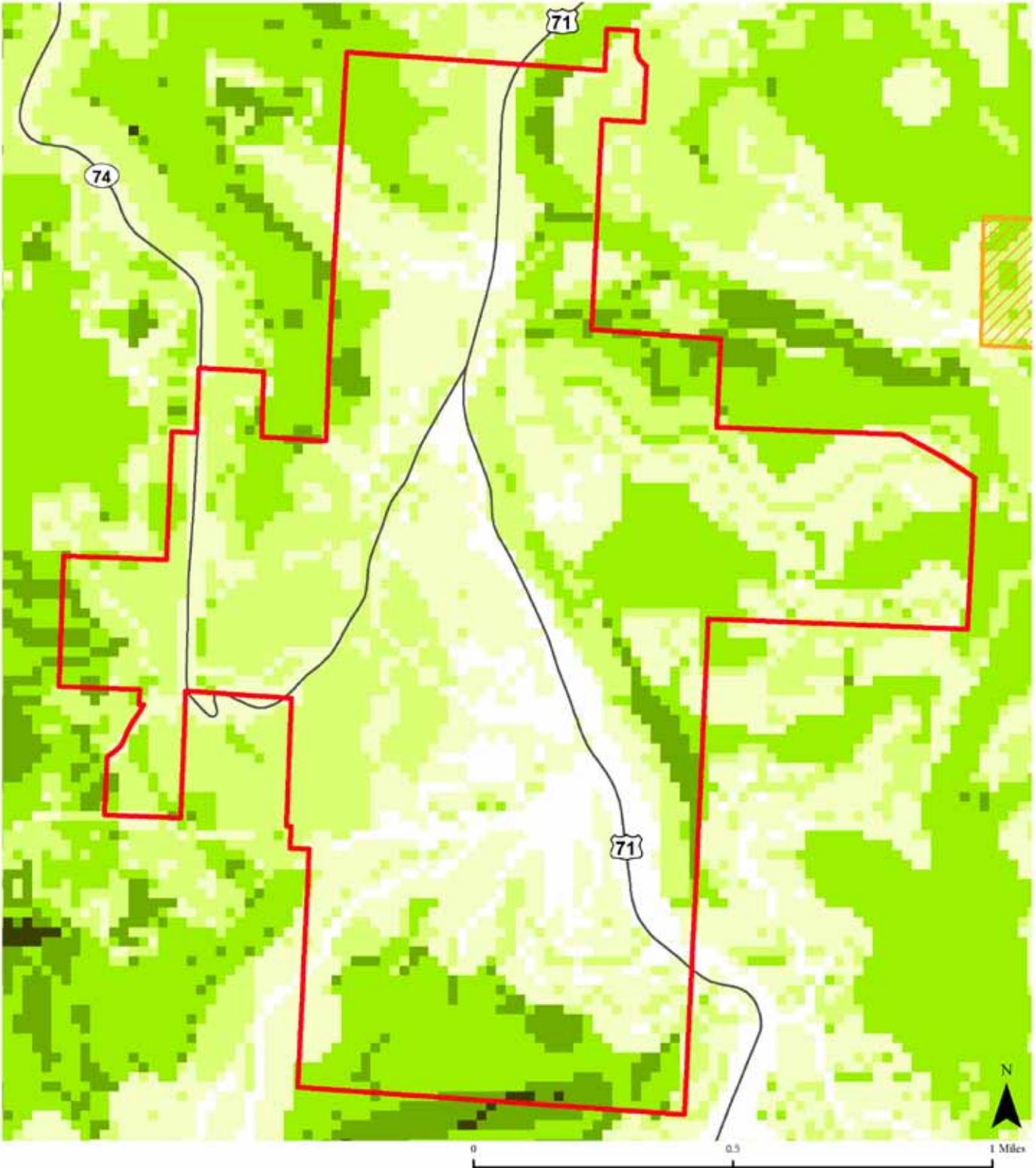
Open Space Master Score

- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
- Parks/National Forest
- Planning Area Boundary
- City Limits

About this map: This map should be considered as a starting point for local discussions about conservation priorities. Open space resources are shown with a priority range of 1-5, with the higher values shown in darker shades of green. These areas were identified through an extensive analysis of existing conditions throughout the region (see full plan for details). Areas will only be considered as candidates for conservation when there is a willing landowner that is interested in participating through conservation easements or other methods identified in the Open Space Plan. Note that all landowners are welcome to submit ideas for land conservation, regardless of the priority ranking on these maps.

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MAP A32 WINSLOW COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE PRIORITY MAP



Open Space Master Score

	5		Parks/National Forest
	4		Planning Area Boundary
	3		City Limits
	2		
	1		

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B Existing Plans

"I think this is one of the best ideas that the government officials have come up with in a long time. It is also great that you are reaching out to the citizens of the area." - Public Comment



OVERVIEW

This appendix features a table of existing local, regional, and state plans that relate to the goals of the Open Space Plan. The table includes a brief description of each plan, as it relates to open space resources.





Existing Plans & Reports	Description	Source
STATE AND REGIONAL PLANS		
<p>Urban Ecosystem Analysis Benton and Washington Counties, Arkansas (2002)</p>	<p>American Forests conducted an urban ecosystem analysis of Northwest Arkansas using GIS to assess tree cover change trends over past 15 years and to create a “green data layer” to be used for future planning. With new development anticipated, the tools provided in this project will become useful, giving communities the ability to plan with nature. Tree canopy provides stormwater management and air quality benefits. The study found that the City of Fayetteville experienced an 18% decline in heavy tree canopy over previous 15 years.</p> <p>The study includes a modeled analysis of tree canopy economic benefits given different development scenarios.</p> <p>Specific recommendations included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northwest Arkansas region should adopt specific tree cover targets for various communities and land use areas (American Forests’ General Tree Canopy goals are: 40% tree canopy overall (50% in suburban residential; 25% in urban residential; 15% in CBDs). • Expand the green data layer to other areas within the region planned for future growth • Use CITYgreen software to conduct analyses when considering how a proposed development will impact the ecological and economic health of the area. 	<p>http://ar-fayetteville.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1141</p>
<p>NWA Regional Bike/Ped Master Plan 2014</p>	<p>The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) prepared this Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan with the support of communities and advocates throughout the Northwest Arkansas Region. The planning process began with a project Kick-Off Meeting on August 2013 and was completed in November 2014. This plan built upon previous regional bicycle and pedestrian planning and development efforts (including the 36-mile Razorback Greenway) in setting a clear path for Northwest Arkansas to link its communities and regional destinations with a world-class transportation network.</p>	<p>http://www.nwabikeped-plan.com/</p>

NWA Heritage Trail Plan (2006) Updated 2013	Trail of Tears route, Butterfield Stage Coach route, and Civil War troop movements were identified through the region. This plan designates these present day corridors (mostly roadway) to become part of the growing NWA bicycle and pedestrian transportation and recreation network.	*Reviewed during 2014 NWA Bike/ Ped Plan
NWA Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	The 2013-2016 Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) provides a summary table of 33 Benton and Washington County projects, all of which are related to roadway improvements.	*Reviewed during 2014 NWA Bike/ Ped Plan
Beaver Lake Shoreline Management Plan (2008)	The Shoreline Management Plan establishes policy and guidelines for the protection and conservation of desirable environmental characteristics of the lake while maintaining a balance between public and private shoreline uses. The plan provides guidance for effective long-range management of shoreline resources and establishes the types of private uses and activities that may be permitted on public lands.	http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Lakes/BeaverLake/ShorelineManagement.aspx
Watershed Opportunity Assessment for the Lower White/West Fork-Beaver Lake Sub-watershed (2015)	The West Fork Opportunity Assessment has been held in partnership with the Watershed Conservation Resource Center and the Northwest Arkansas Land Trust. One of the goals is to remove the West Fork of the White River from the Impaired Waterbodies list by encouraging the use of voluntary best management practices. One of the outcomes of this project is a map showing priority areas for the implementation of best management practices and where these areas intersect with willing landowners who will provide opportunities to put the practices into place.	http://www.beaverwatershedalliance.org/programming/west-fork-opportunity-assessment.aspx



