

**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
WILD AREA ADDITION FORM**

The Goggins Mountain Wild Area Addition, located in Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park and consisting of 800 acres as delineated on the attached map, is hereby officially designated as part of the Goggins Mountain Wild Area, and incorporated into the Missouri State Park Wild Area System.

It shall be managed according to Missouri State Park Wild Area Policy, so as to preserve its wild quality, natural condition and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation for future generations. It is entered this day into the official Registry of Missouri Wild Areas.

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director  
Missouri State Parks

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director  
Missouri Department of Natural  
Resources

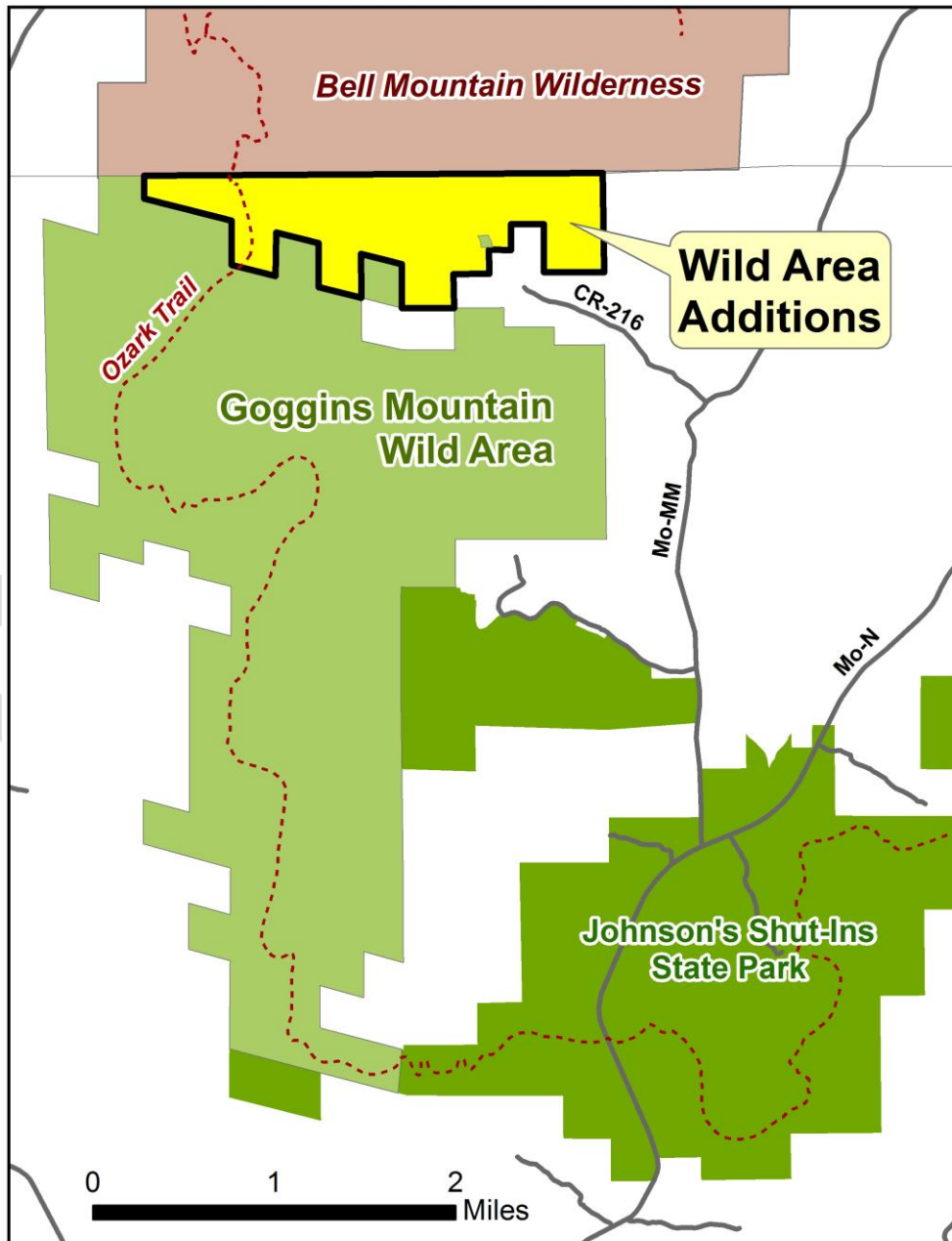
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WILD AREA ADDITION**

