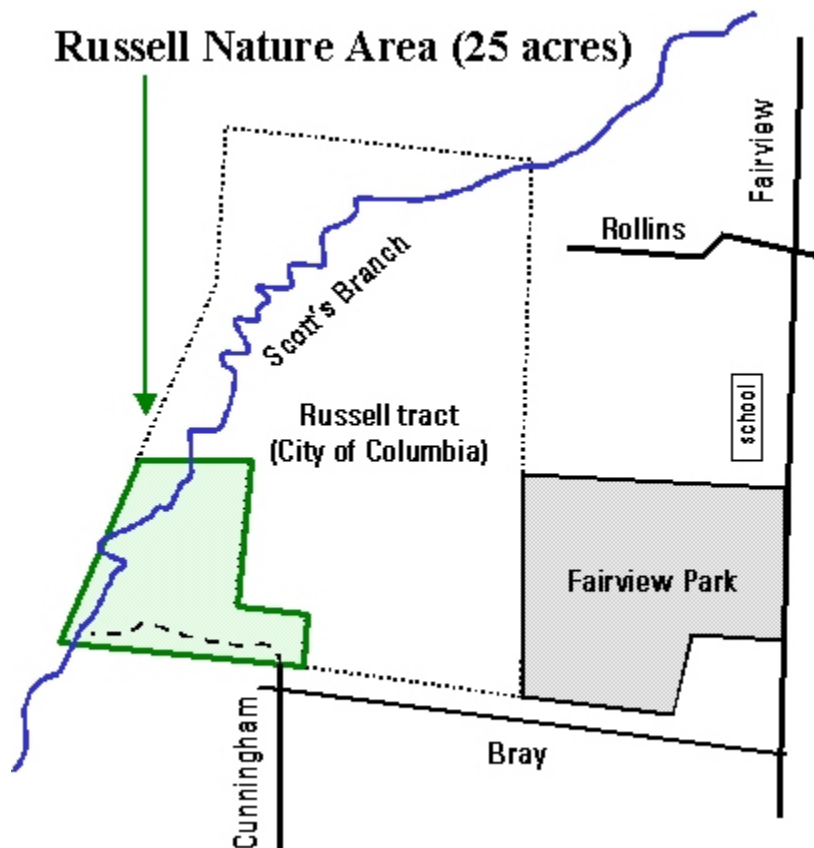


Russell Area

The newest addition to the CAS Nature Areas System is a 25-acre tract near Fairview Road in western Columbia that was donated by Garland and Peggy Lee Russell in 2000. This beautiful area is a mixture of pasture, with large open-grown oaks, and mature forest. A small, spring-fed creek, Scott's Branch, flows through the area. CAS is planning future activities on this area in conjunction with the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department, which will develop a new park on an adjacent 90-acre tract donated by the Russells. The development of these areas presents CAS, Audubon Missouri, and the City of Columbia with a great opportunity to preserve high-quality wildlife habitat in an urban setting and to use the accessibility and high visibility of this area to promote the Audubon mission.



Columbia Audubon Society

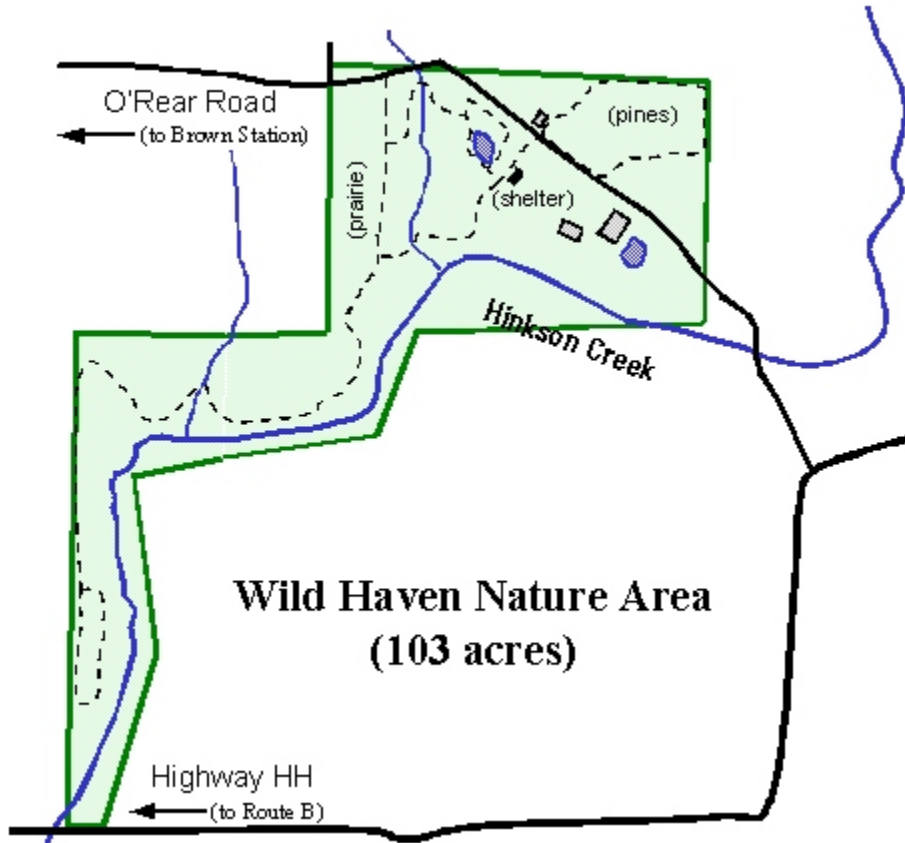
Nature Areas



CAS Nature Areas are managed in accordance with the mission of the National Audubon Society, "...to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife." We encourage the use of the areas for nature study, education, and research. No hunting is allowed. All areas are open for use by chapter members and guests, and non-members may use the areas with permission of the CAS Nature Areas Committee.

Wild Haven Nature Area

Wild Haven is the largest (103 acres) and most accessible of the CAS nature areas. Most of the area was donated to the chapter by the late Lee Jenkins, with the remainder acquired with the assistance of the Boone County Trust. Wild Haven consists predominantly of mature forest along a mile-long reach of Hinkson Creek. The area includes some high-quality natural habitats, including a small remnant prairie and sandstone glades, as well as a former Christmas tree plantation and two small ponds. Some areas are being managed to restore natural habitats, remove exotic plants, and establish habitat demonstration areas. This is an ideal location for field trips, outdoor classroom activities, and study of ecology and natural history. Wild Haven has an extensive trail system, and a picnic shelter and workshop are available. Parts of Wild Haven are leased to outside individuals and groups, including a local astronomy club and a rental residence -- please respect their property and privacy.



Albert Children's Wildlife Area

The Albert Children's Wildlife Area is located east of Wild Haven near Cedar Creek. This area was donated to the chapter by Paul Albert. The property consists of 78 acres of former coal strip mines, but much of the area has been successfully reclaimed by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. A large portion of the area (and adjacent properties) has been re-graded, limed, fertilized and seeded with native grasses and trees. The grassland is managed by periodic prescribed burns. The result is an open landscape of prairie and wetlands that attracts many species of wildlife that require open habitats. Other habitats include vegetated mine spoils, riparian forest along Cedar Creek, and several ponds.