<p>Arkansas Watershed Planning Guide (2006)</p>	<p>The purpose of this guide is to help provide to individuals or local groups, who are concerned about their natural resources, an understanding of: the watershed approach; how to develop a watershed partnership; and how to develop a community-led watershed management plan in Arkansas. The guide will also identify sources of information and resources needed to form an effective watershed partnership and plan. Key resources found in this document that are relevant to the NWA Open Space Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of active watershed groups in Arkansas (Chapter 2) • Detailed structure for the development of a watershed partnership (Chapter 2) • Indicators of water resource quality (Chapter 3) • Natural features of a watershed (Chapter 3) • Land use and its affect on water resource quality (Chapter 3) • Water quality standards for Arkansas (Chapter 4) • Guidelines and best management practices for reducing point and nonpoint source pollution (Chapter 5) • Implementing a watershed management plan (Chapter 6) • Resources for watershed groups (Chapter 7) <p>A key resource for the development of this guide: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), Division of Surface Water. 1997. A guide to developing local watershed action plans in Ohio. 1800 Water-Mark Dr., Columbus, OH 43216-1049.</p>	<p>Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ); http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/poa/watershed_outreach_education/pdf/watershed_guide_(2006).pdf</p>
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<p>Arkansas Natural Area Plan (1974)</p>	<p>The purpose of this plan is to provide guidance for the selection of areas for preservation, built upon the following principles and assumptions in developing criteria for this guidance.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The scope of the natural area program is, and should be, limited. 2. The function of a Plan is to guide expenditures of effort and resources so as to maximize the benefits of a natural area program. 3. Certain areas have more value for preservation than others. 4. Ideally, a State natural area system would preserve adequate examples of everything natural that is in the State. 5. Priorities must be established, both between areas and – more importantly – between types of areas. 6. In addition to the intrinsic value of what can be preserved on a given site, certain practical considerations must be weighed as well. 7. The program needs to be flexible enough to be responsive to emergencies and to special opportunities. <p>This plan provides a description of the different geographical regions (natural divisions) of Arkansas and threatened species, an inventory of specific sites with general recommendations, land acquisition tools, and a recommended management scheme.</p>	<p>Arkansas Department of Planning</p>
<p>Beaver Lake Watershed Protection Strategy (2009, 2012 - updated)</p>	<p>Originally commissioned by the Northwest Arkansas Council in 2009, the Beaver Lake Watershed Protection Strategy is the guiding document for water conservation and watershed stewardship for Beaver Lake. The Beaver Watershed Alliance has adopted the document and facilitated the 2012 revision and official acceptance by the U.S. EPA. This document contains detailed information of the Beaver Lake Watershed, including existing watershed management components from which to build as well as areas for improvement. Recommendations for the Beaver Lake Watershed are broken into five components of watershed protection strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Beaver Lake Watershed Council 2. Core Best Management Practices <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Land Conservation b. Improved Construction Site Management c. Riparian Buffer and Bank Restoration d. Pasture Management BMPs e. Riparian Buffer Preservation f. Unpaved Road Improvements g. Stormwater BMP Retrofits 3. Developer and Contractor Lake Protection Certification Program 4. Education and Stewardship Program 5. Monitoring and Adaptive Management 	<p>Beaver Watershed Alliance;</p>



<p>Beaver Water District Source Water Protection Plan (2012)</p>	<p>Since 2006, Beaver Water District’s source water protection has been conducted under the guidance of its Board approved “Philosophy of Source Water Protection” and “Position Paper on Source Water Protection.” These documents were developed at the direction of Board President, John Lewis. Mr. Lewis saw protecting Beaver Lake as integral to providing safe water for Northwest Arkansas.</p> <p>More recently, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) published standard G300, “Source Water Protection,” and an associated operational guide document as a part of their management series standards. AWWA’s peer reviewed standards are recognized worldwide as the authoritative benchmark for water works materials and processes. G300 specifically provides criteria for effective source water protection (SWP) programs. In 2012, Beaver Water District completed a year-long review of its SWP program to bring the program fully in line with G300. The culmination of the review was Board approval of a 5-year program that will improve protection of Beaver Lake, the source of water for Northwest Arkansas. The AWWA’s G300 standard gives six critical components of effective programs. These elements provide the structure for this report, and they include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision • Source Water Characterization • Program Goals • Action Plan • Implementation • Evaluation and Revision <p>The action plan consists of two elements; actions to be initiated by personnel at the Beaver Water District, and actions to be initiated by partners and stakeholders as included in the Beaver Lake Watershed Protection Strategy. Every five years, the Beaver Water District will review and update the District’s Source Water Protection Action Plan.</p>	<p>Beaver Water District; http://www.bwdh2o.org/beaver-lake/source-water-protection/</p>
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<p>Low Impact Development: A Design Manual for Urban Areas (2010)</p>	<p>A Design Manual for Urban Areas introduces general audiences to designing landscapes for urban stormwater runoff—a primary source of watershed pollution. This manual can be reviewed episodically, much like a lifestyle publication, or read in its entirety for a comprehensive understanding. The goal is to motivate awareness and implementation of Low Impact Development (LID) in a wide cross-section of stakeholders, from property owners to municipal governments that regulate infrastructure development. Though not exhaustive in its coverage of LID techniques (i.e., you will not be able to engineer a LID project from this manual), this manual does provide a holistic framework in which a novice homeowner and an experienced developer can each find an equally transformative role to enact.</p> <p>This document describes four general contexts for LID implementation, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building 2. Property 3. Street 4. Open Space <p>Three other sections of the document describe the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A spectrum of LID facilities • How property owners, design and construction professionals, and municipalities can work toward implementing LID systems • Further resources <p>This document serves as another tool for integrating needs in the built and natural environment through water quality management, mainly in the urban context.</p>	<p>University of Arkansas Community Design Center; http://uacdc.uark.edu/</p>
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<p>Urban Forest Conservation Assessment for the Watershed of Beaver Reservoir, the Upper White River Basin, Arkansas (2007)</p>	<p>The Nature Conservancy of Arkansas (TNC) and the Beaver Water District (BWD) partnered, with partial funding from the Arkansas Forestry Commission's Urban Forestry Program and the US Forest Service, to develop a GIS and field-based tool for identifying priority areas for preservation and restoration. The primary focus of the tool was to identify areas to preserve or restore in order to protect water quality. Areas providing aquatic or terrestrial habitat were also identified and prioritized.</p> <p>The GIS models used readily available GIS data to score and prioritize small catchments for their characteristics that lend to better water quality and habitat. Priority catchments were stratified to represent all subwatersheds of the study area. Many prioritized catchments were visited in the field to validate the results of the GIS models and to gain a sense of the feasibility for conservation actions.</p> <p>The development of this tool was designed to provide TNC, BWD, and other groups working to protect watersheds with specific targets for conservation actions. The tool may also serve as a model for other source water protection efforts elsewhere.</p> <p>The results of this study are based on a habitat model and water quality model. Figures 2.12 and 2.13 provide a summary of inputs and weights for each model respectively. The results of this model are displayed in a series of maps for each criteria component including a composite map summarizing results for priority preservation and restoration areas. Figure 3.11 shows the results of the preservation ranking and Figure 3.15 shows the results of the restoration ranking.</p>	<p>The Nature Conservancy of Arkansas Ozark Highlands Office, http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/united-states/arkansas/contact/</p>
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<p>Green Infrastructure Planning - Linking Arkansas Communities (2010)</p>	<p>The Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association’s (FNHA) Green Infrastructure Plan study area includes rural and urban areas of northern Washington County (Farmington, Greenland, Fayetteville and Johnson as well as the area west to the USFS Wedington Wildlife Management Unit). This plan covers the network of green spaces that conserves natural ecosystem values and functions that provide benefits to the community. Areas of highest resource value and conservation priority are identified and detailed in the report as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water resources • Habitats – forest, stream corridor, prairie • Working landscapes • Recreational use and access – trails, parks • Cultural sites – springs, churches, cemeteries, heritage trails 	<p>Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association, http://www.fayettevil-natural.org/userfiles/file/Work%20Files%20and%20pdfs%20for%20GI%20Plan%20upload/Green%20Infrastructure%20Planning%20-%20Linking%20Arkansas%20Communities%20Report.pdf</p>
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<p>Illinois River Watershed Partnership 2013 Annual Report</p>	<p>The Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP) works to improve the integrity of the Illinois River through public education and community outreach, water quality monitoring, and the implementation of conservation and restoration practices throughout the watershed. The 2013 annual report provides an overview of 2013 IRWP initiatives, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IRWP learning center in Cave Springs focusing on watershed education including endangered species protection and low impact development • Watershed camps and festivals such as the Art & Nature Summer Camp, Illinois River Watershed SPLASH!, and bat viewing • Highlights of the developing Watershed Sanctuary in Cave Springs • IRWP volunteer hours towards efforts such as creek cleanups, riparian and tree farm projects • IRWP Watershed Week which included a two-day National Conference, Rain Garden Academy, IECA Envirocert Class, Plein Air Art Salon, Rain Garden Academy, and Award Banquet • IRWP monthly newsletter • IRWP Non-Point Source Campaign • Illinois River Artist Series • IRWP Nature Art Salon • IRWP’s Clean Water Rangers Program • Water Quality Monitoring - USGS Monitoring Project and a Phosphorus Removal Project • Rain Garden installation at 13 different sites • Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) <p>IRWP initiatives provide examples of open space planning and implementation currently taking place in NWA. They serve as a key building block for regional and local efforts.</p>	<p>Illinois River Watershed Partnership, http://www.irwp.org/about-irwp/annual-reports/; http://www.irwp.org/assets/Uploads/docs/2013-IRWP-Annual-Report-final.pdf</p>
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<p>Mt Kessler Reserve Plan 2013</p>	<p>The Mt Kessler Reserve Plan advocates for the purchase of the 387 acre Mt Kessler property for public use as a park. The City of Fayetteville owns another 200 acres (designated as a future park) adjacent to the east. Chambers Bank has allowed the Ozark Off-Road Cyclists (OORC) to build and maintain 8.5 miles of trails on the property, which have been widely used by hikers, mountain bikers and trail runners. The property was acquired by the City of Fayetteville in the winter of 2014 with developing plans to combine the two large properties into one regional park. This document highlights multiple benefits of open space program development on Mt. Kessler.</p> <p>Programming plans for the proposed Mt Kessler Reserve have been grouped under the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor Classroom • Outdoor Recreation • Watershed Protection • Protection of Natural Resources 	<p>Mt. Kessler Greenways, http://mtkessler-greenways.com/</p>
<p>Greater Northwest Arkansas Development Strategy</p> <p>Building on Success: The 2015-2017 Blueprint</p>	<p>This planning process was initiated in 2014 and builds upon the previous Greater Northwest Arkansas Development Strategy that was launched in 2011. Key components of this document include streamlining recommendations, including leadership development as a future priority, and developing a community dashboard for monitoring results. The planning process included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a common current reality through the review of existing research and the development of relevant comparable data • Determining a desired future direction through public input and work with the Council’s board and staff • Recommending realistic actions needed to move the region to a more competitive position <p>The Council continues its role related to regional collaborative capacity, remains the initial point of contact for regional economic development recruitment, funds and coordinates employer retention and expansion (ERE), and pursues mobility funding. In addition, this plan positions the Council to take the lead to expand and nurture regional leadership, lead a transition in workforce development, champion enhanced placemaking, and take a long view of regional infrastructure capacity. The Council also strengthens its role as a regional information curator for economic data, building and site availability, employment and training opportunities, and quality-of-life activities.</p>	<p>Northwest Arkansas Council, http://www.nwacouncil.org/pages/regional-development-strategy/</p>