December 6, 2016

**NAME OF AREA:** Goggins Mountain Wild Area

**STATE PARK:** Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park

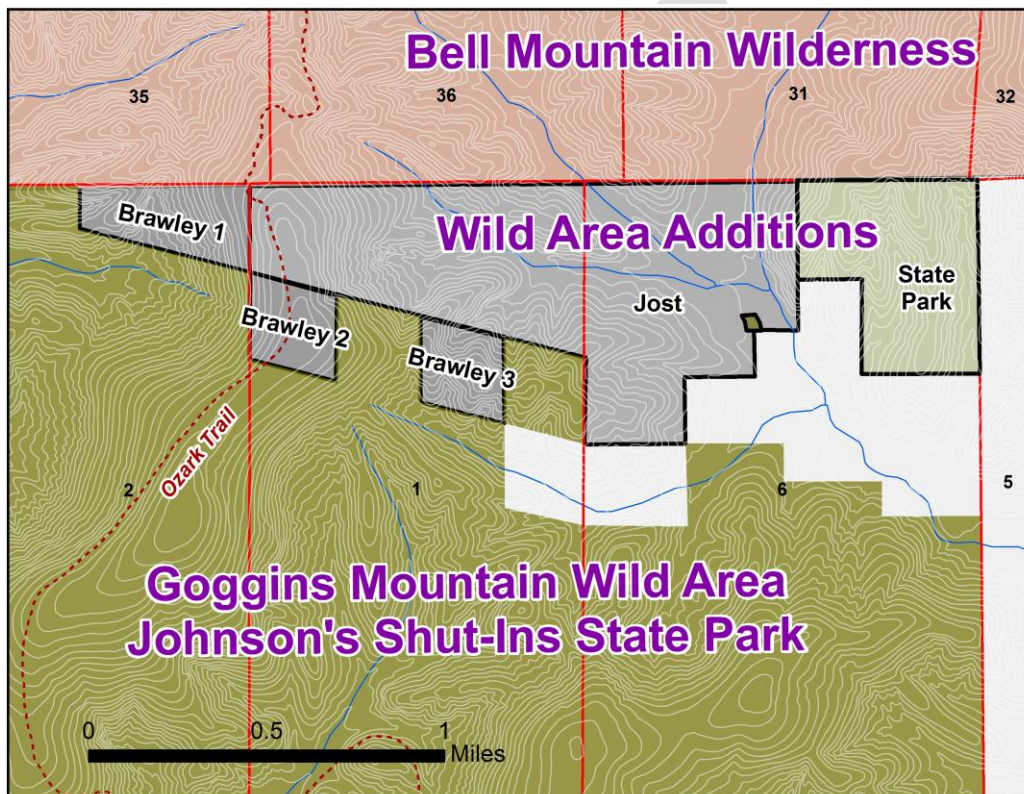
**COUNTY:** Reynolds, T33N R1E Sections 1 and 2; and T33N R2E Section 6



**TRACTS:** Four new acquisitions (Jost and three Brawley tracts), plus a previously isolated parcel of Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park.

**SIZE:** 800 acres (Jost @ 502, Brawley 1 @ 71, Brawley 2 & 3 @ 40 each, Park Tract @ 147)

**BOUNDARIES:** The entirety of all four state park acquisitions, which were previously private inholdings between Goggins Mountain Wild Area and the Bell Mountain Wilderness, excluding approximately two acres withheld at the southeast entrance to the Jost tract. Also included is the previously isolated state park tract in T33N, R2E Section 6, in its entirety.



The north boundary of the combined Wild Area Addition becomes the Reynolds-Iron County line, which is also the south boundary of the Mark Twain National Forest's Bell Mountain Wilderness.

In T33N R1E Sections 1 and 2, the addition's west, south and east boundaries (Brawley 1,2 and 3 with part of Jost) are the present Goggins Mountain Wild Area.

In T33N R2E Section 6, the addition's south boundary across the Jost and state park tracts is the border with the adjacent private lands. A two-acre exclusion from the wild area is made at the southeast corner of the Jost tract, being the open field beyond the entrance gate.



**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** The tracts collectively embrace a rugged and scenic mountain-wilderness landscape, which is visually inseparable from the state and federal wilderness on either side.

