

30x30: America the Beautiful

An Overview of the Federal Effort and How State Fish
and Wildlife Agencies are Responding

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30x30: Key Points

- Part of Executive Order 14008 that recommends identifying *“steps that the United States should take, working with State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments, agricultural and forest landowners, fishermen, and other key stakeholders, to achieve the goal of conserving at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030.”*
- State fish and wildlife agencies, like KDWP, have missions to conserve the nation’s fish and wildlife species for the benefit of current and future generations. The Interior Department’s focus on this important work could be used to leverage conservation in Kansas.
- State fish and wildlife agencies across the country are urging the Administration to focus generally on the conservation of fish and wildlife populations, their habitats, and sustainable use of our natural resources -- not levels of protection or numbers of acres.

Co-equal Principles of America the Beautiful

1. Pursue a collaborative and inclusive approach to conservation
2. Conserve America's lands and waters for the benefit of all people
3. Support locally led and locally designed conservation efforts
4. Honor tribal sovereignty and support the priorities of tribal nations.
5. Pursue conservation and restoration approaches that create jobs and support healthy communities
6. Honor private property rights and support the voluntary stewardship efforts of private landowners and fishers
7. Use science as a guide
8. Build on existing tools and strategies with an emphasis on flexibility and adaptive approaches

FWS Early Focus



More parks in Nature-Deprived Communities

Work with communities, utilize LWCF, commitment that 40% of benefits from federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities.



Support tribally led conservation

Technical assistance and capacity-building grants, improve engagement (esp. when sacred sites are on public lands), smooth land-into-trust process.



Expand collaborative conservation; corridors

Expand S.O. 3362, use incentives and local collaboration, fish passage, SGCN in SWAPs, bird habitats through JVs, expand NWRS where supported

FWS Early Focus



Increase equitable access for recreation

Improved and *equitable* access for hunting, fishing, hiking, boating, etc. Prioritize land management planning and identify areas for recreation.



Create jobs through restoration

Civilian Climate Corps putting people to work restoring our lands and waters. Pathway to jobs for a new, diverse generation.



Incentivize and reward working lands stewards

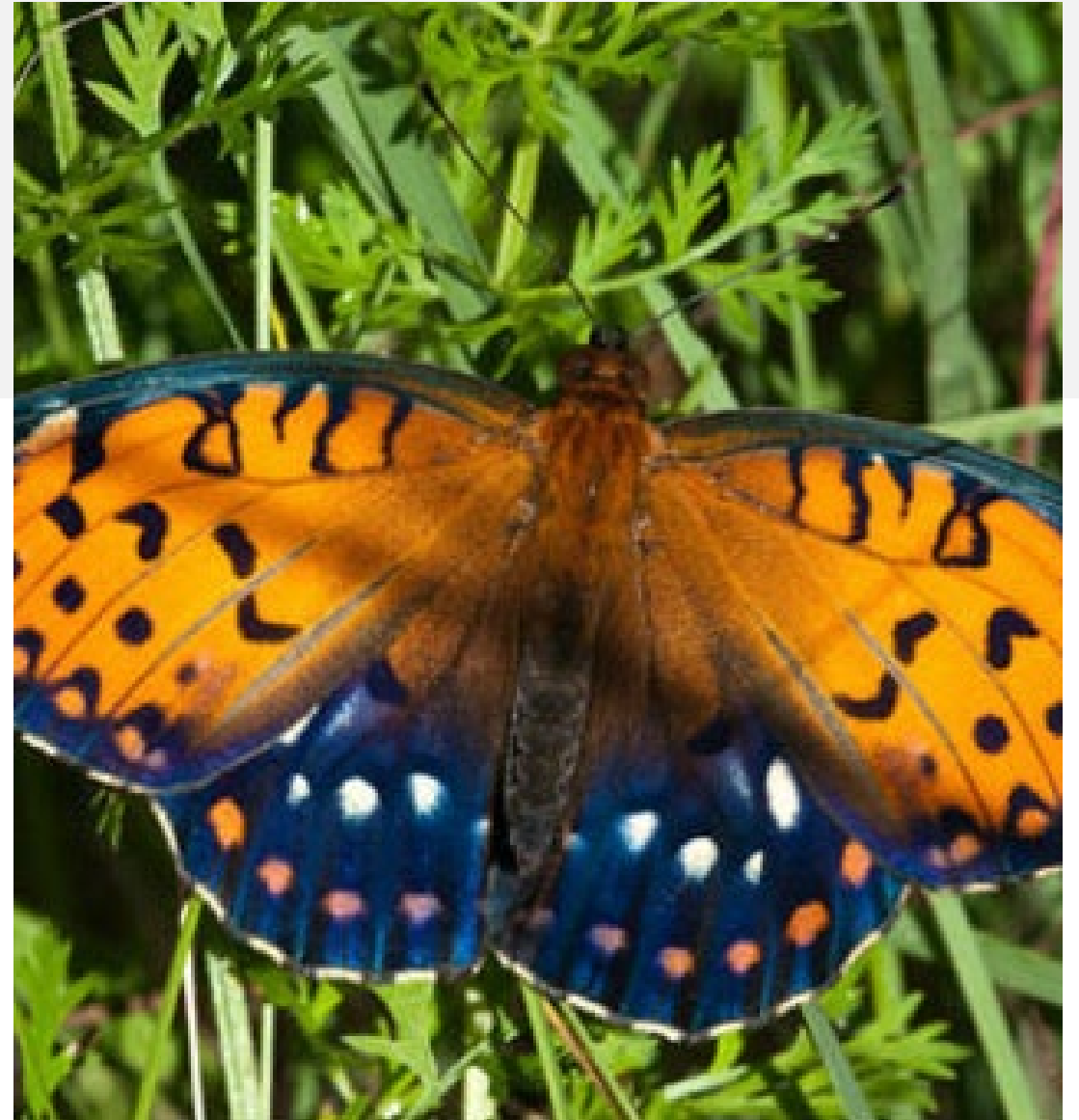
Support private landowners through Working lands for Wildlife, Conservation without Conflict, conservation banking, CCAAs, and Partners program