<p>Greater Northwest Arkansas Development Strategy</p> <p>Building on Success: The 2015-2017 Blueprint (Goals Related to Open Space)</p>	<p>The three goals of the 2015-2017 Strategic Action Agenda and objectives/strategic actions that are specifically relevant to open space planning are as follows:</p> <p>Workforce Development Goal 1: Lead the transition to a best-of-class, demand-driven workforce model to increase the supply of appropriately skilled labor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce objectives/actions for this goal that are specifically relevant to the open space plan: • Align placemaking activities to support new talent recruitment, and support a new web/social media portal to promote the regional’s culinary, music, arts, and outdoor experiences. <p>Infrastructure Goal 2: Invest in physical infrastructure that will enable sustainable long-term growth and improve competitiveness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical infrastructure objectives/actions for this goal that are specifically relevant to the open space plan: • Objective 6) Improve multi-modal mobility throughout Northwest Arkansas. • Objective 8) Preserve the quality and availability of the region’s drinking water sources. • Advocate and support efforts to ensure water for the region’s growth. <p>Regional Stewardship Goal 4: Champion Placemaking and provide leadership, collaborative capacity, and resource alignment to ensure the region remains a vibrant, attractive, community for businesses and people for decades to come.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional stewardship objectives/actions for this goal that are specifically relevant to the open space plan: • Objective 14) Position the Council as a champion of regional placemaking. • Develop, maintain and promote a dashboard for economic results, placemaking activities and strategic action updates. • Objective 15) Promote racial, cultural, and ethnic diversity in Northwest Arkansas by supporting quality-of-life enhancements that appeal to a variety of demographic groups. • Advocate and support efforts to ensure water for the region’s growth. 	
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<p>Northwest Arkansas Regional Food Assessment (2014)</p>	<p>In the summer of 2012, a group of farmers, entrepreneurs, farmers’ market managers, and local food and agriculture supporters and advocates with a shared vision for a robust and equitable regional food system in Northwest Arkansas formed the Northwest Arkansas Regional Food Council. Together with the Northwest Arkansas Council, an early supporter, the Regional Food Council launched its efforts with a regional food assessment to measure and understand the region’s food and agriculture assets and challenges to fully realizing the potential of farmers and food businesses to contribute to the region’s economy, community health, and well-being.</p> <p>The Northwest Arkansas regional food assessment weaves together primary source data, including the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) 2012 Census of Agriculture and a region-wide consumer survey, with economic analysis and first-hand information, observations, and reflections from regional food system stakeholders. Through the course of the project, Karp Resources conducted 84 formal interviews and informal conversations. General recommendations include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivate a Regional Food Identity • Coordinate and Grow Regional Supply • Leverage Public Resources to Improve Local Food Access for All Northwest Arkansans Through Diverse Outlets • Develop and Coordinate Local Food Cluster Technical Assistance and Resources <p>The local food economy of NWA is integrally entwined in open space considerations. Agricultural lands are essentially working open spaces that are key components of the local economy and environment. The recommendations found in this document are tailored to strengthening the local food economy from a multi-faceted approach as generalized in the above bulleted list.</p>	<p>Northwest Arkansas Council, Northwest Arkansas Regional Food Council, http://www.nwa-food.org/</p>
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<p>Urban Forest Conservation Assessment for Fayetteville (2006)</p>	<p>This report describes development of a Conservation Priority Ranking Model (CPRM) and its application to areas in and around Fayetteville. The goal of this project is to develop an inventory of forested natural parcels of land in and around Fayetteville, Arkansas, and prioritize them by using conservation values such as ecological characteristics, parcel size, and development threat. The prioritized list will be used by FNHA and others to assist in working toward protection a number of high quality sites. This parallels FNHA’s mission to “conserve natural areas of Fayetteville and its environs for the benefit of present and future generations.”</p> <p>The Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association (FNHA) began this project in 2005 with a grant from the Arkansas Forestry Commission’s Urban Forestry Program and the U.S. Forest Service. The project’s purpose was to identify the highest priority natural areas for conservation in and around Fayetteville before they disappeared. FNHA’s partners in this project are The Nature Conservancy’s Ozark Highlands Office and the Landscape Architecture Department at the University of Arkansas.</p> <p>The CPRM utilizes the following general criteria (with specific components of each) to rank diverse land parcels: ecology, aesthetics, human use, and threat of development.</p> <p>Priority parcels for conservation were identified in the Fayetteville city limits, planning area, and beyond. Specific recommended actions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publicize and discuss the goals and results of this study with as many citizens as possible, e.g., at town meetings, clubs, student groups, and through brochure distribution. • Work with City staff to insure that the results of this study are reflected in the 2025 Plan and guide future land use policy. • Present a summary of the study to the City Council and offer more detailed discussions to those who are interested. • Develop specific conservation plans for several highly ranked parcels as a way to define conservation tools and methods. • Work with the City in expanding and implementing ideas suggested by the 2025 Plan such as transfer of development rights, open space bond issues, and conservation easements. • Keep the priority list of potential conservation parcels updated. 	<p>Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association, http://www.fayettevil-natural.org/conserving-our-natural-areas.php</p>
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<p>Ozarks Ecoregional Conservation Assessment (2003)</p>	<p>An assessment was conducted for the Ozarks ecoregion to determine the spatial configuration that would most efficiently conserve viable examples of all globally significant biodiversity features. This assessment identified the globally significant species, natural communities, and ecological systems in the ecoregion, established viability criteria for occurrences of these features and developed representation and section criteria for sustainable conservation of these features.</p> <p>This assessment provides an evaluation of the most biologically significant areas within the ecoregion, establishes a goal for long term conservation, provides the foundation for developing and implementing conservation strategies a both the regional and local scales, and documents the disproportionate global significance of Ozark biodiversity relative to the area of the ecoregion within North America. This assessment should be regarded as part of a dynamic process of successively more refined iterations as knowledge of both applied conservation biology and the landscape and biota of the Ozarks continue to develop.</p> <p>The data was synthesized into a spatial assessment with supporting data that provides an explicit rendering of the most significant areas of the Ozarks from a biodiversity conservation perspective. The resulting portfolio encompasses 179 total sites, including 31 landscape-scale terrestrial areas, 43 small scale terrestrial sites, 44 aquatic sites, and 61 karst areas. Terrestrial and karst sites encompass a total of 5.7 million acres, or about 16.5% of the total area of the Ozarks. Aquatic priority sites include 3,179 stream miles and their accompanying watersheds; this represents about 19% of the total stream reaches within the Ozarks.</p> <p>10 of these most significant areas are found in NWA. Due to development intensity, NWA was cited as falling short of conservation goals necessary to preserve proper ecological functions.</p>	<p>The Nature Conservancy, http://ozarks.cr.usgs.gov/Docs/TNC/Ozarks_Ecoregional_Conservation_Assessment.pdf</p>
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LOCAL PLANS

