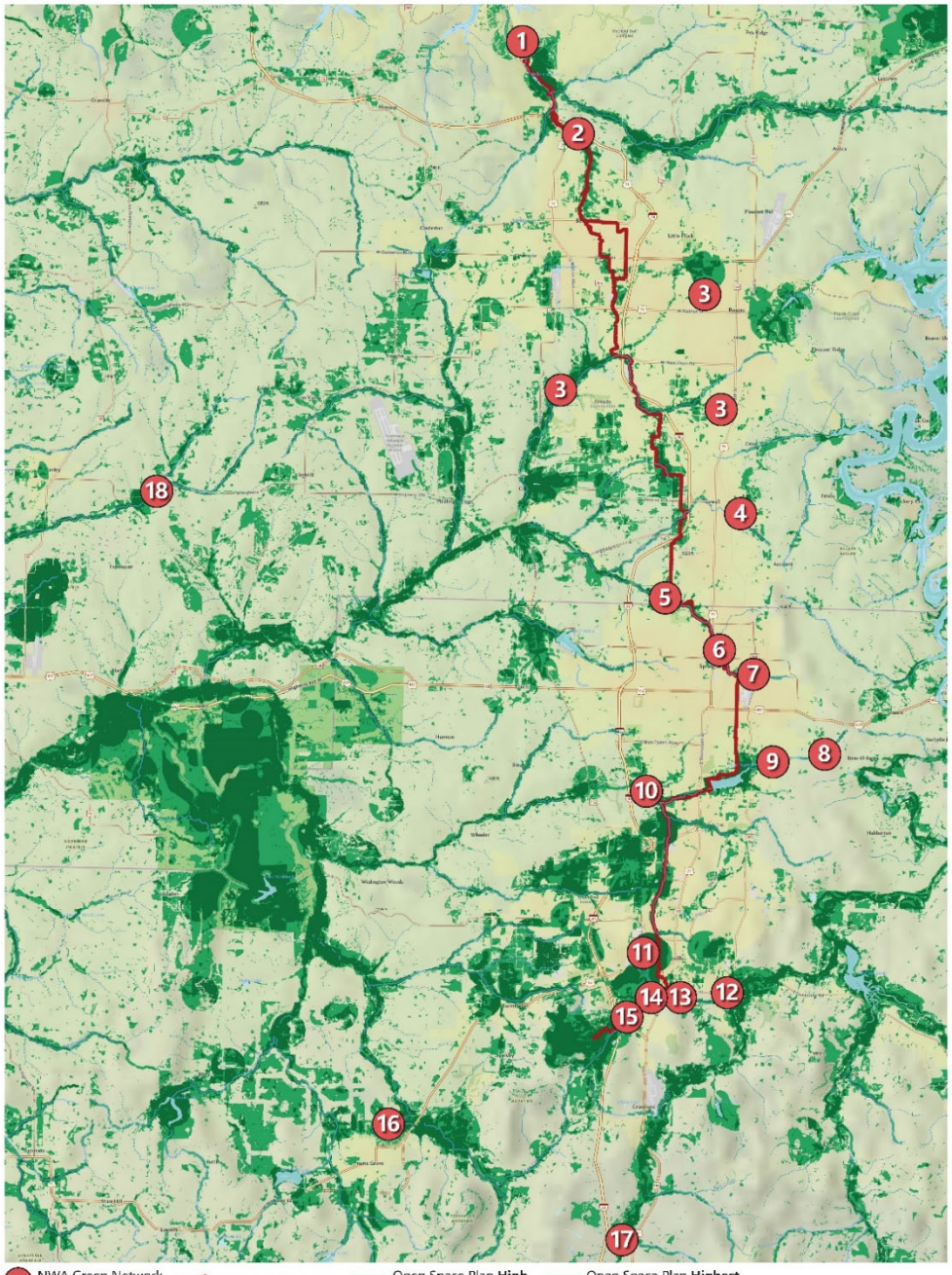
NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ANNOUNCES REGION TO RECEIVE $36.25 MILLION, PART OF $100 MILLION EPA CPRG IMPLEMENTATION GRANT AWARDED TO ARKANSAS TRI-REGION COALITION

SPRINGDALE, AR July 2024 – Northwest Arkansas will receive $36.25 million of the $99,999,999 million Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) awarded by the Environmental Protection Agency to the Arkansas Tri-Region Coalition to implement each region's Energy and Environment Innovation (EEI) Priority Action Plan (PAP). The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) coordinated regional partners to identify and develop 18 "Green Network" projects across ten (10) cities and two (2) regional-serving programs (E-Bike Incentive Program and Workforce Training Program), detailed below, to protect and restore natural cores and corridors and increase access to connected active transportation networks.

Visit our website to learn more: https://www.nwarpc.org/energy-environment-innovation-plan/

NWA GREEN NETWORK

CPRG IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROJECTS



NWA Green Network Projects Legend

1. Razorback Greenway Corridor Stream and Riparian Restoration
2. Razorback Greenway and Town Branch Corridor Forest and Riparian Restoration
3. Osage/Blossom Way Creeks Stream and Wetland Restoration, Preservation, and Trail Construction
4. Puppy Creek Stream and Wetland Restoration and Preservation
5. Spring Creek at Thunder Chicken Wetland, Stream, and Riparian Restoration and Preservation
6. Spring Creek at The Greenway Forest Stream and Riparian Restoration and Preservation
7. Spring Creek at Downtown Preservation
8. Willie George Park Wetland Restoration and Trail Construction
9. Lower Clear Creek Stream Restoration and Preservation
10. Johnson Park Riparian, Prairie, and Forest Restoration
11. University of Arkansas Oak Ridge Hillside Prairie and Forest Restoration and Trail Construction
12. River Commons Floodplain, Prairie, and Riparian Restoration, Preservation, and Trail Construction
13. Town Branch Corridor Stream and Riparian Restoration and Preservation
14. University of Arkansas Research and Tech Park Floodplain, Prairie, and Forest Restoration
15. University of Arkansas Oak Knoll Wetland, Prairie, Forest, Stream, and Riparian Restoration
16. Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park Wetland, Prairie, and Riparian Restoration
17. West Fork White River Wetland, Prairie, Stream, and Riparian Restoration and Preservation
18. Springtown Reforestation Projects

1 Razorback Greenway Corridor Stream and Riparian Restoration (Little Sugar Creek – Bella Vista)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC)*
City of Bella Vista (Bella Vista)

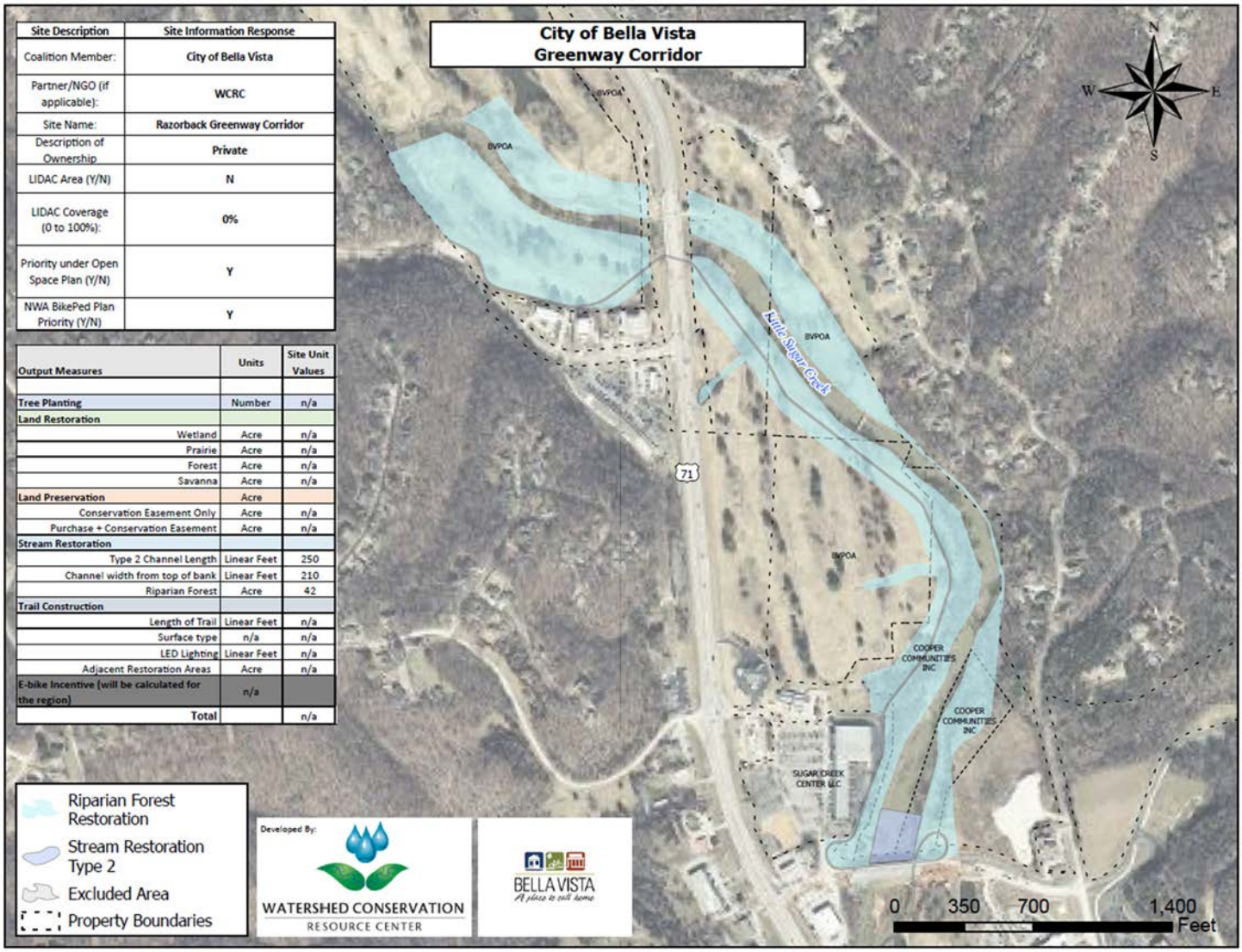
Geographic Location: Bella Vista, Benton County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $574, 425
Restoration – WCRC

Project Description: The Bella Vista project is located along the Little Sugar Creek in Bella Vista, Arkansas. The Razorback Greenway runs through the project area. The WCRC is working with the City of Bella Vista to restore 250 feet of Little Sugar Creek, 42 acres of forested riparian area. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 9,000 metric tons during 2025-2050. The stream restoration will help to protect the trail infrastructure and support a planned water trail along Little Sugar Creek.

Site Description	Site Information Response
Coalition Member:	City of Bella Vista
Partner/NGO (if applicable):	WCRC
Site Name:	Razorback Greenway Corridor
Description of Ownership	Private
LIDAC Area (Y/N)	N
LIDAC Coverage (0 to 100%):	0%
Priority under Open Space Plan (Y/N)	Y
NWA BikePed Plan Priority (Y/N)	Y

Output Measures	Units	Site Unit Values
Tree Planting	Number	n/a
Land Restoration		
Wetland	Acre	n/a
Prairie	Acre	n/a
Forest	Acre	n/a
Savanna	Acre	n/a
Land Preservation	Acre	
Conservation Easement Only	Acre	n/a
Purchase + Conservation Easement	Acre	n/a
Stream Restoration		
Type 2 Channel Length	Linear Feet	250
Channel width from top of bank	Linear Feet	210
Riparian Forest	Acre	42
Trail Construction		
Length of Trail	Linear Feet	n/a
Surface type	n/a	n/a
LED Lighting	Linear Feet	n/a
Adjacent Restoration Areas	Acre	n/a
E-bike Incentive (will be calculated for the region)	n/a	
Total		n/a



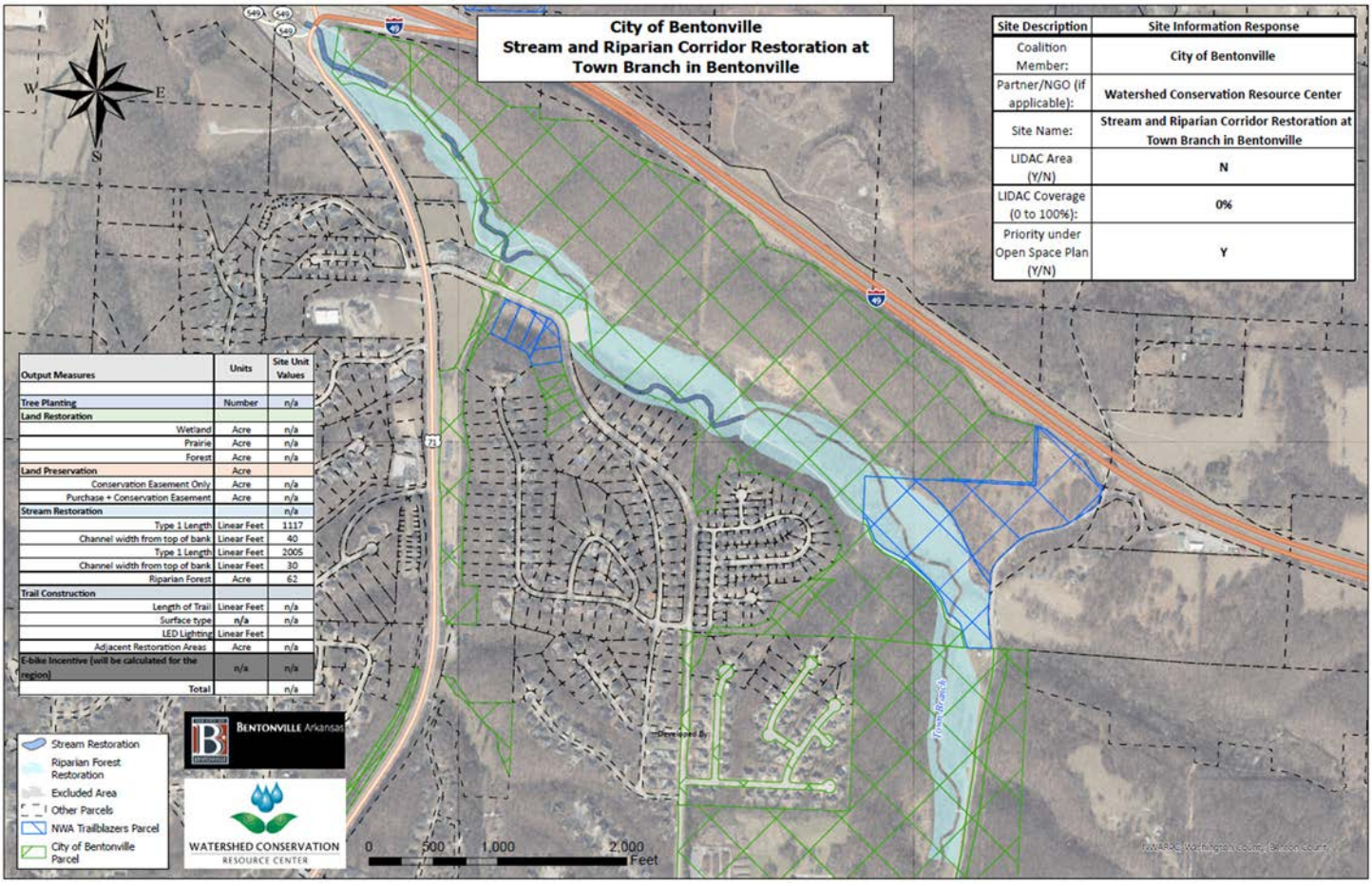
2 Razorback Greenway and Town Branch Corridor Forest and Riparian Restoration (Town Branch – Bentonville)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:
Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC)*
City of Bentonville (Bentonville)

Geographic Location: Bentonville, Benton County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $2,080,350
Restoration – WCRC

Project Description: The Town Branch – Bentonville project is located along Town Branch in Bentonville, Arkansas. The Razorback Greenway runs through the project area. The WCRC will work with the City of Bentonville to restore 3,122 feet of Town Branch and 62 acres of forested riparian area. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 2,221 metric tons during 2025-2050. The stream restoration will help to protect the trail infrastructure and will restore sections of severely eroding streambanks impacted through recent urbanization of the area.



