Seven Sisters Wildlife Management Area

2004 Small Mammal Trapping and Species Inventory Report

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (MFWP)
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Seven Sisters Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is a 562-acre parcel about 10 miles southwest of Sidney within Richland County. The site orders the Yellowstone River for about ½ mile, a side channel for ¾ of a mile, and Crane Creek for more than a mile. The riparian habitat along the water bodies and associated backwater sloughs is highly productive and provides habitat for a variety of species. Other vegetation on the site includes Cottonwood stands, grain fields, and meadows, which add additional habitat diversity. An assortment of recreational activities is available at the WMA, including boating, trapping, hunting, fishing, bird-watching, and agate-hunting.

Findings: 95 Captures of 5 Species

- Small Mammal Trapping Lines (Table 2)
  -95 Captures of 5 Species
- Large Fox Trap
  -0 Captures
- Camera Sites
  0 Captures

Table 1. Traping Area and Habitat Type

Location #	Name	Habitat
1	Line1	Cottonwood Forest
2	Line2	Grassland/Smooth Brome
3	Line3	Grassland/ Smooth Brome
4	Line4	Cottonwood Forest
5	Fox1	Cottonwood Forest
6	Camera1	Cottonwood Forest
7	Camera2	Cottonwood Forest

Table 2. Capture Summary

	Trapline				
Species Captured	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**Total**
Yellow-Breasted Chat	1				1
Western Harvest Mouse		2			2
Deer Mouse	9		3	17	29
Meadow Vole	12	8	11	30	61
Unknown Shrew	2				2
Total Captures	24	10	14	47	95

Yellow-Breasted Chat Kristi DuBois 2003

Table 3. Trap Summary

Trap Type	Trapline 1	2	3	4	Total Trap Nights	Captures	Captures/100 Trap Nights	Number of Species
Snap, small (victor)	42	50	36	33	161	22	13.67	2
Snap, med (museum special)	23	34	29	31	117	39	33.3	3
Snap, large (rat)	8	10	7	8	33	1	3.03	1
Cage, small (sherman)	49	49	37	39	174	9	5.17	2
Cage, med (skunk)	10	10	8	8	36	0	0	0
Pitfall	25	25	20	20	90	24	26.7	4
Total Trap Nights	157	178	137	139	611			
Total Captures	24	10	14	47	95			
Captures/100 Trap Nights	15.3	5.62	10	34	15.27			
Number of Species	4	2	2	2				

Table 4. Trapsite Summary

Trap Type	Total Trap Nights	Captures	Captures/100 Trap Nights	Number of Species
Cage, large	3	0	0	0
Camera	8	0	0	0

Table 4. Miscellaneous Species Observed

Woodhouse's Toad
Northern Leopard Frog
Canada Goose
Least Tern
Mourning Dove
Common Nighthawk
Northern Flicker
Western Wood-pewee
Eastern Kingbird
Bank Swallow
Barn Swallow
Black-billed Magpie
American Robin
Cedar Waxwing
Yellow Warbler
American Redstart
Lark Sparrow
Baltimore Oriole
American Goldfinch
American Beaver
Common Raccoon
Mink
White-tailed Deer

Cedar Waxwing

Beaver

Mink

Trapline Photos

Trapline 1

Trapline 2

Trapline 3

Trapline 4

Photo Credits: MFWP staff unless otherwise indicated.