Forward Siloam Springs 2030 Comprehensive Plan (2008)

The Siloam Springs Comprehensive Plan includes several elements relevant to open space planning. These include the following:

- Build Out Analysis - The build out analysis indicated that the City can sustain 26,779 people until full build out occurs in 2032, based off of the percentage breakdown of the current maximum zoning densities. Conversely, the Planning Area can sustain 20,569 people for an overall total of 47,346 people. If growth continues at the same rate, the maximum build out capacity (City and annexed area) will occur in 2037. After 2037, the population growth will require an increase in density within the City limits, or new annexations of lands south of the community.

Major themes from public input:

- Retain some rural lands for agricultural purposes.
- Protect all riparian zones.
- Expand park system to the south side of Hwy 412.
- Increase residential to the northeast of the City, between Dawn Hill Rd. and Hwy. 43.
- Core Values Statement
- Parks
- Expand and improve park system and designate open space.
- Increase green space in the City.
- Physically connect different types of parks to serve the entire community.
- Environmental Stewardship
- Preserve and expand open space, preserve farmland.
- Improve the Sager Creek riparian corridor.
- Wildlife preserve at City Lake.
- New Street Expansion
- Expansion focused on the high growth areas to the north and east of the City.
- Growth Management
- Proactively manage land use density and development areas through the future land use map.
- Allow for increased community cohesion, compactness, infill, and accessibility.
- Future Land Use Map
- Includes a significant amount of desired open space, especially beyond the city limits and toward the outer boundary of the planning area.

<http://www.siloam-springs.com/138/Planning>

<p>Forward Siloam Springs 2030 Comprehensive Plan (2008) (Part 2 Public Input)</p>	<p>Urban Design Element</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a landscaping plan with a stated goal includes establishing Siloam Springs as a Tree City U.S.A. • Update the Subdivision Regulations • This section recommends the inclusion of the ‘Conservation Design’ concept as an approach to subdivision design where natural features are identified and the design occurs around these features. <p>Historic Preservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process for developing a Historic District is outlined along with historic locations around the city. <p>Public Facilities Element</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal #1 under parks and trails is to acquire new parks, trails, green space, and facilities. <p>Environmental Element</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes topics and recommendations for climate, hydrology, and geology • Recommendations from the 2005 Sager Creek Environmental study include: • Development of a Sager Creek Management Advisory Group. • Establishment of broad riparian buffers adjacent to the creek along a stretch of Washington St. • Removal of the downstream dams and stream channel enhancement. • Implementation of sub-watershed storm water treatments. • Riparian zone improvements in selected locations. • Implementation of best management practices in the watershed. 	
<p>Bella Vista Village Property Owners Association (POA) Comprehensive Amenities Needs Assessment and Action Plan (2013)</p>	<p>The purpose of the Amenities Needs Assessment is to prioritize the recreational facilities, amenities, and programmatic needs of the BVVPOA membership with a focus on resident input for improvements that they will support. Key results of a community survey conducted during the development of this report, showed the following with respect to natural areas and open space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Building new natural areas, trails, and recreation facilities” was one of the most often cited responses regarding desired investments (see page 7 of report) • “Signage and maps to/within amenities, trails, and natural areas” and “Number of trails and natural areas” were among the top priorities for improvement (see page 58 of report) <p>It is important to note that while natural areas and trails were cited among the top priorities for improvement, they were also components of recreational amenities and services rated highest in terms of satisfaction (see page 53 of report).</p>	<p>Bella Vista Property Owners Association (POA), http://www.bellavista-poa.com/board/poareports.asp</p>



<p>Springdale Comprehensive Land Use Plan (2010)</p>	<p>The Springdale Comprehensive Plan update includes general goals and policies in a 13-page document covering the following topics. Goals, objectives and policies related to open space planning are included as sub-bullets below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Land Use • Encourage new subdivisions to provide for the passive and active recreation needs of residents and develop trails that will enhance the City’s trail system. • Encourage land use patterns and development that contribute to a safe, healthy environment for residents and visitors of Springdale. • Investigate implementation of a comprehensive streetscape program (e.g. landscaping, lighting, signs) in public spaces and along major corridors which will contribute to a more positive aesthetic image for the City. • Residential Land Use • Require landscaping and open recreation areas in multi-family development. • Commercial Land Use • Encourage planned, integrated commercial areas by discouraging spot commercial development and the stringing out of commercial development along streets and to encourage more pedestrian-oriented commercial settings. • Industrial Land Use • Encourage the development of industries that further diversify and stabilize the City’s economic base that are compatible to the labor force, raw materials and industrial climate and provide space for new and expanding high technology industries with low environmental impact. • Public Land Use • Acquisition of desirable sites well in advance of need. • Schools, parks and community facilities should be located close to or within residential neighborhoods for accessibility and to provide a focal point for effective and cohesive neighborhood design. • Parks and recreation areas should be evenly distributed throughout the City and include larger community parks and smaller neighborhood parks, some of which may serve as buffers between different land use types. • Downtown District • Plant trees along street edges to create a more pleasant environment for pedestrians. • Landscape parking areas to avoid large monotonous expanses of cars. Flexibility in parking requirements, stall size, and landscape requirements should be allowed to limit the amount of land devoted to parking. 	<p>http://www.springdale.gov/departments/planning_and_community_development/index.php</p>
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Springdale Downtown Master Plan (2013)	Central to Springdale's Downtown Revitalization Master Plan recommended concept is 'daylighting' portions of Spring Creek that run through downtown Springdale. This idea is paired with the development of the Razorback Regional Greenway that will link through downtown Springdale. Spring Creek is currently capped from Meadow Avenue northward to Johnson Avenue. Street improvements and changes to traffic, building improvements, and town square construction are other aspects of this plan. Central to the plans recommendations is a streetscape designed for all types of users including improved landscaping.	http://www.springdale-ar.gov/department/planning_and_community_development/docs/Downtown_master_plan.pdf
Fayetteville Parks 10 Year Master Plan (2002)	<p>Seven guiding policies were developed for the 2002 master plan. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a citywide trails and greenways network. • Increase park safety and accessibility. • Upgrade existing and provide additional community and neighborhood parks. • Provide a multi-sports complex. • Preserve open space. • Increase program diversity. • Eliminate duplication. <p>A series of recommendations were developed for different types of parks and recreation facilities. This includes recommendations for natural resource areas/preserves and greenways, promoting the benefits of open space.</p>	http://www.accessfayetteville.org/337/Master-Plan
Siloam Springs' Downtown and Connectivity Master Plan (2014)	The Downtown & Connectivity Master Plan will provide a 5-7 year phased implementation plan for improvements to the downtown core as a district and in its relative connectivity to other major assets in Siloam Springs. The purpose of the plan is to address downtown revitalization as an economic development strategy that will drive wellness and quality of life improvements in Siloam Springs.	http://mainstreetsiloam.org/master-plan