3 Osage/Blossom Way Creek Wetland, Prairie, Riparian, and Stream Restoration, Preservation, and Trail Construction (Osage/Blossom Way Creek – Rogers)

Name of Partner(s), with Sub-Grant Recipient(s) shown with *:
City of Rogers (Rogers)*

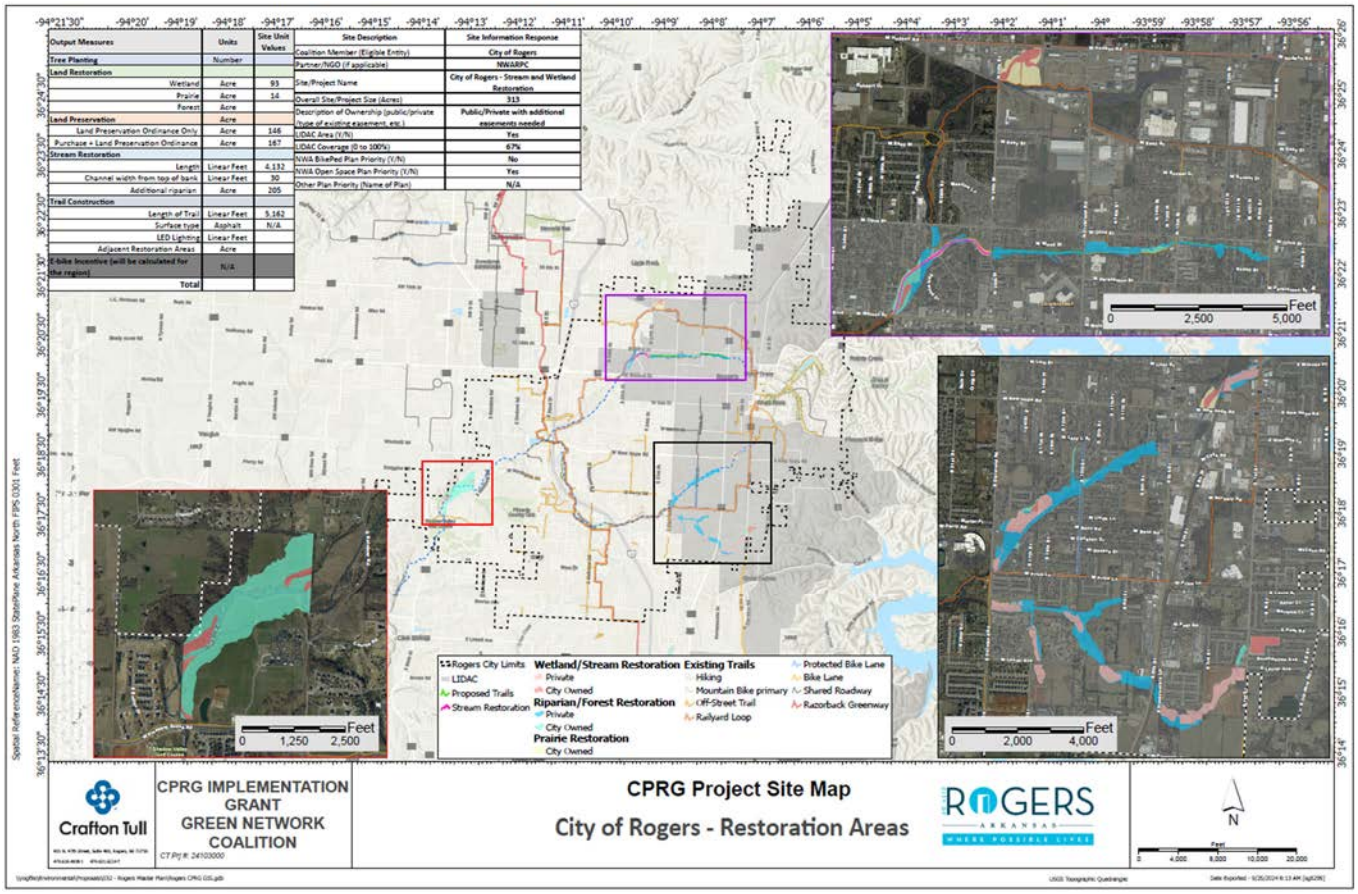
Geographic Location: Rogers, Benton County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $7,077,292
Land Restoration & Preservation – Rogers: $4,252,579
Stream Restoration – Rogers: $1,792,313
Trail Implementation – Rogers: $1,032,400

Project Description: The City of Rogers' project follows the corridors of Osage Creek, Turtle Creek, Blossom Way Creek, and some of their tributaries. The project covers approximately 313 acres of land restoration along approximately 8.5 miles of stream corridor. The project spans a significant portion of the city with the majority of the project occurring within the Low Income/Disadvantaged Communities (LIDAC) in the eastern half of the city. These projects aim to restore riparian areas, wetlands, prairies, and stream channels as part of an effort to create a green corridor through the city. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 25,324 metric tons during 2025-2050.

The city will conduct land restoration consisting of approximately 205 acres of riparian restoration, 93 acres of wetland restoration, and 14 acres of prairie restoration, including 4,132 L.F. of stream restoration along Osage Creek. As part of this project, 5,162 L.F. of trail will be constructed to connect a missing gap in its trail system, increasing ridership along a major east-to-west corridor.

Along with the carbon capture benefits of this project, the impact of flooding throughout the city will be reduced. Through the combination of these efforts, the city is looking to provide significant benefits to the community by working towards preserving and improving the city's greenspace with a focus on industrial and residential areas. These projects are closely aligned with the NWARPC's Regional Open Space Plan. City-owned land has been the primary focus in this project, with the intention of acquiring additional land along the riparian corridor in areas of key importance or connectivity.



4 City of Lowell Stream and Wetland Restoration (Puppy Creek – Lowell)

Name of Partner(s), with Sub-Grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

City of Lowell (Lowell)*

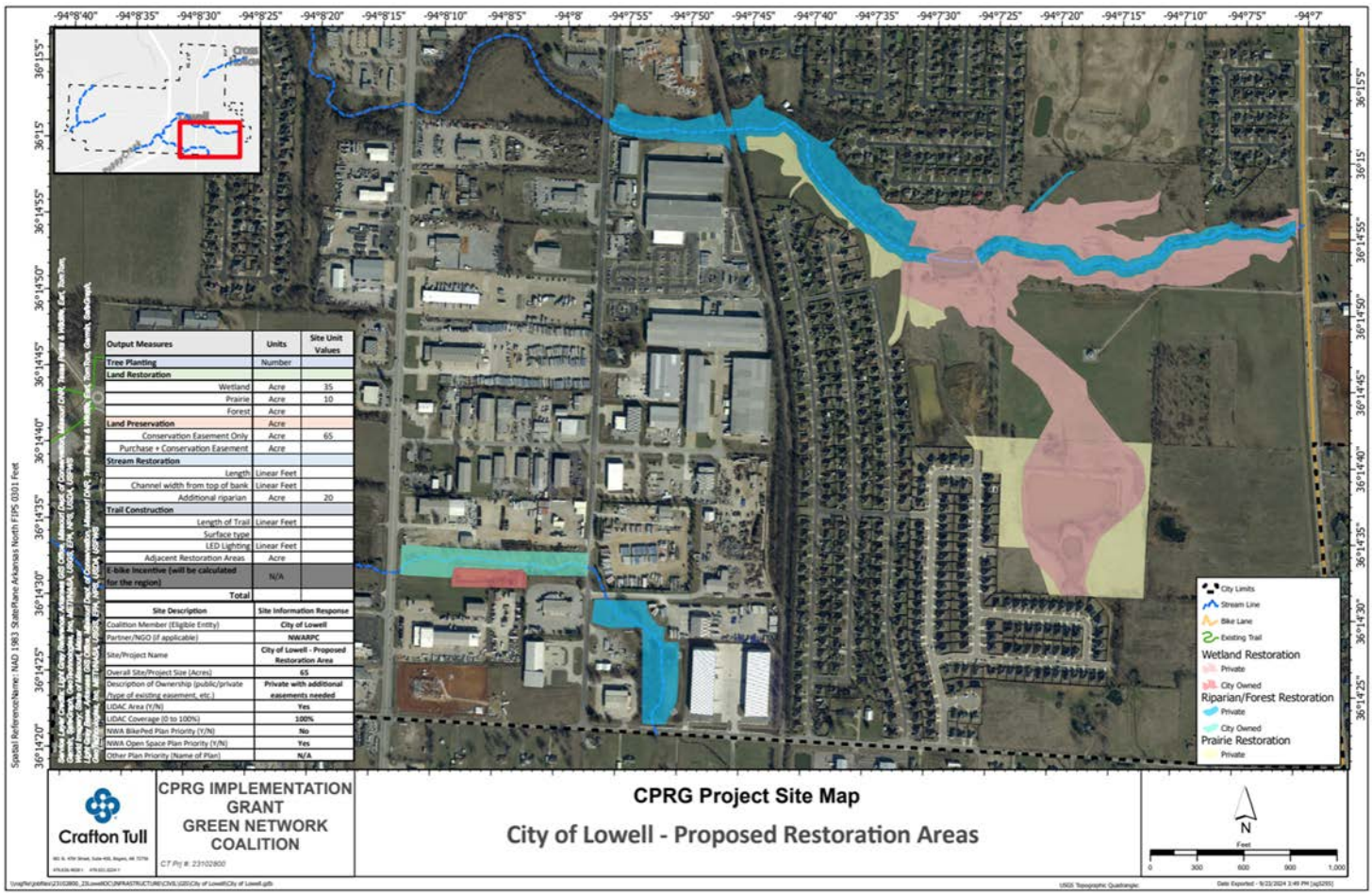
Geographic Location: Lowell, Benton County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $1,684,980

Restoration Implementation, Land Acquisition, and Project Management: $1,684,980

Project Description: The City of Lowell Stream and Wetland Restoration project will take place across a region of Lowell bounded by Highway 71 on the west, Old Wire Road on the east, Apple Blossom Road to the south, and McClure Avenue to the north. The work will take place on undeveloped land primarily in the headwaters of Puppy Creek with some work located in the upper reaches of Christie Creek. The project lies entirely within a federally designated Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community (LIDAC) census tract. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration is 4,376 metric tons during 2025-2050. The preliminary estimates expect $1,684,900 of CPRG funding to be used for the City of Lowell Stream and Wetland Restoration to restore 35 acres of wetlands, 20 acres of riparian areas, and 10 acres of prairie land.

The city is currently working on the development of an Active Transportation and Stream Corridor Master Plan to expand trail networks throughout city limits. These efforts will continue stream restoration westward and connect the city to the Razorback Regional Greenway with dedicated bicycle and pedestrian trails. The proposed projects further complement the city's simultaneous investment into improving two existing major parks within city limits, focusing on providing outdoor recreation opportunities and large green spaces to the community. A significant donation of trees has been received, and will be planted throughout these parks, assisting the City's efforts to restore wetland, prairie, and riparian areas across the city. The restoration of the Puppy Creek floodplain also provides additional connectivity on the south side for one of the two parks.



