

Timeline of activities

The KDWP Stream Survey and Monitoring program has no regulatory or enforcement jurisdiction. The main goal of the program is to assess the biological community of stream systems in the state. Finding species of concern on someone's property is actually a testament to good land management and ensures these resources will be around for years to come.

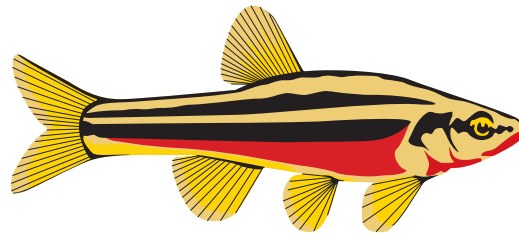
Landowners are called well in advance of the beginning of these surveys to gain permission to enter their land. Only through the generous cooperation of Kansas landowners is KDWP able to conserve our streams and rivers. We sincerely appreciate their help with these activities.

Surveys begin the last week of May and end approximately the second week of August. At least two crews are running during these times at various spots throughout the state. One crew usually focuses on a particular river basin, while the other one fulfills monitoring obligations and survey areas of interest statewide.

Landowners interested in finding out what is living in the stream or river running through their land are encouraged to contact the department to see if a survey can be performed on their property. A summary report of the information collected is sent to the landowner at the end of the season.

KDWP Strategic Plan

- Conserve and enhance Kansas' natural heritage, its wildlife, and its habitats to ensure future generations the benefits of the state's diverse living resources;
- Provide the public with opportunities for use and appreciation of the natural resources of Kansas, consistent with the conservation of those resources;
- Inform the public of the status of the natural resources of Kansas to promote understanding and gain assistance in achieving this mission.



Contact Information

For more information about the Stream Survey and Monitoring Program, visit the KDWP website at

www.kdwp.state.ks.us/streamsurvey

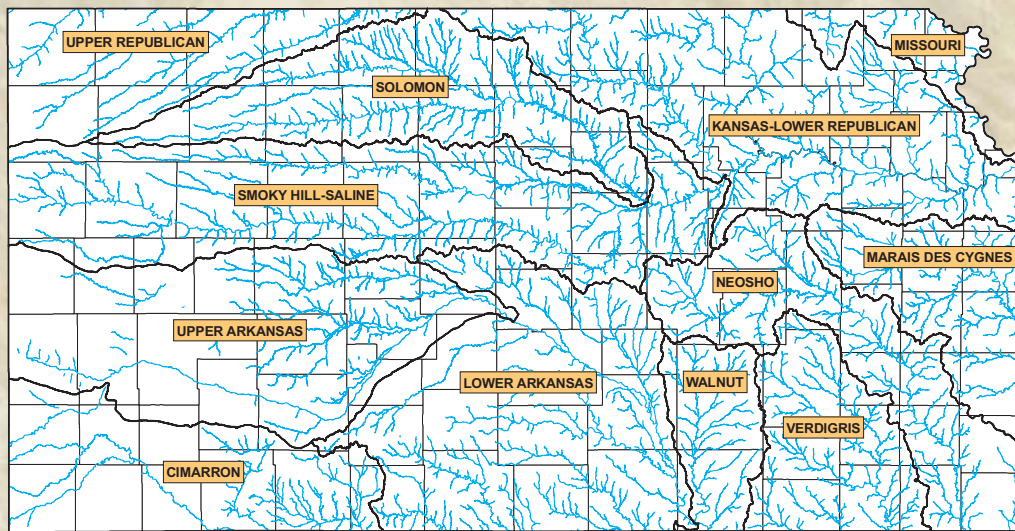
Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks
Environmental Services Section
512 SE 25th Ave
Pratt, KS 67124
620-672-5911

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs described herein is available to all individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to Office of the Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 1020 S Kansas Ave. Suite 200, Topeka, KS 66612-1327 01/07

Stream Survey and Monitoring Program



Kansas
Department of
Wildlife & Parks



Stream surveying in the state of Kansas...

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) has been surveying streams off and on since the 1970s. In the early years of this program, more than 450 sites were surveyed statewide to assess fish potential within the state. This entailed assessing the percentage of gamefish to non-gamefish and provided other important baseline data such as in-stream habitat and basic water chemistry. Information from these surveys was used for project reviews through the Kansas Department of Transportation as well as watershed dam projects. The purpose was to gain a better understanding of fish species and the status of those species that were threatened, endangered, or in need of conservation. Unfortunately, the program was not maintained throughout the 1980s, and up-to-date information was not available, even though the need existed.



Orangethroat Darter

The need for up to date information...

With the creation of KDWP's Environmental Services Section, a need for current data became apparent when reviewing permits associated with the division of water resources and the Army Corps of Engineers. Reviving the Stream Survey Program would help provide this information by focusing on stream fish communities, aquatic macroinvertebrates, and some basic physical and chemical parameters. Once federal and state funding was procured, surveys of streams and rivers within the Neosho and Kansas Lower Republican river basins was conducted from 1995 through 1998.



Survey activities...

All activities are confined within an area 150 to 300 meters long, based on the average width of the river or stream surveyed. Crews use tote barge and backpack units to electrofish as much of the wadeable area as possible. Seines are also used.

Larger fish are measured and released. The majority of smaller specimens collected are counted and released as well. Some specimens are preserved for voucher purposes. Sensitive species are counted and released in order to minimize impacts to that particular area.

Aquatic macroinvertebrates, including freshwater mussels, are surveyed. Recent and weathered mussel shells are collected for identification at a later date. Live mussels are photographed, recorded, and released. Smaller insects and other invertebrates are preserved in an alcohol solution to be sorted and identified at a later time.