<p>Fayetteville Downtown Master Plan (2004)</p>	<p>Fayetteville’s Downtown Master Plan outlines actions to encourage balanced, sustainable growth in Fayetteville’s downtown area, including a balance between the automotive and pedestrian environment. Specific projects recommended as priorities for completion in the short-term included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing Dickson Street • A Parking Lot Transformed - Infill at City parking lot adjacent to the Walton Arts Center • Redevelopment of Mountain Inn • Infill Along Block Avenue • Preserving Lafayette Street • Creating a Downtown Park • One-way Street Conversions • Additional On-street Parking • Taming College Avenue • Redesigning Archibald Yell • Adopt New Downtown Zoning District • Establish Downtown Organizational Structure and Funding <p>Longer-term projects in the downtown area include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing the Downtown Square • Reinvestment in the Mill District • Redevelopment Opportunities Along West Avenue • Structured Parking, Initial Phases • Continued Redevelopment and Infill along College Avenue and Archibald Yell • Structured Parking, Subsequent Phase 	<p>http://www.fayetteville-ar.gov/729/Downtown-Master-Plan</p>
<p>Hwy 71 East Square Re-development District No. 1 Project Plan (2005)</p>	<p>The purpose of this plan is to encourage the commercial and residential redevelopment of a section of Fayetteville approximately bounded by Arkansas Avenue and University Avenue to the west, the College Avenue area to the east, Maple Street to the north, and the Archibald Yell Boulevard area to the south. Two projects are the focus of this plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project No. 1 – Process of removing blight in the former Mountain Inn area – catalyst project • Project No. 2 – City sidewalk and pedestrian improvements – repair and replacement of existing sidewalks, pedestrian crossing, and new sidewalks to fill in missing segments 	<p>http://www.fayetteville-ar.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/2385</p>

<p>Walker Park Neighborhood Master Plan (2008)</p>	<p>The Walker Park Neighborhood is located south of Downtown Fayetteville. The purpose of this plan is to enable stakeholders to influence the form of future growth that encourages traditional neighborhood development and sustainability. Several guiding principles are highlighted in the document including ‘Create accessible greenspace.’ Other guiding principles include balance of uses and housing, Jefferson Square as a core of the neighborhood, improve connectivity and walkability.</p>	<p>http://www.accessfayetteville.org/778/Walker-Park-Neighborhood-Plan</p>
<p>Fayette Junction Master Plan (2009)</p>	<p>Fayette Junction is located in the southern section of Fayetteville. It is approximately bounded by the Arkansas Research and Technology Park to the east, 15th Street to the north, I-49 to the west and southwest, and the neighborhood south of Cato Springs Road to the southeast section of the area. Several developments have begun changing this old railroad crossroads including the Crowne apartments, BioBased Companies, and Bungalows at Cato Springs. In addition to these developments, proximity to the Arkansas Research and Technology Park (ARTP), the conservation easement placed on the Dowell Cemetery hillside, and the entrance into Fayetteville from the I-49 corridor are isolated areas this plan seeks to unite towards a sustainable development pattern.</p> <p>Three guiding principles are highlighted in the document including ‘Integrate the built and natural environments’. The other guiding principles are ‘create a clean tech cluster’ and ‘support multi-modal transit’. Related recommended development practices include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-impact development (LID) streets • Elevated structures • Green corridors for alternative transportation • Natural habitat linkages • Stormwater Detention and Retention • Cisterns, rain barrels and other stormwater capture techniques • Green roofs • The urban transect 	<p>http://www.fayetteville-ar.gov/777/Fayette-Junction-Neighborhood-Plan</p>



<p>Fayetteville City Plan 2030 (2010)</p>	<p>Fayetteville’s City Plan serves as the city’s comprehensive land use plan. Out of six stated goals for the plan, Goal 5 states “We will assemble an enduring green network”. Chapter 6 - Land Use, details existing conditions related to soils, water, topography and development including the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geological History • Soils • Slope and Hillsides • Watershed System • Surface Drainage • Flooding • Groundwater • Water Quality • Current Zoning and Annexation Patterns <p>The Future Land Use Map identifies and promotes a form-based development pattern that recognizes a sequence of built environments, from natural or very rural to densely urban. Rather than separating land uses, form-based development patterns emphasize mixed uses at the neighborhood, block and building level. The Future Land Use map is a tool used by the community to envision change over time regarding land use variety, intensity or density.</p> <p>Staff has developed a set of land use designations based upon current development patterns and the vision of future development patterns as expressed in City Plan 2030. These area designations are intended to provide general guidance for land use decisions that will shape development growth for the next twenty years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Areas • Rural Residential Areas • Residential Neighborhood Areas • City Neighborhood Areas • Urban Center Areas • Complete Neighborhood Plan Areas • Civic and Private Open Space Areas/Parks • Civic Institutional Areas • Non-Municipal Government Areas • Industrial Areas • Complete Neighborhood Plans 	<p>http://www.accessfayetteville.org/372/City-Plan-2030</p>
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<p>City Plan 2030 (2010)</p> <p>Part 2</p>	<p>Each of the above categories are further defined in Chapter 12.</p> <p>Chapter 8 covers historic and cultural resources including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 established historic districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places • The Lafayette Street and Maple Street Overpasses • The Evergreen Cemetery • Heritage Trail • Several cultural resources such as the Walton Arts Center, University of Arkansas, parks and recreation, the Farmer’s Market, Public Art, and the Blair Public Library <p>The Fayetteville Alternative Transportation and Trails (FATT) Master Plan is also incorporated as part of City Plan 2030. In 2015, the FATT Master Plan was updated to include newly completed trails and improve overall connectivity of the system. Over 18 miles of multi-use trails have been constructed since the original FATT Master Plan was completed in 2003.</p>	<p>http://www.accessfayetteville.org/372/City-Plan-2030</p>
<p>Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Project (2012)</p>	<p>This Urban Tree Canopy (UTC) assessment provides a benchmark of Fayetteville’s current tree cover. The study delivers essential data layers, maps and tools to enhance urban forest management, policy and decision-making, and planning. Additionally, by calculating some of the services and benefits the tree canopy provides, City staff and elected officials have information that places a value on trees and forests in their community in order to promote sound environmental and land use plans and policies.</p> <p>This study encompasses 55.4 square miles (35,437 acres) defined by the city limits of the City of Fayetteville, in Washington County, Arkansas. Based on a land area (after excluding water) of 34,586 acres, the City of Fayetteville has 12,441 acres (36%) of existing tree canopy, 17,757 acres (51%) of possible planting area, and 4,388 acres (13%) that is likely unsuitable for tree planting.</p> <p>Riparian buffer analysis reveals there is 60% tree cover along Fayetteville’s streams and rivers. Canopy cover within land use categories ranged from 18% (Commercial) to 45% (Agriculture) while the street rights-of-way average 13% cover. Residential properties average 41% UTC with 6 available planting sites per acre.</p>	<p>http://ar-fayetteville.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1142</p>