5 Spring Creek at Thunder Chicken Floodplain, Stream, and Riparian Restoration and Preservation (Spring Creek at Thunder Chicken – Springdale)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

City of Springdale (Springdale)*
Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT)*
Springdale Water Utilities (SWU)

Geographic Location: Springdale, Washington County, Arkansas

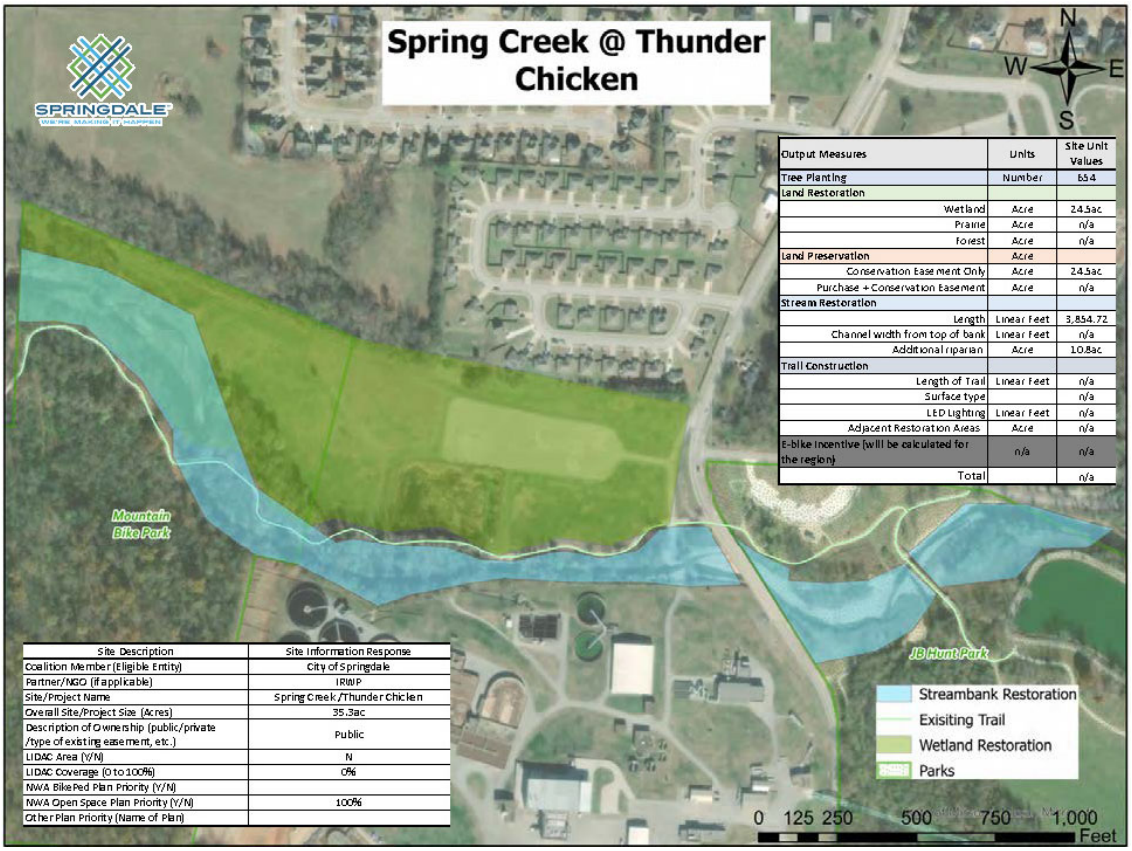
Total Project Cost: $603,690

Restoration: $546,190
Conservation Easement – NWALT: $57,500

Project Description: The Floodplain Restoration and Conservation Project focuses on restoring 24.5 acres of floodplain and 10.8 additional acres of riparian areas to enhance water quality features and reduce flooding in an area impacted by high erosion and old drying beds from a former wastewater treatment plant. The project will also strategically restore the streambank along 3,854.72 linear feet, helping to stabilize the creek and prevent further erosion. By restoring these areas, the project will improve the natural floodplain's ability to manage stormwater and reduce flooding risks, while also enhancing water quality through sediment filtration.

This project presents an opportunity for a partnership with SWU to establish a conservation easement for the land to the west of the park. This partnership would ensure the long-term protection of the restored floodplain, securing its role in water management and conservation for future generations. Restoration efforts will also include the removal of invasive species, sediment removal from the creek, and the establishment of a native prairie to support biodiversity and ecosystem health.

The effective management of the floodplain is essential to reducing flood risks and maintaining the integrity of surrounding infrastructure and properties. By removing invasive species and promoting the growth of native plants, the project will strengthen the floodplain's ability to absorb stormwater and reduce erosion. This approach not only mitigates immediate environmental hazards but also enhances the long-term resilience of the area, providing a buffer against future flooding while supporting a healthy, diverse ecosystem.



Output Measures	Units	Site Unit Values
Tree Planting	Number	854
Land Restoration		
Wetland	Acre	24.5ac
Prairie	Acre	n/a
Forest	Acre	n/a
Land Preservation	Acre	
Conservation Easement Only	Acre	24.5ac
Purchase + Conservation Easement	Acre	n/a
Stream Restoration		
Length	Linear Feet	3,854.72
Channel width from top of bank	Linear Feet	n/a
Additional riparian	Acre	10.8ac
Trail Construction		
Length of Trail	Linear Feet	n/a
Surface type		n/a
LED Lighting	Linear Feet	n/a
Adjacent Restoration Areas	Acre	n/a
E-bike incentive (will be calculated for the region)	n/a	n/a
Total		n/a

Site Description	Site Information Response
Coalition Member (Eligible Entity)	City of Springdale
Partner/NGO (if applicable)	IRWP
Site/Project Name	Spring Creek /Thunder Chicken
Overall Site/Project Size (Acres)	35.3ac
Description of Ownership (public/private /type of existing easement, etc.)	Public
LIDAC Area (Y/N)	N
LIDAC Coverage (0 to 100%)	0%
NWA Bike Ped Plan Priority (Y/N)	
NWA Open Space Plan Priority (Y/N)	100%
Other Plan Priority (Name of Plan)	

6 Spring Creek at the Greenway Forest, Stream, and Riparian Restoration & Preservation (Spring Creek at the Greenway – Springdale)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

City of Springdale (Springdale)*
Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT)*

Geographic Location: Springdale, Washington County, Arkansas

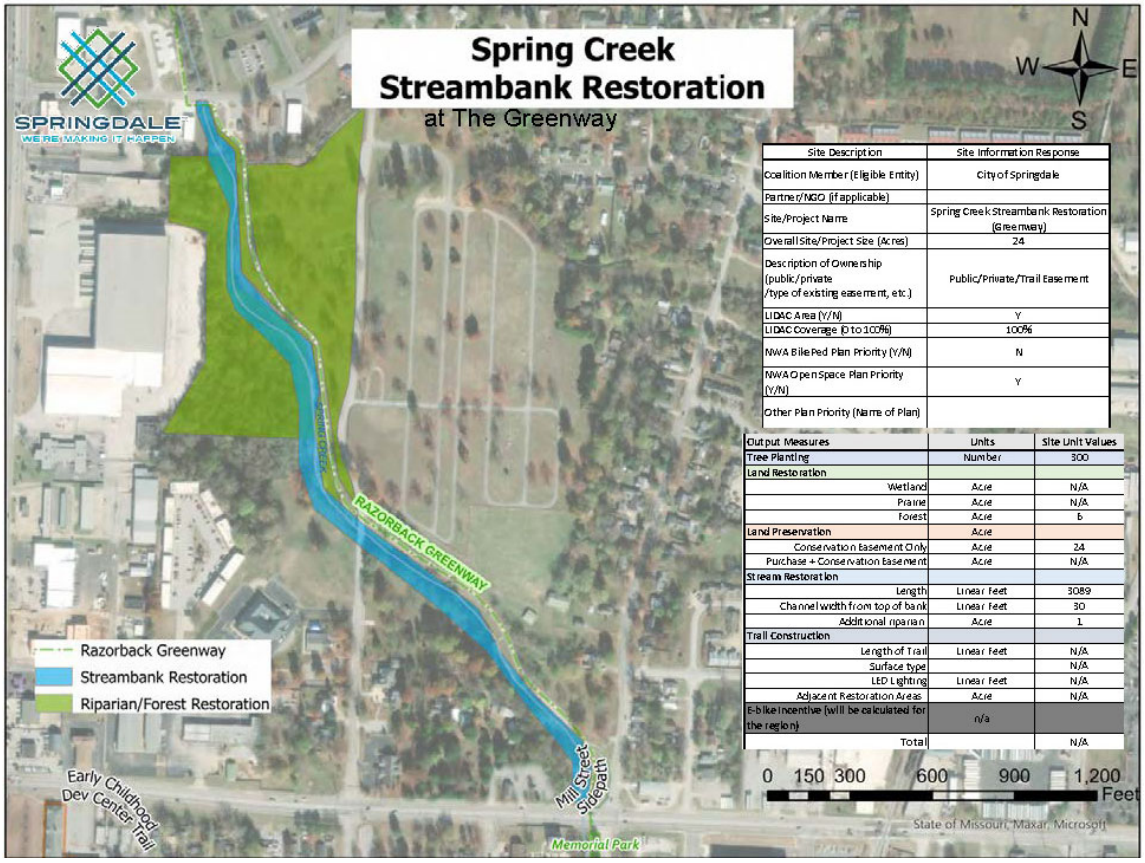
Total Project Cost: $1,026,995

Land Restoration (including tree plantings): $39,000
Stream Restoration: $930,495
Conservation Easement – NWALT: $57,500

Project Description: The Spring Creek Greenway Forest, Stream, and Riparian Restoration and Preservation project focuses on critical restoration and conservation efforts for sections of Spring Creek, which runs through the heart of Springdale, Arkansas, alongside the Razorback Greenway Trail. Located entirely within a Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community (LIDAC), this project is essential to both the environmental and social fabric of the area. The section of Spring Creek between Huntsville Road and Sanders Avenue has been identified for urgent restoration due to ongoing erosion and structural degradation. Streambank restoration is crucial not only for the preservation of the creek but also to ensure the long-term stability of the Razorback Greenway Trail, which runs parallel to the creek. Repairs to compromised retaining walls and fences will be necessary to prevent further erosion, protect properties, and maintain the usability of the trail.

In addition to addressing these structural concerns, the project will involve the reforestation of surrounding areas, enhancing carbon sequestration and improving the health and well-being of local residents by maintaining access to natural green spaces. Through these efforts, the project is estimated to sequester 2,594 metric tons of CO_2 equivalent ($MTCO_2e$) between 2025 and 2030. The project's budget includes $39,000 for land restoration (including tree planting), $930,495 for streambank restoration, and $57,500 for a conservation easement. These efforts will protect 24 acres of forested land and an additional acre of riparian zone, ensuring that the natural beauty and ecological integrity of the Razorback Greenway are preserved for future generations.

Partnering with the Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT), this project supports the long-term conservation of these natural areas. It also aligns with larger regional goals of flood mitigation, climate resilience, and public access to green spaces, making it a vital investment in both community infrastructure and environmental sustainability.



Site Description	Site Information Response
Coalition Member (Eligible Entity)	City of Springdale
Partner/NGO (if applicable)	
Site/Project Name	Spring Creek Streambank Restoration (Greenway)
Overall Site/Project Size (Acres)	24
Description of Ownership (public/private /type of existing easement, etc.)	Public/Private/Trail Easement
LIDAC Area (Y/N)	Y
LIDAC Coverage (0 to 100%)	100%
NWA Bike Ped Plan Priority (Y/N)	N
NWA Open Space Plan Priority (Y/N)	Y
Other Plan Priority (Name of Plan)	

Output Measures	Units	Site Unit Values
Tree Planting	Number	300
Land Restoration		
Wetland	Acre	N/A
Prairie	Acre	N/A
Forest	Acre	6
Land Preservation	Acre	
Conservation Easement Only	Acre	24
Purchase + Conservation Easement	Acre	N/A
Stream Restoration		
Length	Linear Feet	3089
Channel width from top of bank	Linear Feet	30
Additional riparian	Acre	1
Trail Construction		
Length of Trail	Linear Feet	N/A
Surface type		N/A
LED Lighting	Linear Feet	N/A
Adjacent Restoration Areas	Acre	N/A
E-bike Incentive (will be calculated for the region)	n/a	
Total		N/A

7 Spring Creek at Downtown Preservation (Downtown Spring Creek – Springdale)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

City of Springdale (Springdale)*
Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT)*

Geographic Location: Springdale, Washington County, Arkansas

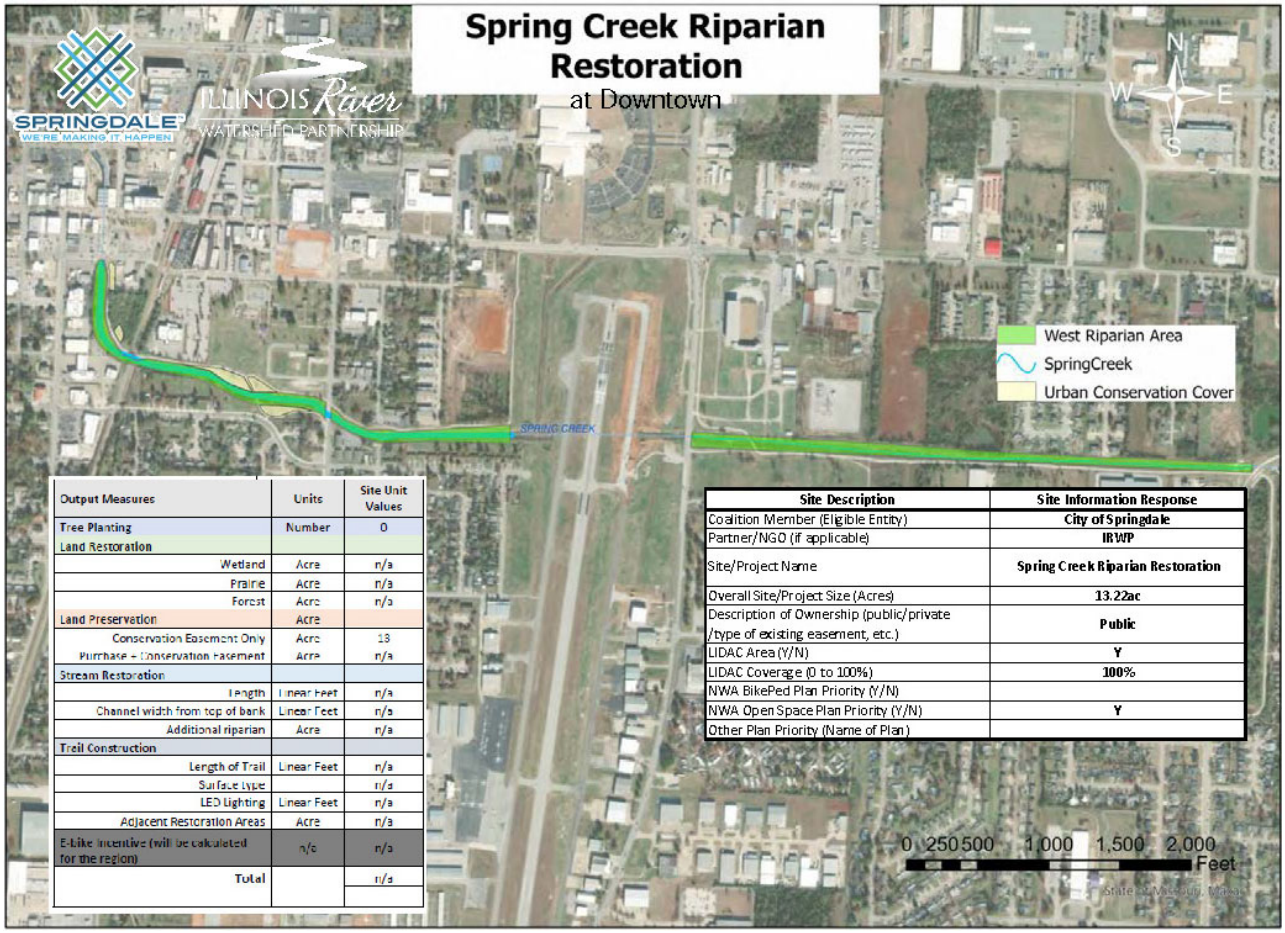
Total Project Cost: $57,500

Conservation Easement – NWALT: $57,500

Project Description: The *Downtown Spring Creek* preservation project focuses on protecting a critical riparian corridor in Springdale, Washington County, Arkansas, with the primary goal of maintaining floodplain integrity and reducing flood risks for downstream areas. The project is located in a community classified as 100% Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community (LIDAC), where flood mitigation is vital for safeguarding homes and businesses. This project will place 11 acres of riparian habitat and 1 acre of prairie, which are currently being restored, into a conservation easement. By doing so, it ensures long-term protection of these areas, preserving their floodplain functions and reducing the likelihood of future flood damage.

The Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT) will oversee the conservation easement, guaranteeing that these 12 acres remain undeveloped and accessible to the public for generations to come. The preservation efforts will also contribute to regional flood management strategies, as the project connects to a recently completed regional detention pond, funded in part by a hazard mitigation grant, and will help protect land along the Greenway Regional Trail and Luther George Park.

With a project budget of $57,500, this initiative allocates $50,000 for the conservation easement and $7,500 for administrative fees. In addition to its flood mitigation and land preservation benefits, the project is expected to sequester approximately 407 metric tons of CO2 equivalent (MTCO2e) from 2025 to 2030, contributing to local carbon reduction goals. In addition to reducing carbon emissions, the primary focus of this project is to protect the community by preserving the floodplain and ensuring its ability to mitigate future flood risks.



Output Measures	Units	Site Unit Values
Tree Planting	Number	0
Land Restoration		
Wetland	Acre	n/a
Prairie	Acre	n/a
Forest	Acre	n/a
Land Preservation	Acre	
Conservation Easement Only	Acre	13
Purchase + Conservation Easement	Acre	n/a
Stream Restoration		
Length	Linear Feet	n/a
Channel width from top of bank	Linear Feet	n/a
Additional riparian	Acre	n/a
Trail Construction		
Length of Trail	Linear Feet	n/a
Surface type		n/a
LED Lighting	Linear Feet	n/a
Adjacent Restoration Areas	Acre	n/a
E-bike incentive (will be calculated for the region)	n/a	n/a
Total		n/a

Site Description	Site Information Response
Coalition Member (Eligible Entity)	**City of Springdale**
Partner/NGO (if applicable)	**IRWP**
Site/Project Name	**Spring Creek Riparian Restoration**
Overall Site/Project Size (Acres)	**13.22ac**
Description of Ownership (public/private /type of existing easement, etc.)	**Public**
LIDAC Area (Y/N)	**Y**
LIDAC Coverage (0 to 100%)	**100%**
NWA BikePed Plan Priority (Y/N)	
NWA Open Space Plan Priority (Y/N)	**Y**
Other Plan Priority (Name of Plan)	

8 Willie George Park Wetland Restoration & Trail Construction (Willie George Park – Springdale)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:
City of Springdale (Springdale)*
Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT)*

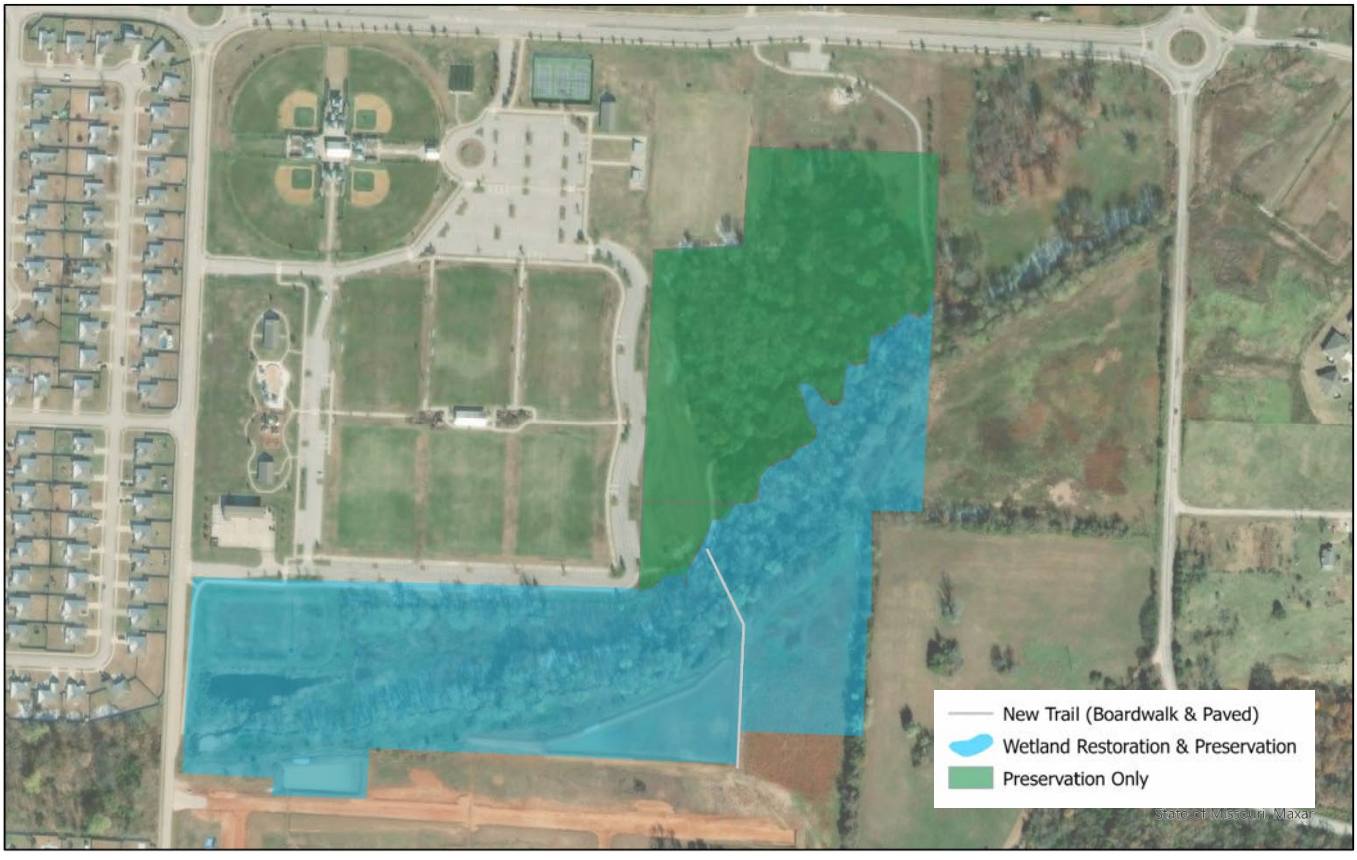
Geographic Location: Springdale, Washington County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $682,700
Restoration: $246,815
Trail Implementation: $378,400
Conservation Easement – NWALT: $57,500

Project Description: The Willie George Park Wetland Restoration & Trail Construction project is designed to address significant issues related to downstream flooding and reducing property loss in the surrounding area due to erosion. The project will restore a historical wetland within a 34-acre naturalized area to help stabilize the floodplain, which is vital in mitigating erosion and controlling stormwater flows. By restoring natural floodplain functions, the project will reduce the risk of flooding, protecting properties downstream from further damage while also improving water quality in Clear Creek, which is listed on the 303d list.

In addition to these protective measures, the project includes the design and construction of nearly 600 linear feet of boardwalk and trail through the wetland, offering public access to the restored area and connecting Willie George Park to a nearby subdivision. While the focus is on reducing property damage, the trail also provides an opportunity for residents to engage with and learn about the area's natural environment. The Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT) will place a conservation easement on the entire project site, securing the land for long-term floodplain management and preventing soil loss due to erosion.

The project's budget of $682,700 includes $246,815 for restoration, $378,400 for trail construction, $57,500 for land protection through the conservation easement. Additionally, the project is expected to sequester 3,018 metric tons of CO2 equivalent (MTCO2e) from 2025 to 2030. This project will help safeguard the community from property damage by restoring wetland functions and managing stormwater effectively and increase water quality in the watershed.



9 Lower Clear Creek Stream Restoration (Lower Clear Creek – Springdale)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:
City of Springdale (Springdale)*

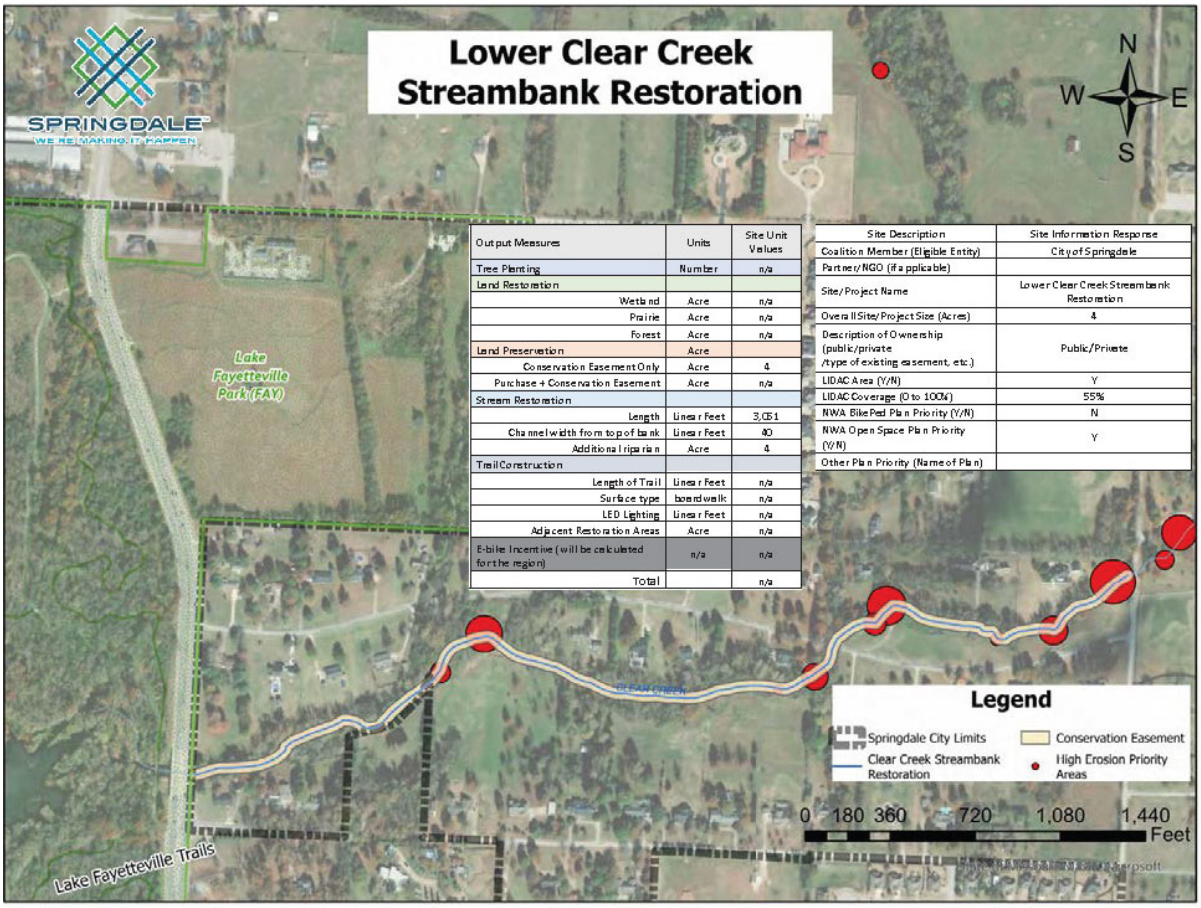
Geographic Location: Springdale, Washington County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $1,597,000
Stream Restoration: $1,539,500
Conservation Easement – Springdale: $57,500

Project Description: The *Lower Clear Creek Streambank Restoration and Conservation* project addresses high-priority erosion areas identified in previous studies, focusing on the restoration of the main creek. The project will target 3,051 linear feet of streambank, with an emphasis on protecting areas most vulnerable to erosion. By reinforcing the streambanks and conserving riparian areas, this project will strengthen the floodplain and mitigate the loss of property due to flooding and continued erosion. In addition, since Clear Creek flows into Lake Fayetteville, addressing erosion will help reduce nutrient loading into the lake, which is crucial in combating Harmful Algae Blooms. Clear Creek is currently listed on the 303d impaired waters list, further underscoring the importance of this restoration effort.

Located within the Northwest Arkansas Open Space Priority Plan, this project spans 13 acres of stream and riparian zones and lies within an area that is 55% designated as Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community (LIDAC). The project will not only improve water quality but will also provide long-term environmental benefits by preserving the floodplain and reducing flood risks. This will also target the high priority areas identified in previous studies. There is an existing conservation easement that will help ensure the area remains protected and undeveloped.

The total cost for the stream restoration is $1,539,500, with an additional $57,500 allocated for the conservation easement title searches and administrative fees. The project is expected to sequester approximately 1,500 metric tons of CO2 equivalent (MTCO2e) between 2025 and 2050, contributing to regional carbon reduction goals and reduce property loss due to erosion. Regionally, the City has agreed to partner with the City of Fayetteville to pursue the EPA Community Change Grant for the Lake Fayetteville Project for future opportunity to continually protect our communities.



