Kansas River National Water Trail



January 8, 2015





Background

- There are only three navigable streams in Kansas (Kansas, Arkansas & Missouri).
- Kansas River is 174 miles long, extending from Junction City to Kansas City.
- A few access sites were constructed in the 1970's and early 1980's on the Kansas River.
- Renewed interest in the 1990's, "Kansas River Recreation" plan was developed in 1998.
- Goal was to place access every 10-15 miles.
- In 2000, there were only 5 access sites.

Background (continued)

- KDWPT has committed over \$1,000,000 to river access since 2000; and local funds and donations have probably equaled this amount.
- An additional 14 access sites have been added since 2000.
- KDWPT was contacted in 2011 about potential projects that would fall into the America's Great Outdoors program.
- The Kansas River water trail project was identified as a potential project for this program.

Kansas River was named the 2nd National Water Trail in 2012.







River Tour

Items were identified as needed to improve the water trail.

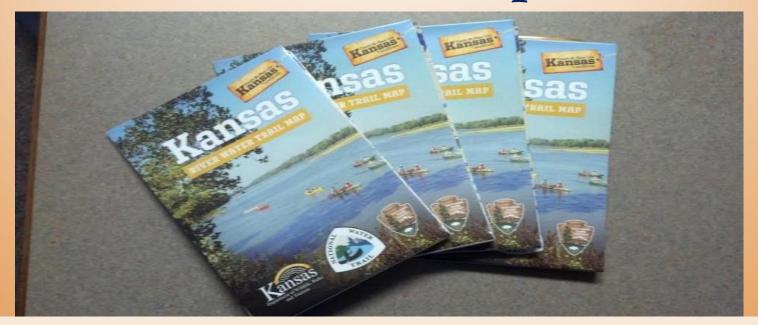
- Path finding signs
- Brochures
- Website
- River navigation signs
- Kiosks

Path Finding Signs



Signs are in place directing people to all 19 access sites. Thanks to KDOT for assisting.

Brochure Development



Brochures and website were developed with funding from a NPS grant.

Web site development



- http://www.travelks.com/ksrivertrail/
- There is also a National Water Trail site maintained by NPS http://www.nps. gov/watertrails/



River Navigation Signage

- Placed every two miles for safety and river user reference.
- Topeka-Edwardsville
- Junction City Belvue



Kiosk Project

Kiosks to be placed at each access site to provide information to river users and give community historical and tourism information.



Kiosk Structure at De Soto



Structure materials and pole placement donated by Westar.

Current Kansas River Sites



19 sites currently open to public access.

AREAS OF NEED

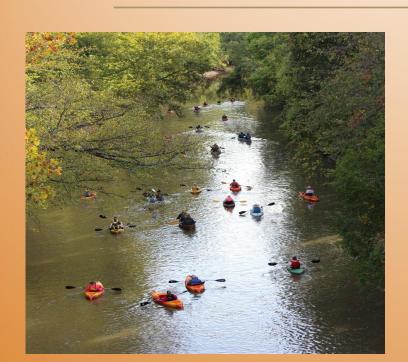
No access currently available between Topeka and Belvue (29 miles).



Projects in Progress

• Working with Rossville to get an access site along the St. Mary's/Maple Hill Road.

October Float Trip and upgrades to Eudora access site.





Potential Projects

- Working with Shawnee County on potential site at Willard.
- Have met with Shawnee County/Topeka Parks about upgrade to Seward Ave. ramp.
- Have met with De Soto about upgrades/restroom at their access site.

Special Thanks







Best of Plans!!



To Roger Wolfe with Best Wishes!



10 Saga