

# SHOAL CREEK WATERSHED INITIATIVE

## *Aquatic Resource Restoration & Conservation*

*Middle & Upper Reaches*

Shoal Creek

*Southwest Missouri*

## The Shoal Creek Watershed Initiative

Working with partners in Shoal Creek Watershed to restore aquatic habitat and water quality – alongside farmers, ranchers, teachers, businesses, local leaders, and other community members.

An interdisciplinary team is focused on stream and wetland resources in priority areas of Shoal Creek and its tributaries in Newton and Barry Counties.

Restoration and conservation projects will protect streambanks and promote farming practices that stop erosional loss and reduce nutrient and sediment run-off.



*Team members collect baseline transect data to assess stream dynamics and erosion rates at the Confluence Site*

## Initiative Goals

### Restoration & Conservation

Streambank and wetland restoration in high-priority reaches of middle and upper Shoal Creek where water quality is impaired – coordinating with local partners and private landowners to protect their property from streambank erosion and to reduce nutrient and sediment loading from stormwater runoff.

### Outdoor Education & Awareness

Research and training that increase awareness of watershed, wetland, and ecosystem values – coordinating with conservation groups, resource specialists, and community members on water quality monitoring and aquatic resource conservation programs.

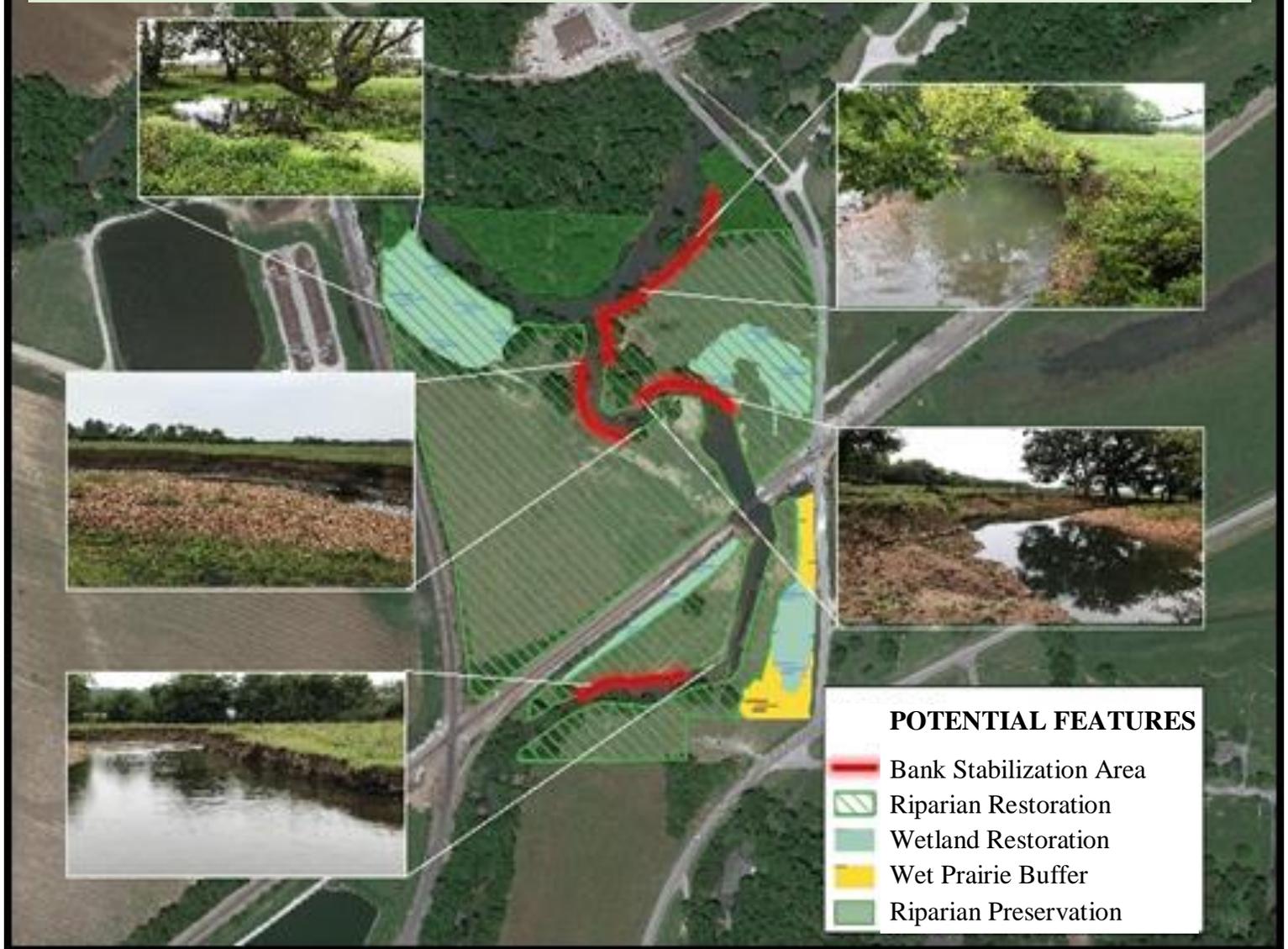
## Core Partners



MidwestWaters.Org

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The Confluence Site at Hickory Creek and Shoal Creek north of Neosho, Missouri, is our cornerstone site – uniquely situated in a critical area of the watershed where conservation will benefit both people and nature.



Initiative partners with expertise in farm management, biology and stream ecology, riparian engineering, and riverine and wetland restoration, are working with local partners to plan and build features that stop erosion, reduce nutrient run-off, restore habitat, and protect water quality.

Community members are invited to participate in conservation planning and in monitoring results, including citizen-based water quality testing.

The site will host outdoor education opportunities for community members and local schools, and on-site stations for researchers.



## Initiative Principles

### Building on Prior Work ...

The Initiative focuses on priorities identified by local landowners, conservation partners, and other key stakeholders who have worked on watershed and non-point source planning and implementation in Southwest Missouri for over two decades.

### A Consortium Approach ...

The Initiative will engage local and regional partners, including stream teams, schools and educators, county and municipal leaders, farmers, ranchers, businesses, conservation agencies, and private landowners for their insights and input to assure project success and long-term sustainability.

### Working with the Community ...

Local and regional partners are key to keeping the Initiative focused on priority concerns, and will be engaged at every step.