Output Measures	Units	Site Unit Values
Tree Planting	Number	n/a
Land Restoration		
Wetland	Acre	n/a
Prairie	Acre	n/a
Forest	Acre	n/a
Land Preservation	Acre	
Conservation Easement Only	Acre	4
Purchase + Conservation Easement	Acre	n/a
Stream Restoration		
Length	Linear Feet	3,051
Channel width from top of bank	Linear Feet	40
Additional riparian	Acre	4
Trail Construction		
Length of Trail	Linear Feet	n/a
Surface type	boardwalk	n/a
LED Lighting	Linear Feet	n/a
Adjacent Restoration Areas	Acre	n/a
E-bike Incentive (will be calculated for the region)	n/a	n/a
Total		n/a

Site Description	Site Information Response
Coalition Member (Eligible Entity)	City of Springdale
Partner/NGO (if applicable)	
Site/Project Name	Lower Clear Creek Streambank Restoration
Overall Site/Project Size (Acres)	4
Description of Ownership (public/private /type of existing easement, etc.)	Public/Private
LIDAC Area (Y/N)	Y
LIDAC Coverage (0 to 100%)	55%
NWA Bike Ped Plan Priority (Y/N)	N
NWA Open Space Plan Priority (Y/N)	Y
Other Plan Priority (Name of Plan)	

10 Clear Creek-Johnson Park Riparian, Prairie, & Forest Restoration (Johnson Park)

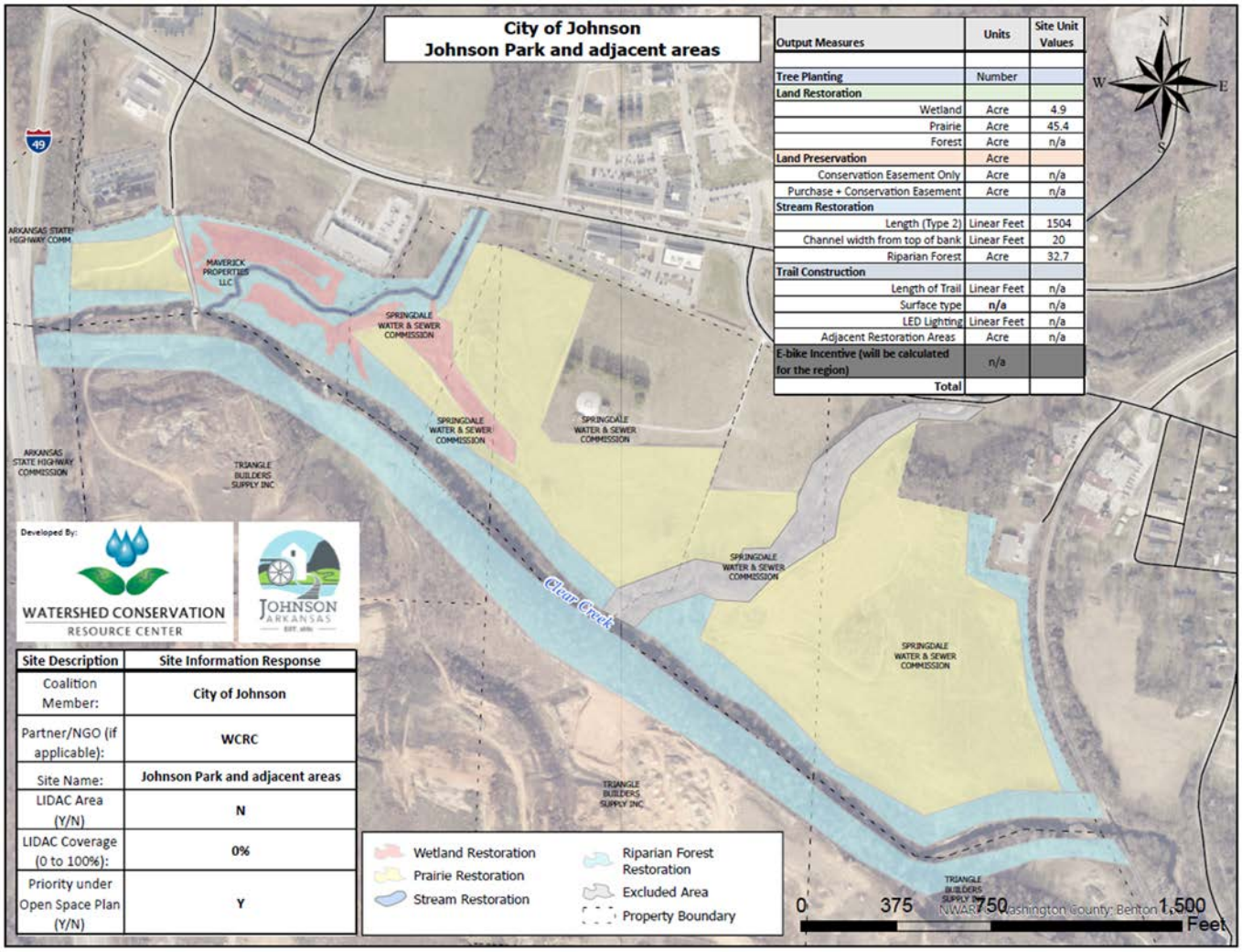
Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:
Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC)*
City of Johnson (Johnson)

Geographic Location: Johnson, Washington County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $782,345
Restoration – WCRC

Project Description: The Johnson Park project is located on property owned by the City of Springdale, but under a long-term lease with the City of Johnson. The City of Johnson manages the site as a natural area, and there are walking trails throughout the property where residents and visitors walk and cycle. The Johnson Park is near a federally designated Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community (LIDAC) census tract. Historically managed as pasture, several natural features traverse the property including springs and wetlands. In addition, Clear Creek borders the southern end of the property. The City of Johnson wants to restore the natural features on the property for residents to enjoy as a nature park. Clear Creek is a major tributary to the Illinois River, and the environmental restoration of natural features will improve and protect upper Clear Creek watershed. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 12,337 metric tons during 2025-2050.

The WCRC will conduct land restoration, which consists of 32.7 acres of riparian, 4.9 acres of wetland, and 45.4 acres of prairie restoration in the project area. In addition, 1,504 feet of stream will be restored. If funding allows, additional riparian areas and tributaries in the vicinity of trout springs and will be restored.



11 University of Arkansas Oak Ridge Hillside Prairie and Forest Restoration and Trail Construction (UofA Oak Ridge)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

University of Arkansas (UofA)*
Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC)*
City of Fayetteville (Fayetteville)

Geographic Location: Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas

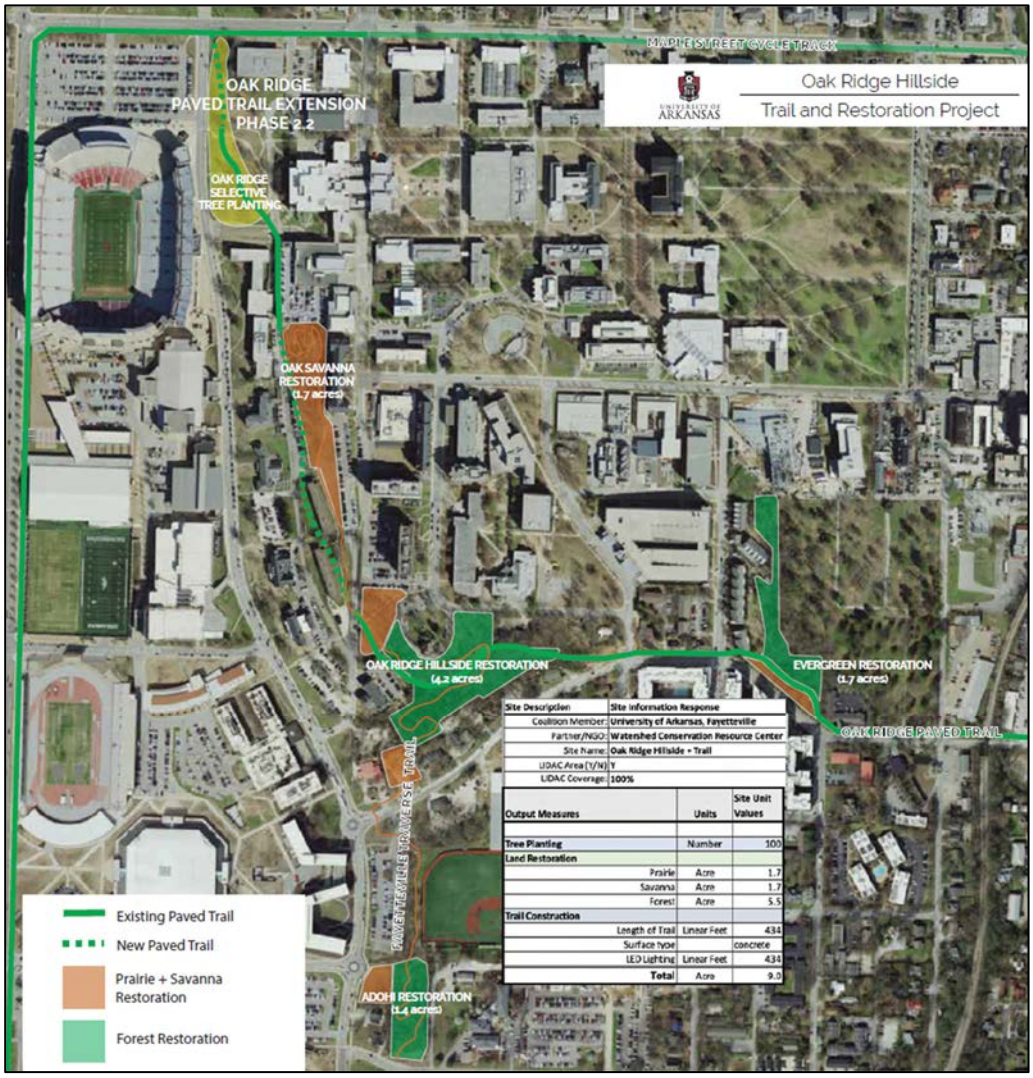
Total Project Cost: $686,430

Land Restoration – WCRC: $65,550
Trail Construction – UofA: $620,880

Project Description: The University of Arkansas Oak Ridge project will take place on the main campus of the University of Arkansas, the state of Arkansas' flagship land-grant institution. The land is owned by the University of Arkansas and is already home to segments of the Oak Ridge paved trail and the Fayetteville Traverse 18-mile mountain bike loop. The project is entirely within a federally designated Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community (LIDAC) census tract. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 453 metric tons during 2025-2030.

The University will design and build a key section of the Oak Ridge paved trail across a challenging hillside, which will connect to existing paved trails on both ends. The Oak Ridge Paved Trail combined with the Maple Street Cycle Track and Razorback Regional Greenway, will form a complete loop of trail around the main campus. The new section of trail built through this grant will be illuminated at night and parallels the Fayetteville Traverse natural surface trail to create options for the many trail users.

In addition, the WCRC will coordinate land restoration, which consists of 5.5 acres of forest, 1.7 acres of savanna, and 1.7 acres of prairie restoration throughout the UofA Natural Character Zone, as identified in the UofA Campus Landscape Manual. These natural landscapes not only provide valuable ecosystem services, but create opportunities for environmental education, environmental research, and quality of life recreation for generations of University of Arkansas students.



Site Description	Site Information Response
Coalition Member:	University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
Partner/NGO:	Watershed Conservation Resource Center
Site Name:	Oak Ridge Hillside + Trail
LIDAC Area (Y/N):	Y
LIDAC Coverage:	100%

Output Measures	Units	Site Unit Values
Tree Planting	Number	100
Land Restoration		
Prairie	Acre	1.7
Savanna	Acre	1.7
Forest	Acre	5.5
Trail Construction		
Length of Trail	Linear Feet	434
Surface type		concrete
LED Lighting	Linear Feet	434
Total	Acre	9.0

12 River Commons Floodplain, Prairie, and Riparian Restoration, Preservation, and Trail Construction (River Commons – Fayetteville)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC)*
City of Fayetteville (Fayetteville)*
Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT)*
Beaver Water District (BWD)

Geographic Location: Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $4,254,743

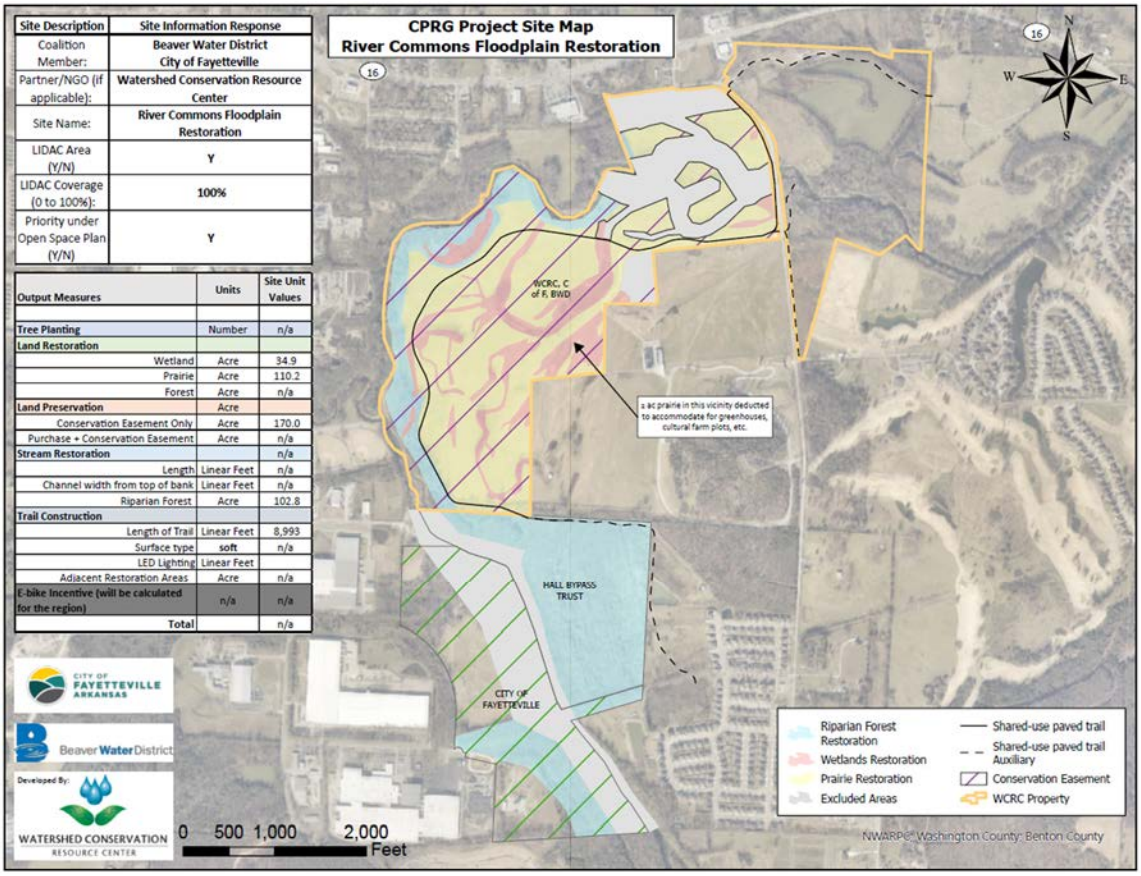
Restoration – WCRC: $1,598,443
Trail Implementation – Fayetteville: $2,598,800
Conservation Easement – NWALT: $57,500

Project Description: The River Commons project centers on a 200-acre parcel located along the West Fork of the White River (WFWR) in southeast Fayetteville and is owned by the Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC), Beaver Water District, and City of Fayetteville (Fayetteville). The WCRC is responsible for stewardship and management of the property and development of public access. Additional riparian restoration will be conducted upstream of the River Commons area (Figure 1.) Purchased in 2023, the goals of the River Commons property are to 1) restore and preserve the floodplain and its unique habitats to improve and protect water quality in the Beaver Lake Watershed, which serves as the region's primary drinking water source and 2) create public access through trail connectivity to the natural area for the community. The project lies entirely within a federally designated Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community (LIDAC) census tract. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 41,552 metric tons during 2025-2050.