<p>Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Project (2012) Part 2</p>	<p>Major findings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fayetteville has 36% urban tree canopy cover based on 2010 imagery. • Canopy trends indicate a loss of possibly 1.5% UTC since 2002. • Residential lots cover 31% of Fayetteville with an average tree cover of 41% citywide. This represents 1/3 of the City’s total tree canopy. • 19% of the City’s tree canopy is on publicly owned properties. • The current urban forest removes nearly 1.3M pounds of air pollutants from the air annually, valued at \$3.5M per year. • This equates to 1.1 billion pounds of stored carbon with an annual carbon sequestration rate of 8.4M pounds of CO2 taken up by the tree canopy. • Stormwater Savings • At 36% UTC, Fayetteville’s tree canopy is valued at an estimated \$64 million based on avoided stormwater facility construction costs. • If canopy declines, at 30.0% canopy cover, it is valued at \$44M. • At 40% UTC with 4% of new canopy growth from regeneration (natural forested areas), it is valued at \$65M • At 45% UTC with the new canopy growing over streets and parking lots, the tree canopy would be valued at \$85M. • Natural forest regeneration plays a large role in UTC gains in Fayetteville. Examples are provided in the Canopy Change section of this report. • There are 50,000 potential tree planting locations near residential buildings. If trees are planted to maximize cooling in summer, energy conservation as trees reach maturity would be significant. 	<p>http://ar-fayetteville.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1142</p>
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<p>Wedington Corridor Plan (2013)</p>	<p>The Wedington Corridor Plan area is located on the western side of Fayetteville, north and south of Wedington Drive from the I-49 intersection west past 51st Avenue. In the past 20 years, this area has transformed from a rural/agricultural area to a growing suburban residential and commercial corridor. Open space considerations are incorporated directly in one of four guiding principles; ‘Designate a greenway connecting Hamestring and Owl Creek watersheds.’ The other three guiding principles include – ‘Redefine Wedington Drive as Wedington Parkway’, ‘Envision the heart of the neighborhood at Wedington Drive and Ruppel Road’, and ‘Support active and alternative transportation options’.</p> <p>The guiding principle, ‘Designate a greenway connecting Hamestring and Owl Creek watersheds,’ outlines general recommendations including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire identified greenspace utilizing the Parkland Dedication Ordinance and Alternative Transportation and Trails Master Plan. • Amend the Alternative Transportation Plan to recognize this north-south greenway connection and ensure this corridor is prioritized in any future development plans for these properties. • Create a “Conservation” development ordinance that would allow for sustainable land use development for lands in the EGN that protect environmental features such as viewsheds, natural wildlife habitats, environmentally sensitive areas or farmlands in perpetuity. <p>In addition to these general recommendations, specific projects were recommended in moving forward in the short and long term. Recommendations specific to open space planning include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize parkland dedication acreages and funds that are collected in these quadrants to acquire the parklands illustrated in the Wedington Corridor Plan. • Develop a conservation development design process for neighborhoods in environmentally sensitive or rural areas. 	<p>http://www.fayetteville-ar.gov/779/Wedington-Corridor-Neighborhood-Plan</p>
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<p>Active Transportation Plan (2015)</p>	<p>In 2003, the City of Fayetteville adopted the Fayetteville Alternative Transportation & Trails (FATT) Plan, which laid out a vision for the development of a city-wide trail system. The FATT Plan was developed through an extensive public input process which resulted in a comprehensive set of goals and objectives. At the time the FATT Plan was developed, Fayetteville had not yet committed to building the Scull Creek Trail that has become the backbone of our trails system. The FATT Plan served as a catalyst to initiate large-scale trail development and brought greater awareness of the benefits of alternative transportation networks. Now in 2015, the viability of these networks is readily apparent and other cities in the region are replicating and expanding trail networks with the development of the Razorback Regional Greenway.</p> <p>This Active Transportation Plan was adopted by City Council resolution No. 81-15 on April 7, 2015 and it will be used to guide the design and implementation of future bicycle and sidewalk infrastructure. The ATP sets forth a vision and a roadmap for measuring success, and it provides the general parameters for the prioritization and design of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure without prescribing solutions for specific projects. Individual projects to be implemented should incorporate the vision and principles set forth in this plan, while balancing the goals of the plan, funding availability, citizen input and potential success for each project.</p>	
<p>Bentonville Downtown Master Plan 2004</p>	<p>The 2004 Bentonville Downtown Master Plan was written as a guide for development with strategies for implementation. The Plan serves as the primary tool for identifying a common vision and the methods to bringing that vision to reality. The primary vision is to make Downtown Bentonville “the” gathering place for Bentonville. Specific elements of the Master Plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create identifiable gateways (to include landscaping, street trees, and signage) • Develop public art and culture • Promote public investment • Improve aesthetics (street trees, maintaining clean appearance, create places with benches and lighting, improve appearance of overhead lines, maintain architecture, preserve history) • Address human scale (height restrictions, etc) • Improve circulation (especially for pedestrians) and parking (install way-finding signage; establish trolley route; build trails - Downtown Trail, North Bentonville Trail, Heritage Trail, Trail of Tears; improve and add sidewalks) • Promote business mix <p>Specific landscaping strategies include - gateway landscaping, street tress, Compton Gardens, and open space design guidelines for the Square and Downtown streets</p> <p>Other specific strategies related to open space include: identify locations for and prepare plans for pocket parks and for trails.</p>	

<p>North Walton Boulevard Enhancement Plan (2013)</p>	<p>The North Walton Boulevard Corridor Enhancement Plan was adopted in February 2013 to improve access management, encourage complimentary land uses, inject pleasing aesthetics, and identify development strategies to create a sustainable and economically vibrant commercial corridor. A key goal is to create an inviting streetscape with enhanced landscaping.</p>	<p>http://www.bentonville.com/departments/planning-department/plans/n.-walton-enhancement-plan/</p>
<p>Bentonville Downtown Master Plan Implementation Report (2013)</p>	<p>This report includes a 14 page table showing progress on implementing the Downtown Master Plan. Since Downtown Master Plan was adopted, multiple strategies have been addressed and completed including trail and sidewalk development, signage development, open space design guidelines, pocket parks, and street tree/landscaping plan. Gateway landscaping has been initiated.</p>	<p>http://www.bentonville.com/assets/planning_files/Plan_12_dwnntn_plan_implem_report_2013.pdf</p>
<p>Bentonville SE Downtown Area Plan (2014)</p>	<p>Adopted in January 2014, the goal of the plan is to focus attention on a specific area of downtown with redevelopment opportunities and to provide a more detailed implementation guide. Several factors prompted this planning effort including: 1) uncertain future of vacant industrial properties, 2) recent investments in park and trail amenities including the Razorback Greenway, 3) 8th Street Improvement Project, and 4) opportunity to create two experience districts. One of the project goals related to open space is establishing this area as a primary center for local food resources, improving pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and creating an inviting streetscape.</p> <p>Specific implementation tasks of interest include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a programmable open space near the Razorback Regional Greenway • Identify locations for landscaping improvements and develop plan for implementation • Establish a streetscape theme for Market District • Create a “walk of art” to establish connection between Arts District and square. • Create and install a gateway to the Market District • Repurpose an existing facility in Market District into a food hub where locally grown and produced foods can be stored, processed, and distributed to consumers • Renovate Train Station Park using landscape as art. • Seek appropriate location for an interactive water feature. • Enhance, sign, and promote bicycle and pedestrian connections between the square, the Market District, the Arts District, and Razorback Greenway 	<p>http://www.bentonville.com/assets/planning_files/PLAN_15_SE_downtown_area_plan_2014_reduced.pdf</p>



<p>Bentonville Street Tree Corridor Plan (2013)</p>	<p>This plan contains a simple table of street corridors with street trees to be planted (including tree species type).</p>	<p>http://www.bentonville-lear.com/assets/planning_files/PLAN_06_street_tree_corridor_plan_2013.pdf</p>
<p>Bentonville Tree Canopy Assessment (2014)</p>	<p>This study was initiated to assess Bentonville’s existing Urban Tree Canopy (UTC), or urban forests viewed from above. The report presents maps, tables, and graphs that will allow city officials and city staff to monitor and enhance the quality and stream of benefits received from its urban forests by continuing with existing forestry programs and providing a benchmark for developing and implementing an urban forest management plan.</p> <p>Based on a land area (after excluding water) of 20,044 acres, the City has 4,982 acres (25%) of existing tree canopy. There are 9,621 acres (48%) of Possible Planting Areas (PPA), defined as vegetated areas where tree planting is feasible. Additionally, 1,768 acres (9%) of Bentonville is unsuitable for tree planting. The land cover data was used to assess similar metrics for the City’s zoning. Other notable findings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5.1M total annual benefits Bentonville’s urban forest provides • \$2.8M total annual savings in avoided stormwater infrastructure costs • 176,258 total estimated available planting sites in Bentonville • 4,240 number of cars equivalent of annual carbon emission sequestered by Bentonville’s urban forest • 35% overall suggested canopy goal <p>Additional major findings are listed on page 5 of the report.</p>	<p>http://issuu.com/planit-geoissuu/docs/bentonville_urban_tree_canopy_asses</p>

