

Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie: River Road Picnic Shelter & Site Design Program

Midewin wishes to have a day use site designed for an area adjacent to the River Road seed gardens. The facility will provide a sheltered picnic area for the public as well as provide an area of respite for volunteers working within the seedbeds and will be a gathering area for environmental education programs that are held in the area.

The proposed site is located north of River Road, west of Boathouse Road. A parking lot/trailhead has already been constructed on the east side of River Road for use with this facility. A multiple use trail (hiking, bicycling, and horse back riding) will access the site from the north. Hitching lines for horses will be provided outside the developed site. Horses will not be allowed within the day use site.

Program Elements

Picnic Shelter –

- Shelter shall be sized to accommodate 30 school age children at picnic tables.
- An adjacent “overflow” area should be designed to accommodate an additional 30 school children at picnic tables.
- Lighting shall be provided for evening events.
- A fireplace inside the shelter will be designed to allow three season use.
- A 10’ x 8’ storage area will be included
- Two 20 amp duplex outlets will be provided.

Restroom Facility - A four riser toilet will be provided. There is no water available on site so the restrooms should incorporate “Sweet Smelling Technology” .

Electrical – No electrical service will be provided to the site. A sustainable electrical source shall be included in the design.

Water – No water will be provided on site. An alternative method of hand “washing” shall be provided.

Accessibility – Facilities shall be designed to be universally accessible.

Trails – Trails or pedestrian access routes shall be designed as necessary.

Interpretive Overlook – An interpretive overlook will be designed for raised viewing of the seedbeds. The overlook shall incorporate a space for one permanent 24”x36” interpretive sign and one seasonal 24”x36” interpretive sign.

Site Amenities –

- Bicycle racks to accommodate a minimum of eight bicycles
- Trash and recycle receptacles
- Group-use grills

- Traffic control devices
- Security Lighting

Architectural Theme and Site Planning – Architectural style and site planning shall adhere to Midwin Thematic Guidelines