The WCRC will conduct land restoration, which consists of 102.8 acres of riparian, 34.9 acres of wetland, and 110.2 acres of prairie restoration in the project area. Fayetteville will design and construct approximately 8,993 feet of trail, and the NWALT will develop a conservation easement for the River Commons property. If funding allows, additional trail will be constructed. The land restoration and trail ties directly to the development of a riverside park and Combs Park, which is currently in the design phase. The park development and its connection to the River Commons will help to complete what will become a "Regional Water Trail or Blueway," that extends south to Brentwood and north to the White River at AR Highway 45.

Site Description	Site Information Response
Coalition Member:	Beaver Water District City of Fayetteville
Partner/NGO (if applicable):	Watershed Conservation Resource Center
Site Name:	River Commons Floodplain Restoration
LIDAC Area (Y/N)	Y
LIDAC Coverage (0 to 100%):	100%
Priority under Open Space Plan (Y/N)	Y

Output Measures	Units	Site Unit Values
Tree Planting	Number	n/a
Land Restoration		
Wetland	Acre	34.9
Prairie	Acre	110.2
Forest	Acre	n/a
Land Preservation	Acre	
Conservation Easement Only	Acre	170.0
Purchase + Conservation Easement	Acre	n/a
Stream Restoration		n/a
Length	Linear Feet	n/a
Channel width from top of bank	Linear Feet	n/a
Riparian Forest	Acre	102.8
Trail Construction		
Length of Trail	Linear Feet	8,993
Surface type	soft	n/a
LED Lighting	Linear Feet	
Adjacent Restoration Areas	Acre	n/a
E-bike Incentive (will be calculated for the region)	n/a	n/a
Total		n/a



13 Town Branch Corridor Stream and Riparian Restoration and Preservation (Town Branch – Fayetteville)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC)*
Northwest Arkansas Land Trust*
City of Fayetteville (Fayetteville)

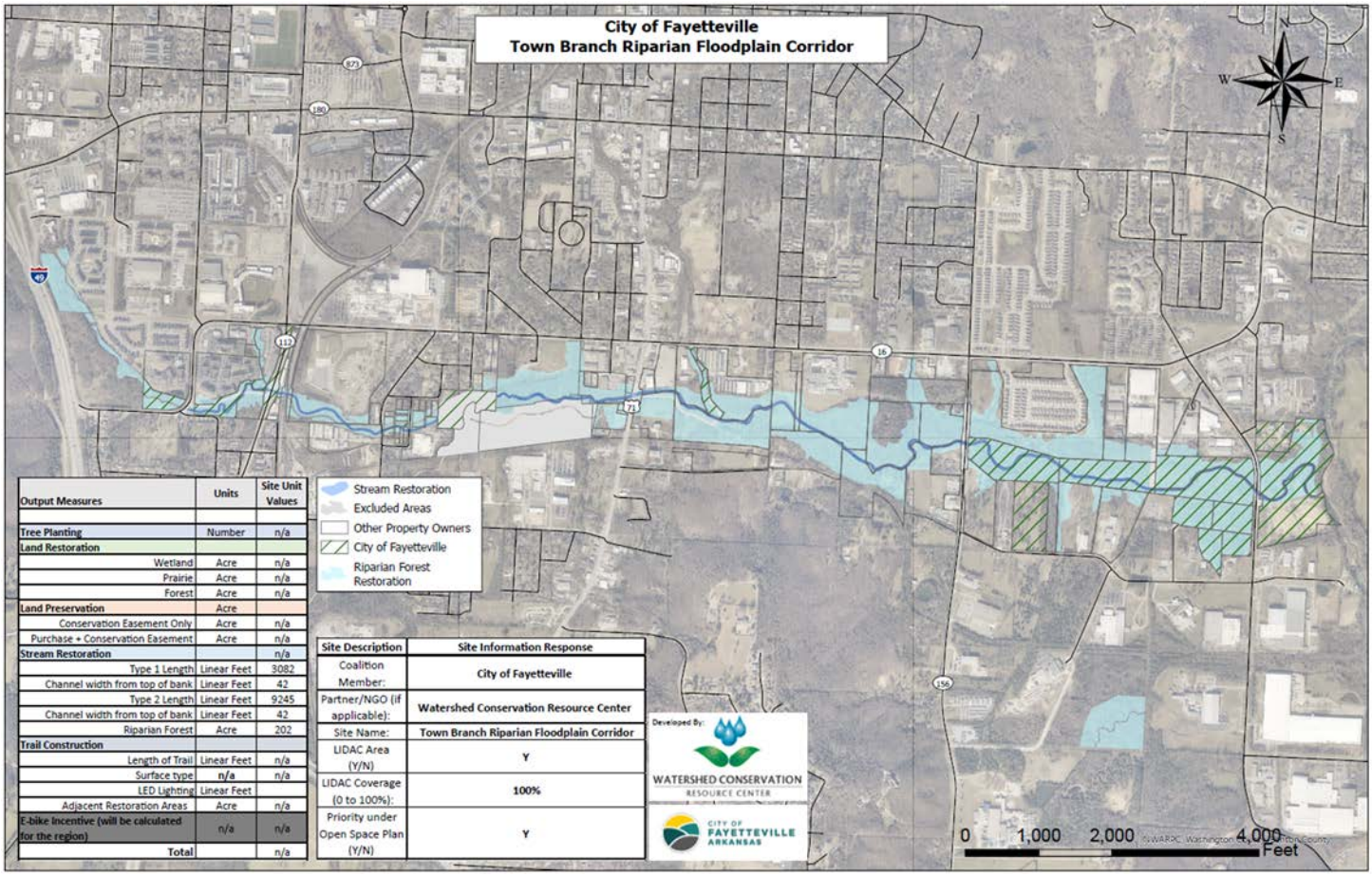
Geographic Location: Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $5,230,516

Restoration – WCRC: $5,173,016
Conservation Easement – NWALT: $57,500

Project Description: The Town Branch - Fayetteville project is located along Town Branch, a tributary to the West Fork of the White River (WFWR) in Fayetteville, Arkansas. The Razorback Greenway runs throughout the project area. The WCRC is working with the City of Fayetteville to restore 12,327 feet of degraded stream and 202 acres of degraded riparian area. The project is entirely within a federally designated Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community (LIDAC) census tract. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 51,849 metric tons during 2025-2050.

Restoration of this highly urbanized area will reconnect residents to the spring-fed stream and tributaries, while creating green infrastructure that will filter and retain pollutants from stormwater runoff. The project also protects the waters of Beaver Lake, the drinking water source for Northwest Arkansas. NWALT will develop a conservation easement. If funding allows, additional restoration will be conducted in riparian areas along tributaries to Town Branch.



Output Measures	Units	Site Unit Values
Tree Planting	Number	n/a
Land Restoration		
Wetland	Acre	n/a
Prairie	Acre	n/a
Forest	Acre	n/a
Land Preservation	Acre	
Conservation Easement Only	Acre	n/a
Purchase + Conservation Easement	Acre	n/a
Stream Restoration		n/a
Type 1 Length	Linear Feet	3082
Channel width from top of bank	Linear Feet	42
Type 2 Length	Linear Feet	9245
Channel width from top of bank	Linear Feet	42
Riparian Forest	Acre	202
Trail Construction		
Length of Trail	Linear Feet	n/a
Surface type	n/a	n/a
LED Lighting	Linear Feet	
Adjacent Restoration Areas	Acre	n/a
E-bike incentive (will be calculated for the region)	n/a	n/a
Total		n/a

Site Description	Site Information Response
Coalition Member:	City of Fayetteville
Partner/NGO (if applicable):	Watershed Conservation Resource Center
Site Name:	Town Branch Riparian Floodplain Corridor
LIDAC Area (Y/N)	Y
LIDAC Coverage (0 to 100%):	100%
Priority under Open Space Plan (Y/N)	Y

14 University of Arkansas AR Research & Tech Park Floodplain, Prairie, and Forest Restoration (ARTP – UofA)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

University of Arkansas (UofA)
Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC)*
City of Fayetteville (Fayetteville)

Geographic Location: Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas

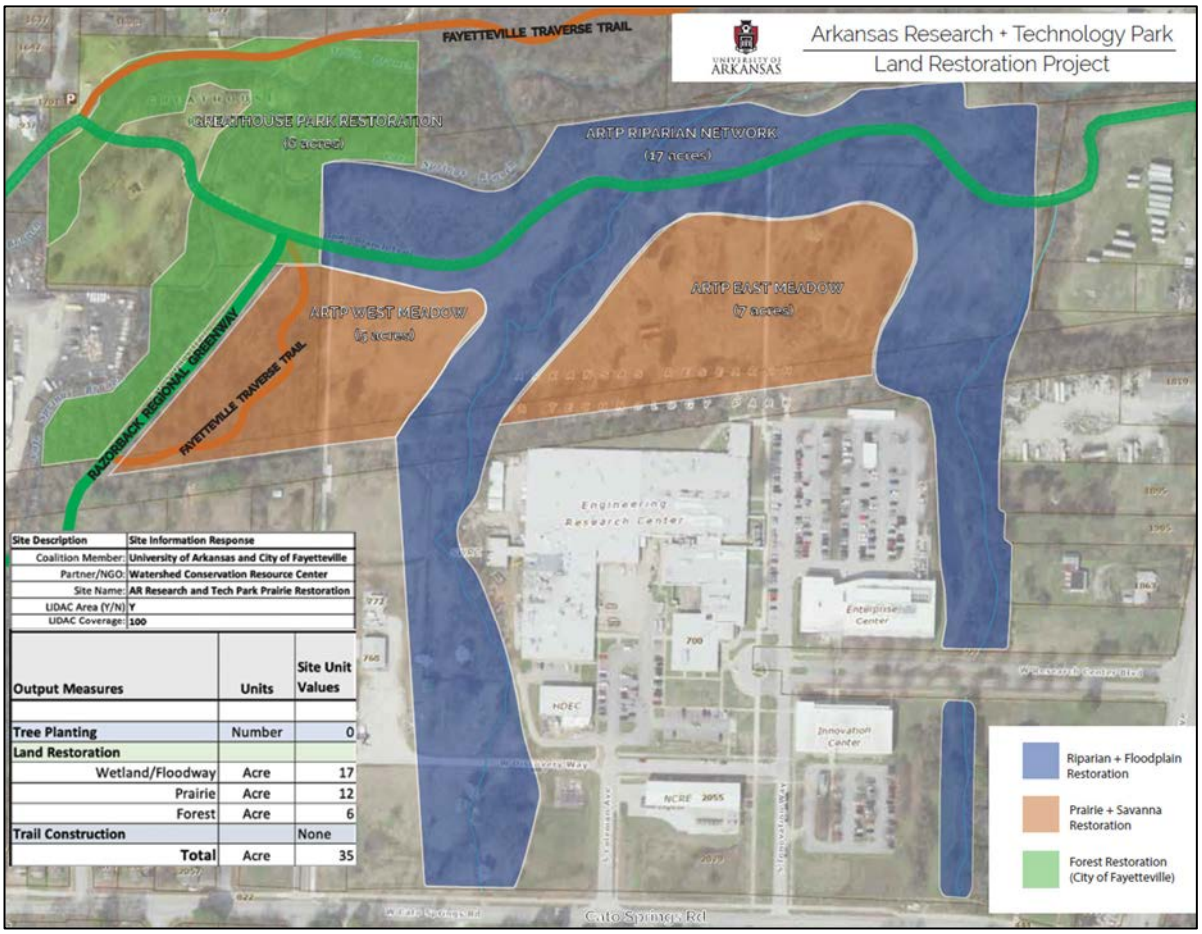
Total Project Cost: $290,950

Land Restoration – WCRC: $290,950

Project Description: The University of Arkansas (U of A) Arkansas Research and Technology Park (ARTP) restoration project will take place along the tributaries, streams, and trails in the natural spaces at ARTP. The 120+ acre campus of the ARTP features Three multi-tenant facilities and three multi-disciplinary research facilities comprising approximately 285,000 square feet of R&D capacity. Over 400 faculty, students and industry work at the park each day at and the natural setting is part of the draw for employees and visitors alike.