<p>Bentonville General Plan (2007)</p>	<p>The Bentonville General Plan addresses smart growth, community development, physical environment, public facilities, transportation, intergovernmental coordination, and economy elements. Some related policy recommendations include:</p> <p><u>Natural Resources and Features/Stormwater Management/Tree Preservation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain up-to-date GIS-based inventory of natural features • Protect environmentally-valuable land • Participate in efforts to protect Illinois River and Elk River basins • Require new development mitigate impact on environment and include buffers • Encourage more greenways and green infrastructure • Expand scope of local recycling efforts • Favor natural or landscaped drainageways over built drainage systems • Integrate trees/natural vegetation into built environment • Enhance landscaping, buffering, and street plantings • Preserve mature trees <p><u>Parks and Open Space</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and update a Parks Master Plan • Require new development to contribute its share to neighborhood and community parks • Ensure neighborhood and community parks have safe linkages to surrounding neighborhoods for pedestrians and bicyclists <p><u>Agriculture</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote use of conservation subdivision design and other conservation techniques to retain meaningful open space in rural residential areas • Allow non-agricultural uses that support economic vitality of agriculture within agriculturally zoned areas (such as agritourism, ecotourism, country inns, other farm-related industry) • Support initiatives that promote direct marketing and encourage consumption of locally produced agricultural products. <p><u>Tourism</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue public investments in parks, trails, and open spaces • Improve visibility and accessibility of its trail system 	
<p>Rogers: The Lake Atalanta Plan</p>	<p>The Rogers Parks and Recreation Commission approved a master plan for Lake Atalanta’s renovation. The plan includes more trails, a new play area for kids and a fishing dock near the dam.</p>	<p>http://rogersar.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/2855</p>

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Funding Resources

"Glad it is being looked into before it is too late... Once they're gone they are very difficult to recover, take the opportunity to obtain open space."

- Public Comment



OVERVIEW

This appendix features a table of state and federal funding opportunities that relate to the goals of this plan.

ABOUT THESE FUNDING RESOURCES

The information listed was found through funding research that took place in mid-2015, and should not be considered a comprehensive list. Many of the funding resources listed in this appendix were originally found on the federal funding website, www.grants.gov. The site features all funding opportunities that are available from the 26 federal agencies that award grants. Also included are certain funding opportunities through the State of Arkansas, along with other sources.

Other opportunities for implementing conservation projects can also be found in the Conservation Toolbox, listed in Chapter 4 of the Open Space Plan.





TABLE A1 FUNDING RESOURCES

Name	Description	Agency	Source	Amount
The Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP)	Competitive grants program that encourage owners and operators of privately held farm, ranch, and forest land to voluntarily make that land available for access by the public for hunting, fishing, and other wildlife-dependent recreation.	Natural Resources Conservation Service	http://www.grants.gov/	Estimated Total Program Funding: \$40,000,000 Award Ceiling: \$1,000,000 Award Floor: \$75,000
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Water for Agriculture Challenge Area	Funding will be used to develop management practices, technologies, and tools for farmers, ranchers, forest owners and managers, public decision makers, public and private managers, and citizens to improve water resource quantity and quality.	National Institute of Food and Agriculture	http://www.grants.gov/	Estimated Total Program Funding: \$30,000,000
Competitive State Wildlife Grants Program	This nationally-competitive program provides a resource to implement or enhance the State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs), with a special focus on promoting and advancing cooperative partnerships that result in large-scale landscape conservation.	Fish and Wildlife Service	http://www.grants.gov/	Estimated Total Program Funding: \$5,400,000 Award Ceiling: \$500,000 Award Floor: \$25,000
Land and Water Conservation Fund State and Local Assistance Program	The National Park Service provides matching grants to states and through states to local governments for the acquisition and development of land and water for outdoor recreation purposes.	National Park Service	http://www.grants.gov/	Estimated Total Program Funding: \$45,000,000 Award Ceiling: \$2,500,000 Award Floor: \$5,000
The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program	The Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) Program is a voluntary, incentive-based program that provides direct technical assistance and financial assistance in the form of cooperative agreements to private landowners to restore and conserve fish and wildlife habitat	Fish and Wildlife Service	http://www.grants.gov/	Estimated Total Program Funding: \$52,000,000 Award Ceiling: \$500,000 Award Floor: \$0
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: Food Security Challenge Area	To develop agricultural production research, education, and extension to develop more sustainable, productive, and economically viable plant and animal production systems. This program will contribute to rural economic development and prosperity while enhancing food security and encouraging diversification of agricultural production.	National Institute of Food and Agriculture	http://www.grants.gov/	Estimated Total Program Funding: \$16,800,000 Award Ceiling: \$4,000,000 Award Floor: \$0
Organic Transitions	The overall goal is to support the development and implementation of research, extension and higher education programs to improve the competitiveness of organic livestock and crop producers, as well as those who are adopting organic practices.	National Institute of Food and Agriculture	http://www.grants.gov/	Estimated Total Program Funding: \$4,000,000
Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council Annual Grants	Grants may be for acquisition, management/ stewardship, or a combination of the two.	Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council	2016 Revised Guide to Grants	N/A



Name	Description	Agency	Source	Amount
Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council Emergency Grants	Projects for unanticipated opportunities deemed highly significant and critical for the State to fund, according to the SCORP (Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan) guidelines and the Council's other review criteria.	Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council	2016 Revised Guide to Grants	N/A
Arkansas Outdoor Recreation Grants Program: 50/50 Matching Grant Program	To provide development of facilities and acquisition of land to support "outdoor" recreation. Enclosed facilities cannot be constructed within the area described by the park boundary map, except as support to an outdoor facility (rest rooms, concession stands, or support buildings).	Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism	http://www.outdoorgrants.com/	N/A
Arkansas Outdoor Recreation Grants Program: FUN Park Grant	The FUN (Facilities for Underdeveloped Neighborhoods) Park Grant Program is designed to assist cities and counties in developing basic neighborhood outdoor recreation facilities.	Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism	http://www.outdoorgrants.com/	Each grant award is \$45,000.00.
Arkansas Outdoor Recreation Grants Program: Trails for Life Grant	To provide an incentive to Arkansans to develop facilities in local neighborhoods and parks and by encouraging active healthy life-styles including vigorous exercise as a part of a regular routine.	Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism	http://www.outdoorgrants.com/	\$35,000
Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council: Historic Property Rehabilitation and Restoration Grants	Grant projects that include the rehabilitation or restoration of historic properties.	Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council	2016 Revised Guide to Grants	N/A
Regional Conservation Partnership Program	Enhance regional cooperation to more effectively implement and maintain conservation activities, thereby promoting the restoration and sustainable use of soil, water, wildlife, and related natural resources on regional or watershed scales. A complete list of the projects and their descriptions is available on the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) website.	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/farmbill/rcpp/	Estimated Total Program Funding: \$400,000,000 Award Ceiling: \$20,000,000 Award Floor: \$0
Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP)	The goals of FMPP grants are to increase domestic consumption of, and access to, locally and regionally produced agricultural products, and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets by developing, improving, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to, or assisting in the development, improvement, and expansion of, domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agritourism activities, and other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities.	USDA Agricultural Marketing Service	http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/FMPP	The maximum amount awarded for any one proposal cannot exceed \$100,000; the minimum award is \$15,000.



Name	Description	Agency	Source	Amount
Farm to School grant program	Purpose is to assist eligible entities in implementing farm to school programs that improve access to local foods in eligible schools. On an annual basis, USDA awards up to \$5 million in competitive grants for training, supporting operations, planning, purchasing equipment, developing school gardens, developing partnerships, and implementing farm to school programs.	USDA Food and Nutrition Service	http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmentoschool/farm-school-grant-program	Planning awards range from \$20,000 - \$45,000; implementation and support service awards range from \$65,000 - \$100,000; training awards range from \$15,000 - \$50,000. Matching funds of 25% are required for all four grant types.
Specialty Crop Block Grant Program - Farm Bill	The purpose of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) is to solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops. Specialty crops are defined as "fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture)."	USDA Agricultural Marketing Service	http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/scbgbp	Approximately \$63 million, less USDA administrative costs, is available to fund applications under this solicitation.
Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP)	LFPP offers grant funds with a 25% match to support the development and expansion of local and regional food business enterprises to increase domestic consumption of, and access to, locally and regionally produced agricultural products, and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets.	USDA Agricultural Marketing Service	http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/ams.fetchTemplateData.do?template=TemplateA&navID=FindmoreinformationontheLocalFoodPromotionProgram(LFPP)&rightNav1=FindmoreinformationontheLocalFoodPromotionProgram(LFPP)&topNav=&leftNav=AMSGrants&page=LFPP&resultType=&acct=fmpp	A minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$25,000 for planning grants and a minimum of \$25,000 and a maximum of \$100,000 for implementation grants.
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)	The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) provides financial and technical assistance to help conserve agricultural lands and wetlands and their related benefits. Under the Agricultural Land Easements component, NRCS helps Indian tribes, state and local governments and non-governmental organizations protect working agricultural lands and limit non-agricultural uses of the land. Under the Wetlands Reserve Easements component, NRCS helps to restore, protect and enhance enrolled wetlands.	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov	NRCS is making \$332 million in financial and technical assistance available