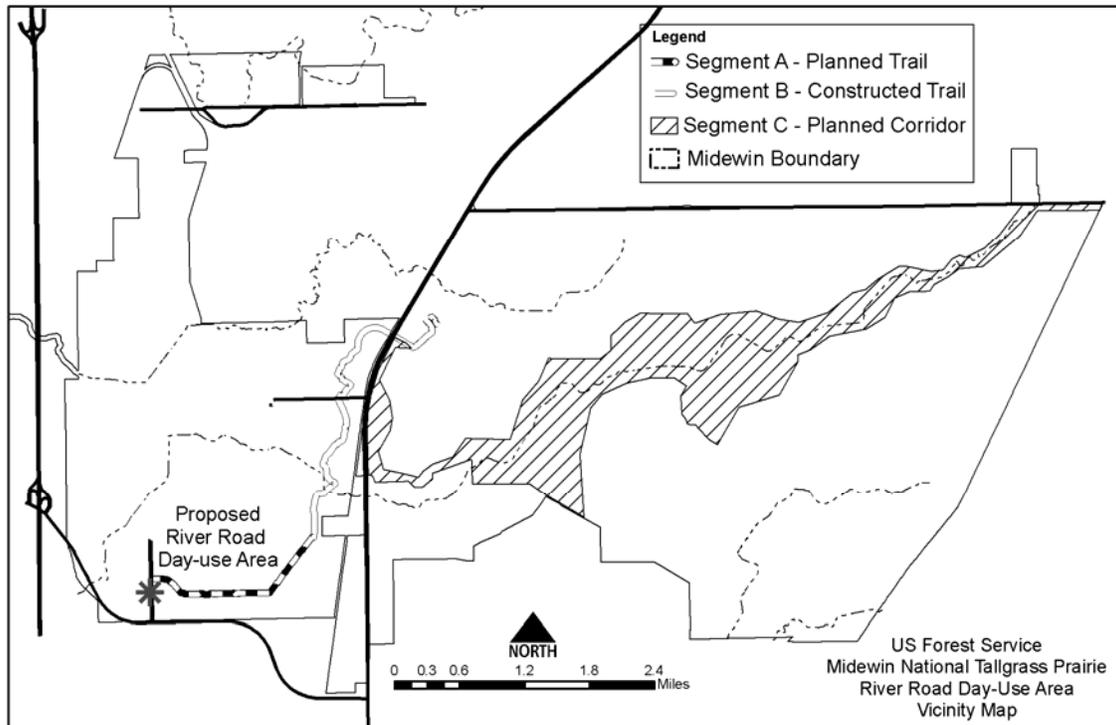


Figure 1 River Road Day-Use Area Vicinity Map

Background Information

A site plan showing existing conditions including topographic information, parking lot layout and road location will be provided at the charrette. Soil information based on core sampling is also available.

Action Requested

1. Conceptual design for:
 - a. Picnic shelter
 - b. Restroom Facility
 - c. Seedbed overlook
 - d. Pedestrian circulation
 - e. Site amenities
 - f. Proposed electrical sources
2. Contract documents including all documents necessary for bidding on the above design should follow within two months of the charrette.

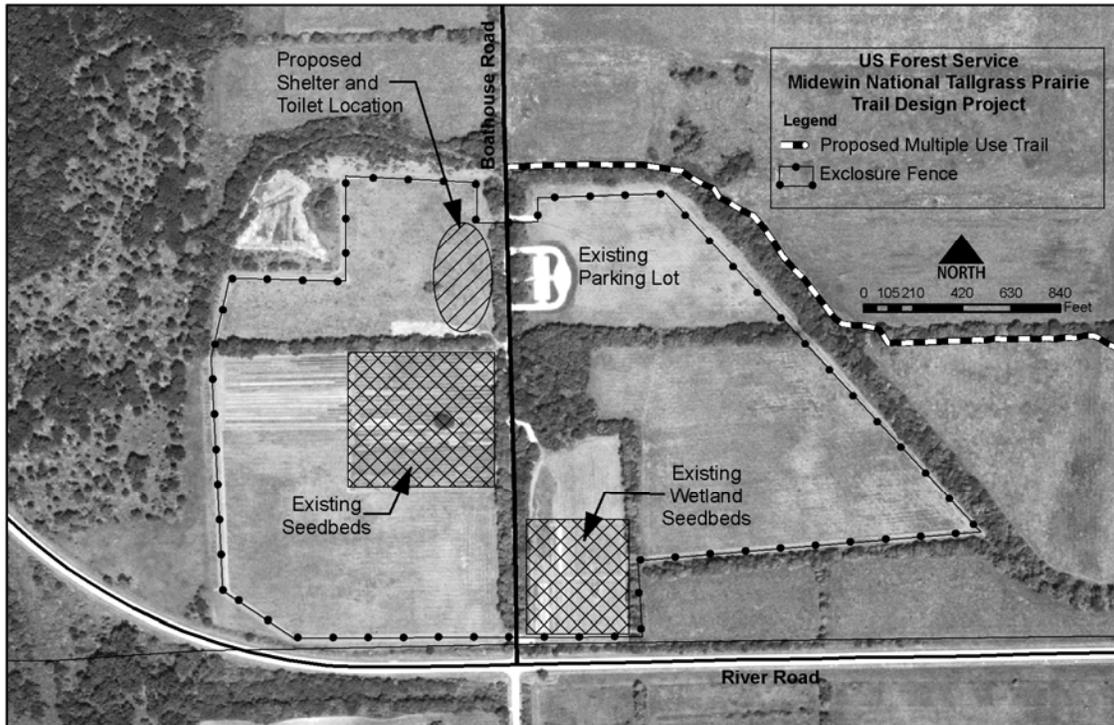


Figure 2 River Road Day-Use Area Map