The park is already home to segments of the Razorback Regional Greenway paved trail and the Fayetteville Traverse 18-mi mountain bike trail. Greathouse Park, on the NW corner of ARTP, is owned and managed by the City of Fayetteville. In addition, the Town Branch Corridor CPRG project serves as the north border of ARTP. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 970 metric tons during 2025-2030.

The Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC) will coordinate the land restoration, which consists of 17 acres of riparian/floodplain, 6 acres of forest, and 12 acres of prairie restoration in the project area. This will formalize a green network within ARTP which can compliment and influence future development patterns within the park. The restored land and waterways will not only increase the ecosystem services provided by the park but will create an inspiring backdrop for ARTP's innovative tenants.



Site Description	Site Information Response
Coalition Member:	University of Arkansas and City of Fayetteville
Partner/NGO:	Watershed Conservation Resource Center
Site Name:	AR Research and Tech Park Prairie Restoration
LIDAC Area (Y/N):	Y
LIDAC Coverage:	100

Output Measures	Units	Site Unit Values
Tree Planting	Number	0
Land Restoration		
Wetland/Floodway	Acre	17
Prairie	Acre	12
Forest	Acre	6
Trail Construction		None
Total	Acre	35

15 University of Arkansas Oak Knoll Wetland, Prairie, Forest, Stream, and Riparian Restoration (Oak Knoll – UofA)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

University of Arkansas (UofA)
Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC)*
City of Fayetteville (Fayetteville)

Geographic Location: Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas

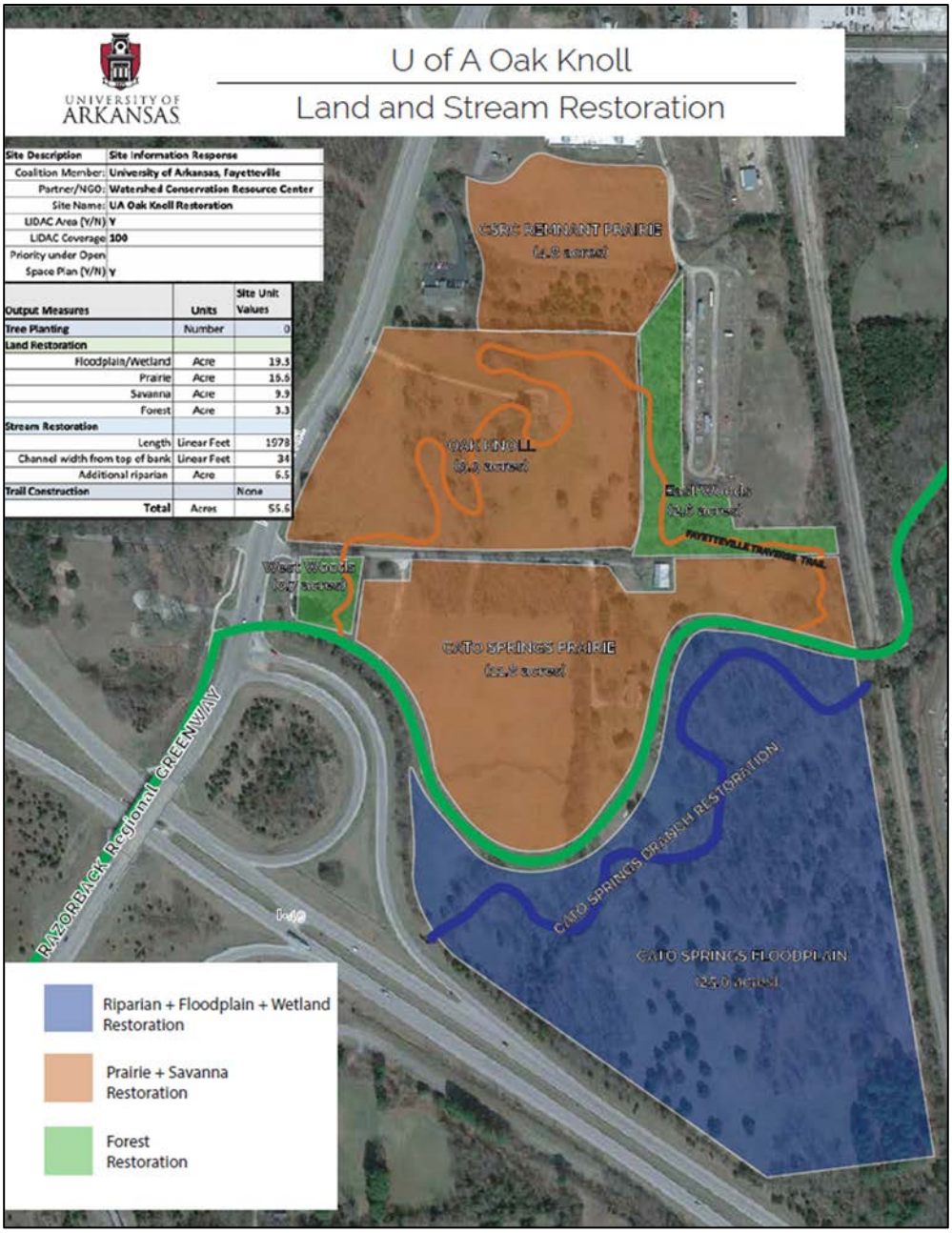
Total Project Cost: $1,425,770

Land and Stream Restoration - WCRC

0**Project Description:** The University of Arkansas Oak Knoll project will take place on a 56-acre remnant ecosystem located along Cato Springs Branch in southwest Fayetteville. The land is owned by the University of Arkansas (U of A) and is already home to segments of the Razorback Regional Greenway paved trail and the Fayetteville Traverse 18-mi mountain bike trail. The project is entirely within a federally designated Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community (LIDAC) census tract. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 1,734 metric tons during 2025-2030.

This site has been used for U of A research and educational activities in recent years. This project is an exciting opportunity to enhance both the aesthetic and ecological characteristics of this unique site, which serves as key landmark to Fayetteville visitors approaching from the south.

The WCRC will administer and conduct land restoration, which consists of 26 acres of riparian, 3 acres of forest, 10 acres of savanna, and 17 acres of prairie. In addition, the riparian and streambank zone along the Cato Springs Branch, which traverses through the site, will be restored and reforested.



16 Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park Prairie, Wetland, and Riparian Restoration (Prairie Grove Battlefield)

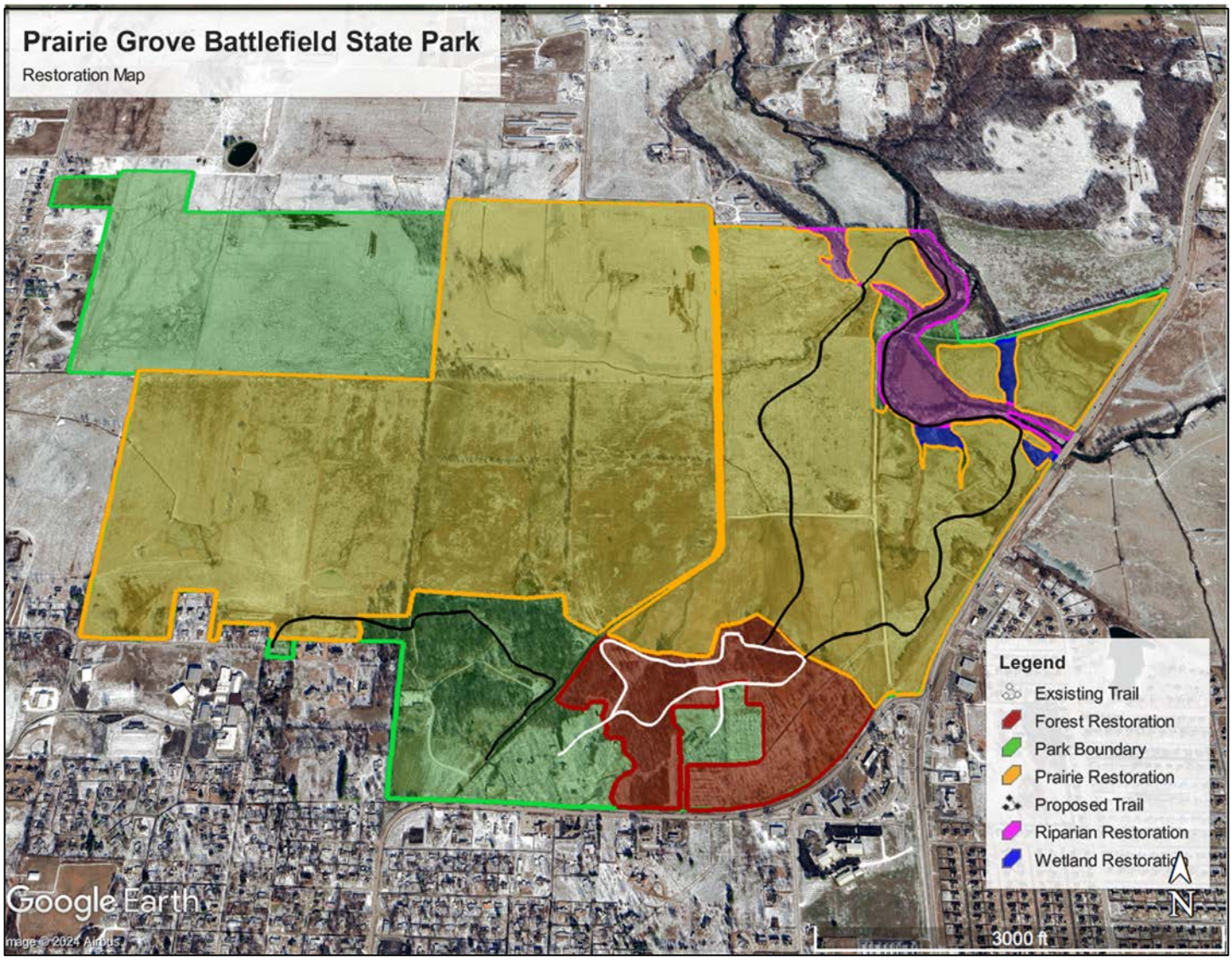
Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:
Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP)*

Geographic Location: Prairie Grove, Washington County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $2,860,050

Project Description: Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park (PGBSP) is a 1,000 acre State Park located along the main stem of the Illinois River in Prairie Grove, Arkansas. The Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP) is responsible for development of a conservation plan and implementation of restoration practices on the park lands. The IRWP's mission is to improve water quality in the Illinois River, a priority watershed in the state of Arkansas, through ecological restoration and land stewardship.

The IRWP will conduct land restoration on 730 of the park's total acres, which consists of approximately 27 acres of riparian, 3 acres of wetland, 50 acres of forest, and 650 acres of prairie restoration in the project area. An additional 160 acres of prairie are recommended for future restoration, following the conditions of a life estate. A mowed trail will be integrated into the project to provide public access to the restored areas and create a connection with Prairie Grove Public Schools. As a state park, the restored lands will be protected in perpetuity. Landowner agreement(s) will be established to restore additional acreage to achieve a minimum of 830 acres of land restored and an estimated 10,457 metric tons of carbon sequestration during 2025-2030.



17 West Fork White River Wetland, Prairie, Stream and Riparian Restoration and Preservation (White River - West Fork)

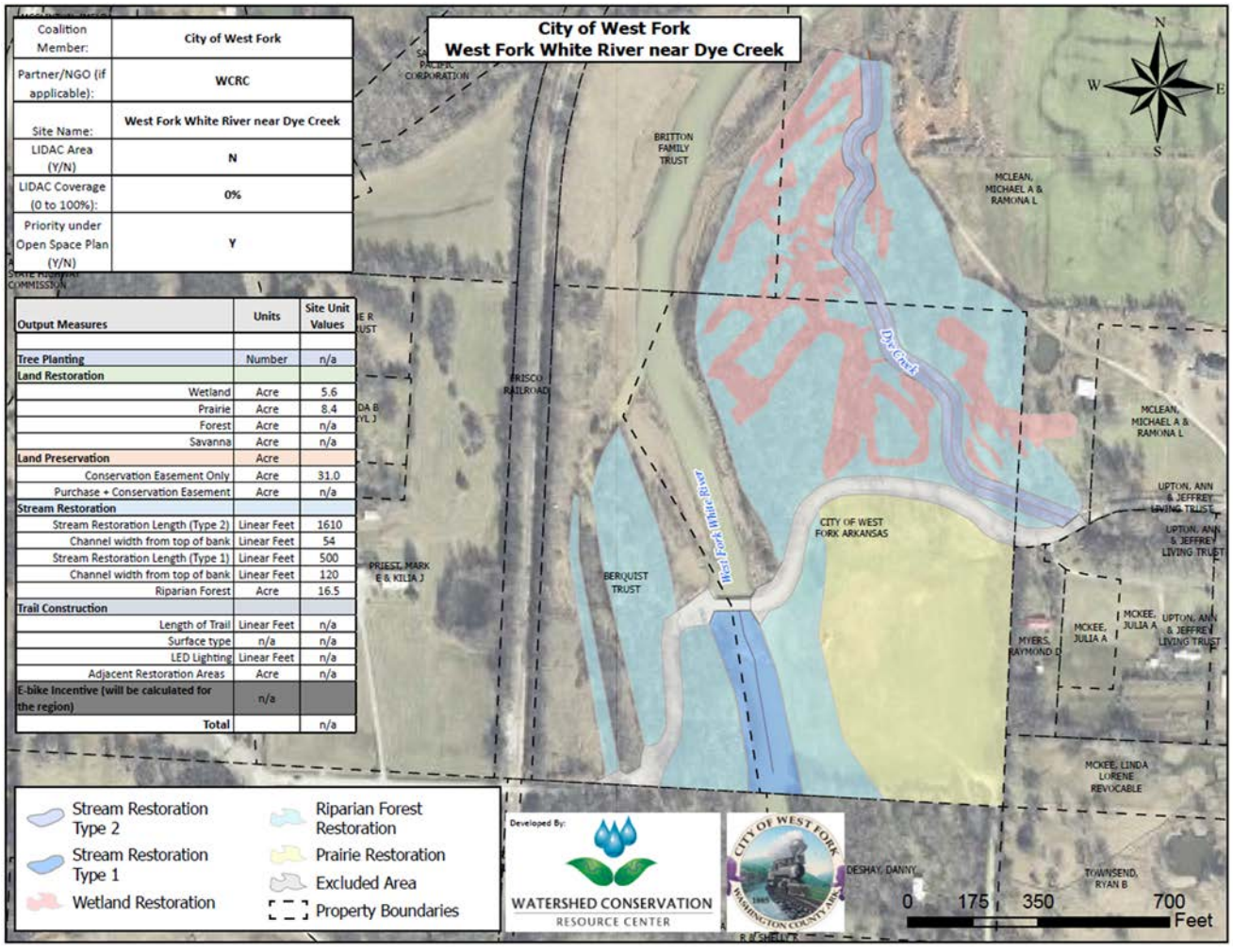
Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:
Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC)*
Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT)*
City of West Fork (West Fork)

Geographic Location: West Fork, Washington County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $808,910
Restoration – WCRC: $751,410
Conservation Easement – NWALT: $57,500

Project Description: The West Fork project is centered on the City of West Fork's property that once was the location for their wastewater treatment facilities. Today, wastewater from the city is piped to the City of Fayetteville's Noland Waste Water Treatment Plant. The wastewater ponds on the property were decommissioned and the degraded floodplain areas have the potential to become a nature park for City residents. The property runs along the West Fork of the White River (WFWR), which is a major tributary to the White River. The White River forms Beaver Lake, which serves as the region's primary drinking water source. Stream, riparian, and prairie restoration will all help to protect water quality within the Beaver Lake Watershed. This project will connect to and enhance a recently completed one-mile-long river restoration project on the WFWR adjacent to and downstream of the project area. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 7,620 metric tons during 2025-2050.