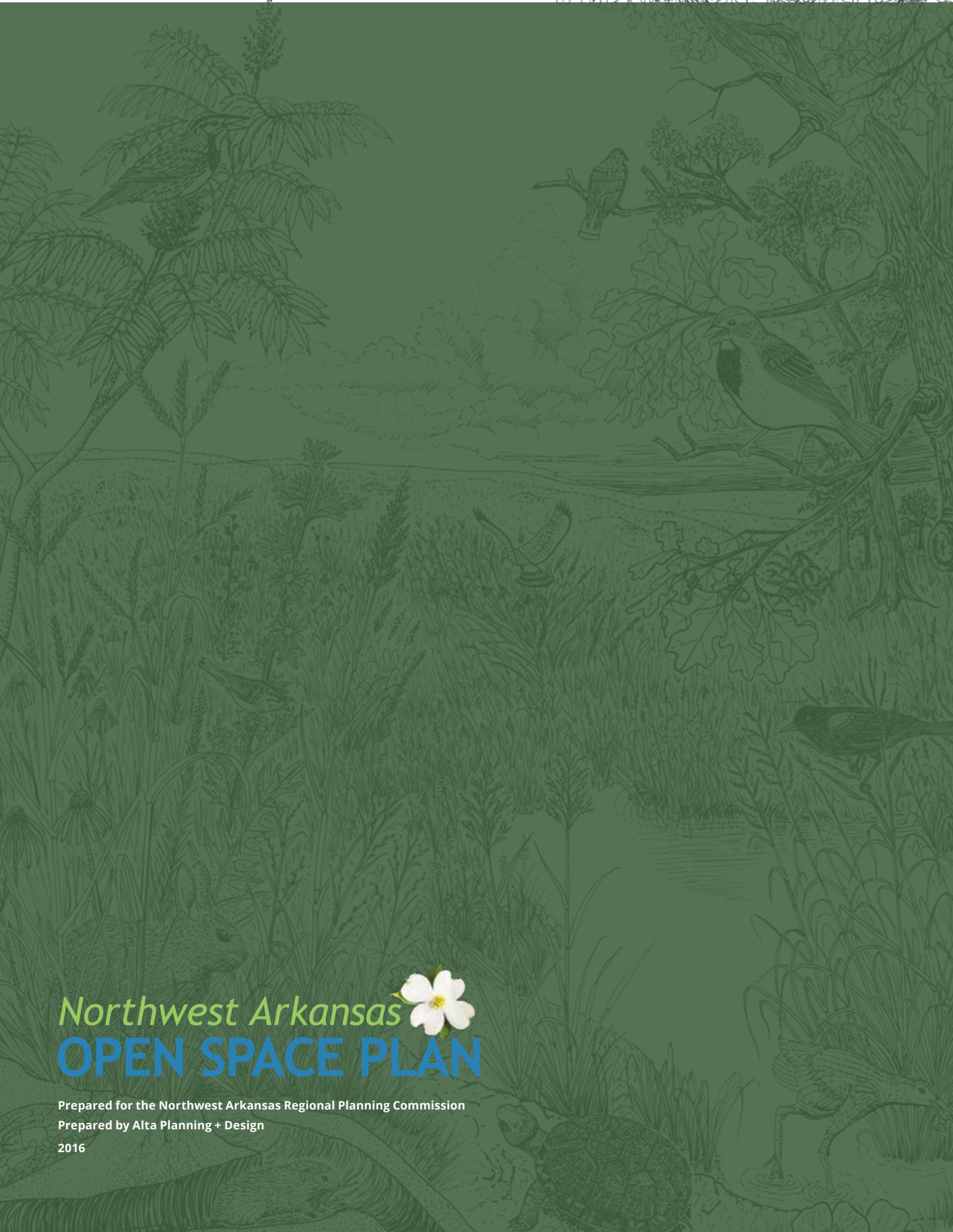


Name	Description	Agency	Source	Amount
Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP)	The Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP) helps landowners restore, enhance and protect forestland resources on private lands through easements and financial assistance. Through HFRP, landowners promote the recovery of endangered or threatened species, improve plant and animal biodiversity and enhance carbon sequestration.	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/easements/	<p>The Program offers three enrollment options:</p> <p>A 10-year restoration cost-share agreement; for which the landowner may receive 50 percent of the average cost of the approved conservation practices.</p> <p>A 30-year easement, for which the landowner may receive 75 percent of the easement value of the enrolled land plus 75 percent of the average cost of the approved conservation practices.</p> <p>A 30-year contract on acreage owned by Indian Tribes, or</p> <p>Permanent easements for which landowners may receive 100 percent of the easement value of the enrolled land plus 100 percent the average cost of the approved conservation practices.</p>
Conservation Stewardship Program	The Conservation Stewardship Program helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resources concerns. Participants earn CSP payments for conservation performance - the higher the performance, the higher the payment.	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp/	CSP provides two types of payments through five-year contracts: annual payments for installing new conservation activities and maintaining existing practices; and supplemental payments for adopting a resource-conserving crop rotation. Producers may be able to renew a contract if they have successfully fulfilled the initial contract and agree to achieve additional conservation objectives. Payments are made soon as practical after October 1 of each fiscal year for contract activities installed and maintained in the previous year.
The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)	Extends and expands the benefits of the National Park Service throughout the nation to connect all Americans to their parks, trails, rivers, and other special places. Our staff helps community groups, National Parks, nonprofits, state and local governments, tribes plan parks and trails, conserve and improve access to rivers and natural areas, and create recreation opportunities through locally led partnerships.	National Park Service	http://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/apply.htm	This program does not award monetary grants or loans. Instead, one of our staff with extensive experience in community-based outdoor recreation and conservation will work with you and your partners to get your project on the ground. If funding is necessary to achieve project goals, we can often assist partners in identifying and securing sources of financial assistance.



Name	Description	Agency	Source	Amount
Walmart – Acres for America	<p>In 2005, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and Walmart teamed up to establish the Acres for America program to conserve lands of national significance, protect critical fish and wildlife habitat and benefit people and local economies.</p> <p>Acres for America priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve critical habitats for birds, fish, plants and wildlife; • Connect existing protected lands to unify wild places and protect migration routes; • Provide access for people to enjoy the outdoors; and, • Ensure the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching and recreation. 	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and Walmart	Further detail regarding grant applications and guidance can be found at the following website - http://www.nfwf.org/acres-foramerica/Pages/home.aspx .	<p>In its first 10 years of existence, this program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protected more than 1 million acres of land • Connected over 10 million acres of protected lands to support landscape-scale conservation and wildlife migration • Funded 61 projects in 33 states • Provided nearly \$4 million in emergency response funding • Restored urban lands and habitats and connected youth to the outdoors by investing more than \$1.5 million in community-based projects <p>In November 2015, NFWF and Walmart announced a 10-year renewal of this program. Conservation program areas</p>
LandWise	The purpose of the LandWise initiative is “to increase the pace of voluntary, permanent land protection in Northwest Arkansas; forever protecting the important landscapes of our region for current and future generations.”	Northwest Arkansas Land Trust	www.nwalandtrust.org	Through the LandWise initiative, the Northwest Arkansas Land Trust will be reaching out to individual landowners, municipalities and developers with properties located in high priority landscapes. The initiative places primary emphasis on sites that are: (1) prioritized within the Open Space Plan for Benton and Washington counties; and/or (2) prioritized for water quality protection in the White River/Beaver Lake or Illinois River watersheds; and/or (3) add to or create connectivity between already conserved properties.





Northwest Arkansas
OPEN SPACE PLAN

Prepared for the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission
Prepared by Alta Planning + Design

2016