30x30: Moving Forward

- **Cooperation Early and Often.**

States have primary responsibility and governing authority for conservation of fish and wildlife and their habitats and uses.

As such, State agencies, like KDWP, should be primary collaborators in the strategic development and implementation of science-driven processes, policies, and strategic guidance for the conservation of resilient fish and wildlife populations of all kinds and their habitats.





30x30: Moving Forward

- **Clearly Define Purpose and Intent.**

There is considerable concern regarding protection versus conservation; implications for sustainable uses, like regulated hunting, fishing, trapping, and timber harvest; and outdoor recreation on public lands.

Many state fish and wildlife agencies are recommending using the term “conservation,” which includes ‘sustainable use’ instead of “protection” so as not to alienate crucial partners, to assure abundant public access to conserved public landscapes, and to support the sustainable use of our natural resources.



30x30: Moving Forward

- **Clearly Define Purpose and Intent.**

State fish and wildlife agencies are also recommending that the Administration clearly articulate what the 30x30 initiative is *not*.

- Not include the use of eminent domain, new federal land designations without the expressed support of an affected community, create a 30% federal landownership threshold in every county across the nation, or unilaterally create a federal nexus over State, territorial, and local government lands.
- Not require lands considered for inclusion under the 30x30 initiative to have additional federal easements or other regulatory frameworks overlaid on them, and designations should be voluntary not mandatory.
- Not focus on the designation and development of additional defacto protections on federal lands at the expense of conservation-based natural resources management and sustainable use which many State, local, rural, and disadvantaged communities depend on for economic sustainability and growth.

30x30: Moving Forward

- **Consider Private Landowner Perspectives.** –

Private landowners and working lands play a critical role in fish, wildlife, and habitat conservation, particularly in a state like Kansas.

Any efforts under 30x30 should be encouraged through voluntary, incentive-based approaches that foster and support good stewardship and partnerships with private landowners.

- Voluntary actions are essential to the goal of achieving high value and functioning habitat on private lands, as well as restoring and enhancing habitat on working farms, ranches, forests, and other privately owned lands.
- State agencies and their nongovernmental conservation organization partners have extensive experience and are well positioned to work with private landowners and local communities to achieve mutually beneficial conservation outcomes.





30x30: In Sum

30x30 is an opportunity to improve conservation *but...*

- We need to stay engaged to impact how it is implemented.
- KDWP is situated well to represent the interests of Kansans.
- Joint Task Force on Landscape Conservation just signed