The WCRC will conduct land restoration, which consists of 16.5 acres of riparian, 5.6 acres of wetland, and 8.4 acres of prairie restoration in the project area. The WCRC will restore 1,610 ft of Dye Creek and 500 ft of the West Fork White River. NWALT will develop a conservation easement for the property.



18 Springtown Reforestation Projects (Springtown)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:
Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT)*

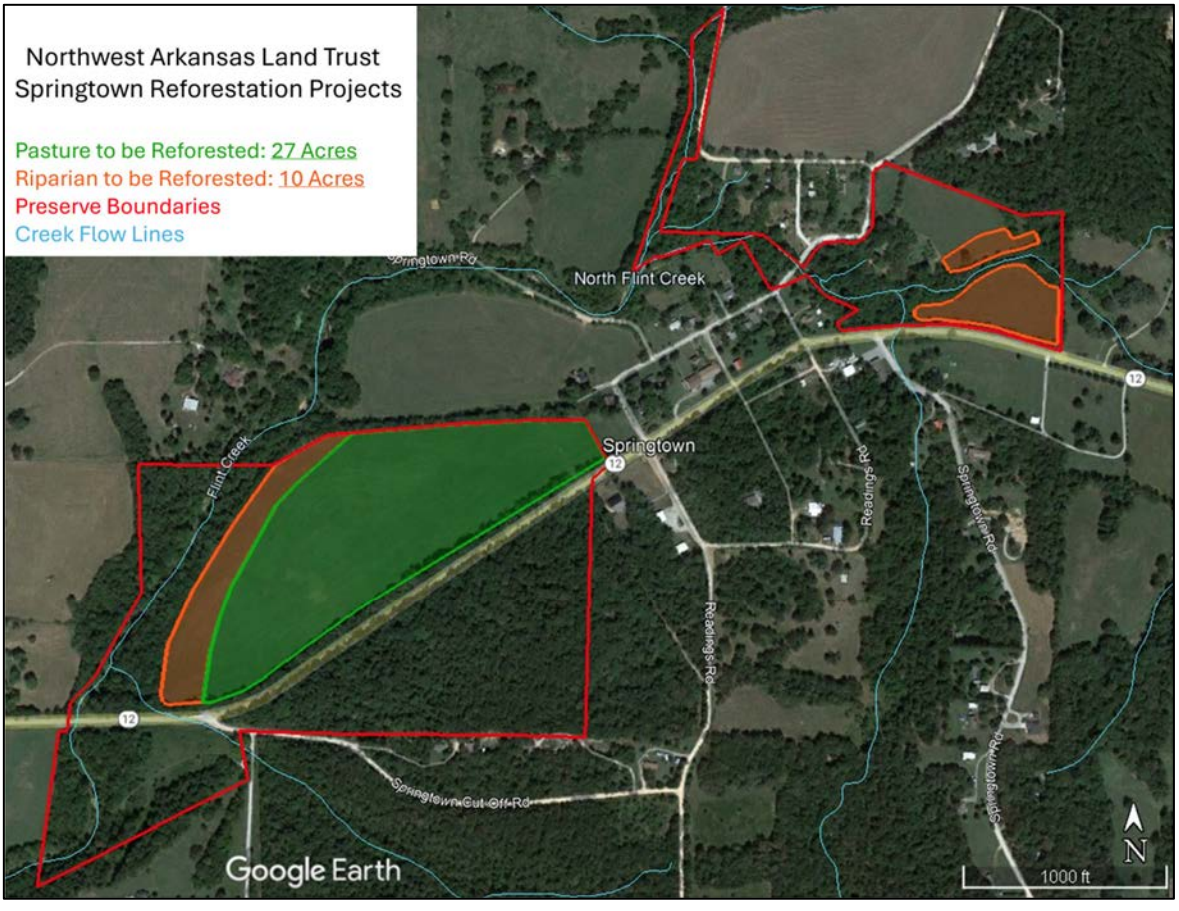
Geographic Location: Springtown, Benton County, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $191,475
Restoration – $166,500
Admin – $24,975

Project Description: The Springtown Reforestation Project focuses on 37 acres in Springtown, AR, located along Flint Creek, a spring-fed tributary of the Illinois River. Of these 37 acres, 32.5 are owned by the Northwest Arkansas Land Trust (NWALT) as part of the larger Flint Creek Preserve, while the remaining 4.5 acres are privately owned and expected to be acquired by NWALT by 2025.

Flint Creek Preserve features wooded riparian buffers along Flint Creek, a 2.26-acre former field currently being restored as pollinator habitat, as well as trails, educational signage, benches, and a kiosk. The preserve provides habitat for the Ozark Cavefish, a federally threatened species, and the endemic Midget Crayfish, among many others. The 32.5-acre parcel of Flint Creek Preserve targeted for restoration has been used for hay production for multiple generations. The 4.5-acre parcel, located approximately 0.68 miles upstream in Flint Creek's floodplain, also serves as hay pasture and is planned for restoration.

The Northwest Arkansas Land Trust will restore 27 acres of land and 10 acres of riparian forest. The land restoration will involve site preparation, tree planting, invasive species management, and ongoing maintenance. Riparian restoration will include these same efforts, with the addition of planting native shrubs and grasses. These efforts will restore and preserve the floodplain and riparian forest, enhancing wildlife habitat and improving water quality in the Illinois River Watershed. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from these projects is 5,959 metric tons during 2025-2050.



EB Tri-region E-bike Incentive Program (E-Bike Program)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

Trailblazers*

Geographic Location:

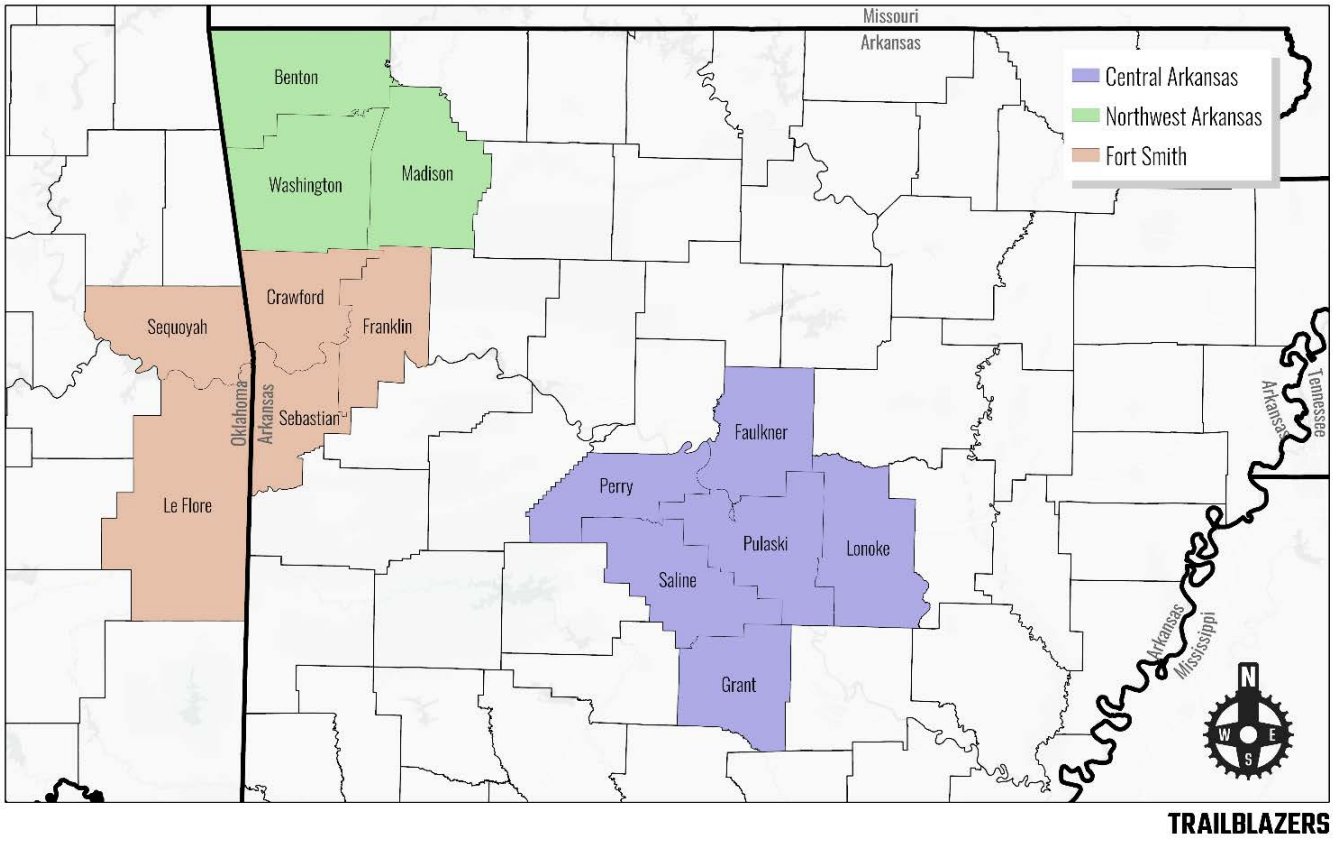
Arkansas counties: Perry, Faulkner, Saline, Pulaski, Lonoke, Grant, Benton, Washington, Madison, Crawford, Franklin, Sebastian

Oklahoma counties: Sequoyah, Le Flore

Total Project Cost: $7,000,000

Project Description: Trailblazers will launch and administer a regional program that incentivizes the purchase of electric bicycles used for transportation by providing point-of-sale vouchers. The resulting transportation mode shift will reduce motor vehicle miles traveled and associated greenhouse gas emissions as proven by well-studied programs around the country. To promote impact in low and disadvantaged communities (LIDAC), a majority of voucher funds will be dedicated to income-qualified residents. The program will be administered to residents of Northwest Arkansas, Central Arkansas, and the Fort Smith area. The estimated combined carbon reduction and sequestration from this project is 65,363 metric tons during 2025-2050.

The program will be designed and implemented so that vouchers are tiered by income, where income-limited applicants will have the opportunity to apply for a voucher of a higher amount. Voucher applications will be open for a set period of time (e.g. two weeks) and selected by lottery to avoid the inequity introduced in first-come, first-served announcements. The program will provide point-of-sale vouchers, to allow discounted prices for program participants rather than after-purchase rebates. To support the long-term use of this transportation option, eligible purchases will be allowed at retailers who have a physical location that also perform service and repair. While Trailblazers will procure and manage a contractor to develop the digital infrastructure of the voucher system, Trailblazers will manage the program overall, including targeting promotions to disadvantaged communities, coordinating with retailers, organizing demonstrations, supporting resources for safety, and maintaining records/reporting.



Workforce Development and Community Engagement in Northwest Arkansas (NWA Workforce Program)

Name of Partner(s) with Sub-grant Recipient(s) shown with *:

Watershed Conservation Resource Center (WCRC)*
Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP)*
Beaver Watershed Alliance (BWA)
Arkansas Advanced Energy Foundation (AAEF)

Geographic Location: Northwest Arkansas, Washington and Benton Counties, Arkansas

Total Project Cost: $813,800

WCRC – $602,300 (BWA will receive $244,100 as a pass through)
IRWP – $211,500

Project Description: The WCRC, IRWP, and BWA are non-profit organizations that serve Northwest Arkansas (NWA) in the field of environmental restoration, watershed planning, best practices implementation, and conservation. The three organizations will work together, with the WCRC leading this effort, to assist the NWA project partners in the areas of restoration implementation, workforce, and community engagement. The WCRC, IRWP, and BWA will assist with the following activities:

- Work with Metroplan to develop restoration guidelines for project partners.
- Investigate workforce needs within the conservation industry, landscaping firms, landscape architecture, engineering, and municipal needs.
- Develop and conduct trainings that consider workforce needs to transfer skills in invasive/native plant management, forestry management, wetland restoration, low impact development, long-term restoration management, and/or other ecological landscape practices.
- Connect low income and disadvantaged communities to projects and attract interest in workforce employment opportunities in LIDACs through community engagement that provides: 1) information on ecological restoration and carbon removal; 2) carbon reduction through mode-shift; 3) community engagement and volunteer stewardship opportunities like invasive plant removals and native vegetation establishment at select projects; and 4) training and skill verification opportunities in the conservation-related field.
- Assist and coordinate with partners, such as, AAEF, NWA Council, NWA Community College, conservation corps organizations, and learning/training institutes to develop and implement a “Conservation Technician” and/or “Conservation Manager” Program that may include internships, apprenticeship, certification, certificate, accreditation, and/or two-year degree path to develop a skilled conservation-based workforce.