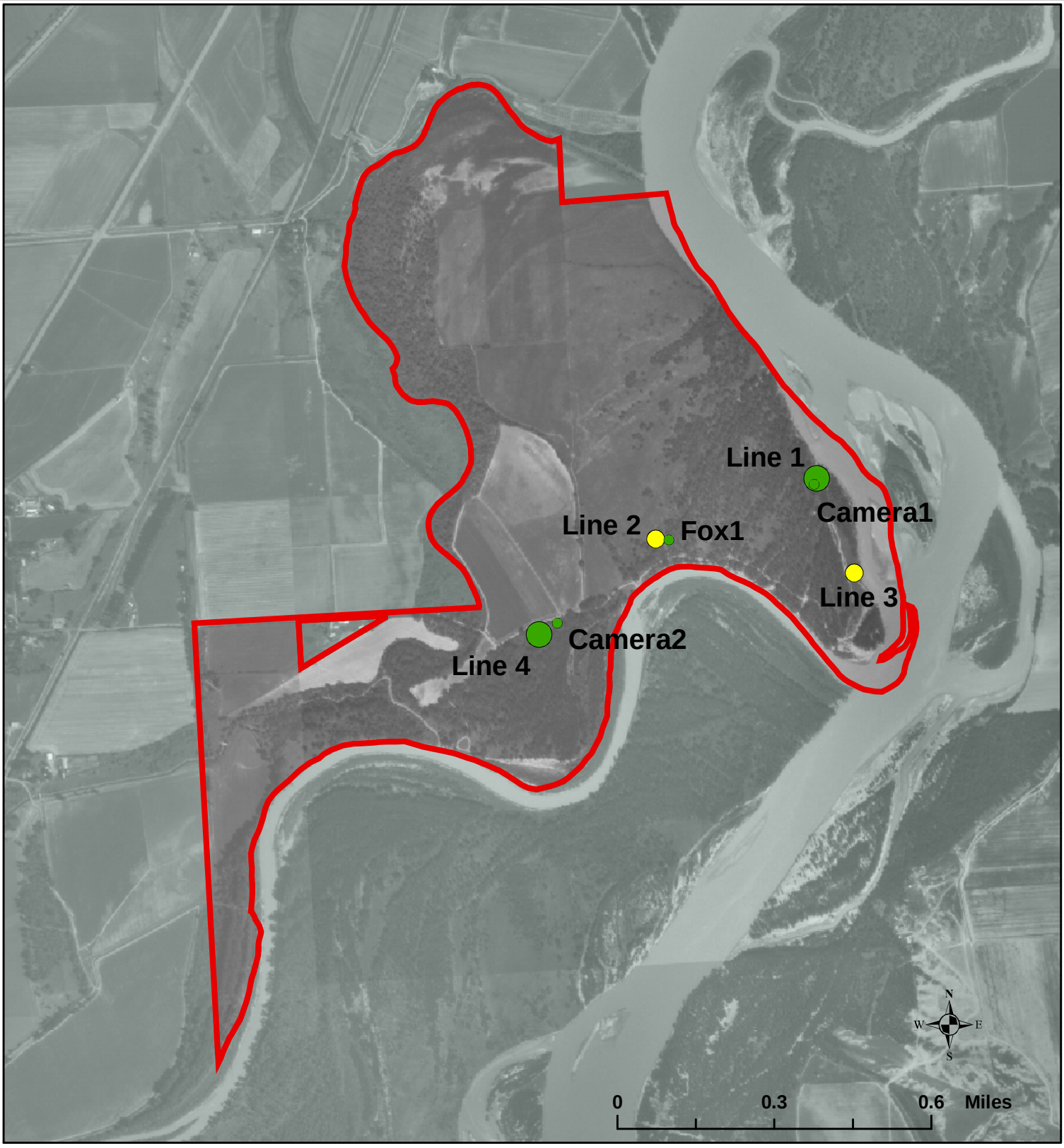


Figure 1:

Seven Sisters WMA

Small Mammal Survey Site

Trapping Locations

General Landcover (Symbol color)

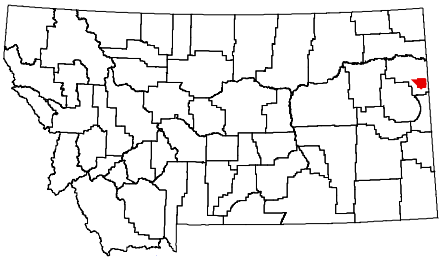
- Agriculture
- Barren / Badlands
- Broadleaf Forest
- Conifer Forest
- Grassland
- Riparian
- Shrub Grassland

* Not all landcover types were sampled at all sites.

Captures/100 trapnights (Symbol size)

* only calculated for trap lines

- 0 - 5
- >5 - 15
- >15



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