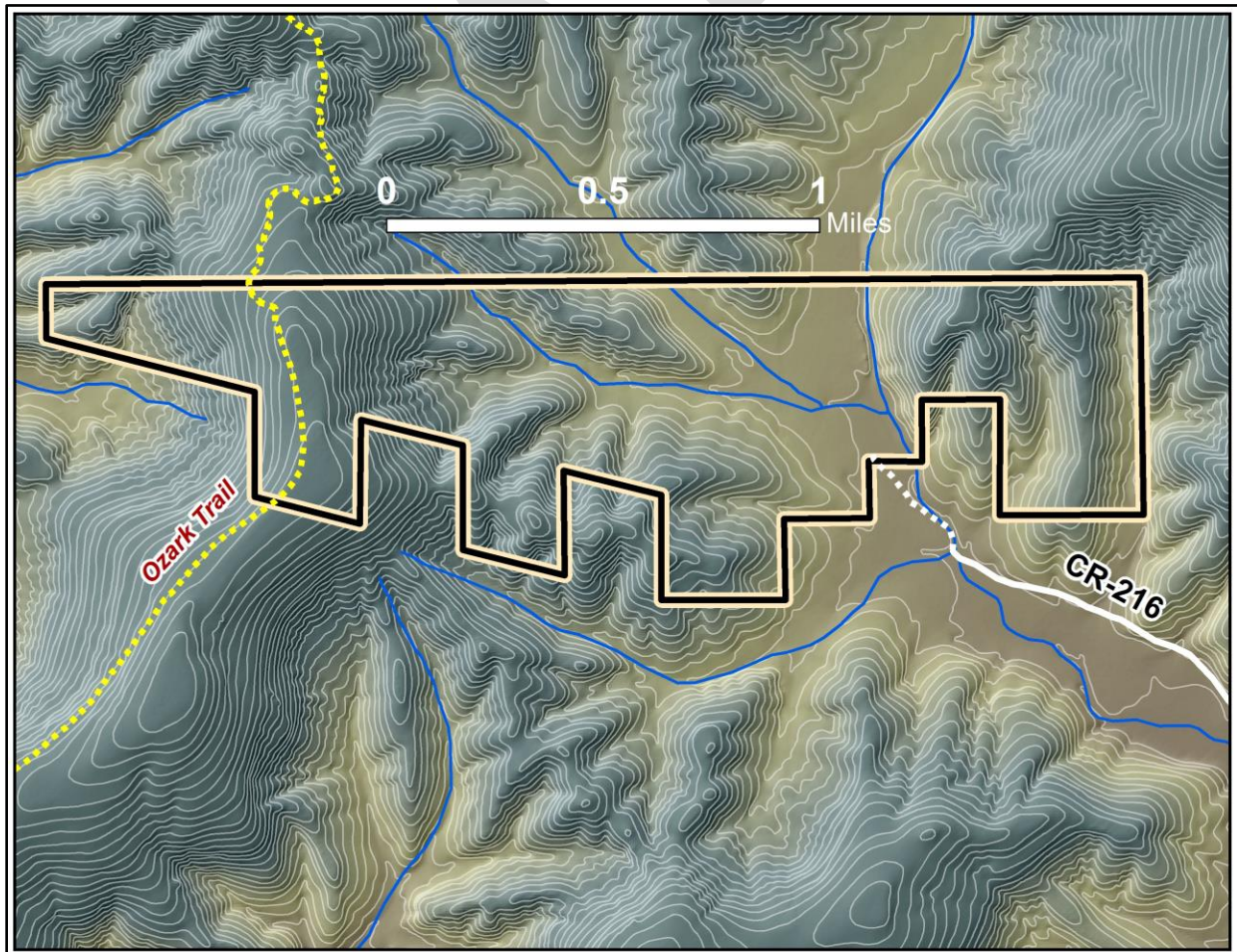
At its western end, the top of Goggins Mountain stands 1,460 feet above sea level, covered in forest and glades with scenic views across forested wilderness and public lands in all directions. The land falls steeply east and west through a maze of valleys and projecting ridges, carved through pre-Cambrian igneous, Cambrian and Ordovician bedrock formations into Shut-Ins Creek – an Outstanding State Resource Water 1.5 miles east and 500 feet of elevation below.

Almost the entire addition is covered in natural vegetation. The forest is native, floristically complete, and increasingly mature stature towards the higher and steeper western end. Dry and dry mesic woodlands, dry-mesic and mesic forest, and dry mesic bottomland forest over the respective igneous and sedimentary or alluvial substrates are the dominant natural

communities. Localized areas of wind throw from the 2009 derecho storm have largely been salvaged and those areas are in an early recovery stage. Toward the bottoms, young deciduous forest covers some of the oldest former fields, and thick cedar/autumn olive stands occupy those most recently abandoned.

Approximately 40 acres of mapped igneous glade are embedded along the dry woodlands cresting Goggins Mountain. The Ozark Trail passes through these, offering expansive views of the wilderness and forest westerly across the public lands and toward the Viburnum Trend. Igneous glades in this region often support populations of the federally endangered Mead's milkweed, and numerous other species of conservation concern or interest in Missouri. On Goggins Mountain the glades range from extensive sheets of bare rock to deep soil bands of prairie grass on the steps between bedrock ledges. The glades have high conservation value with potentially rich native plant and animal communities.

Approximately 70 acres of abandoned fields exist at the east end of the addition. Their vegetation ranges from shrubby fields of fescue, St. Johns Wort and serecia lespedeza to nearly impenetrable thickets of eastern red cedar, autumn olive and sumac. Long abandoned fields on the north side have progressed into young stands of very dense eastern red cedar.



A one-half mile long stretch of Shut-In Creek traverses the east side of the tract. This is a perennial stream over bedrock, with a comparatively wide riverfront forest floodplain border. Two major perennial streams converge and feed into it from within the property, routing most of the surface drainage off Goggins and Bell mountains into Shut-in Creek. Most of the perennial portions of all three run through old fields but with a narrow native riverfront or dry mesic bottomland forest riparian border. Their headwaters are high-gradient wet-weather drainages off the hillsides, with small seep zones common at the contact between igneous and sedimentary bedrock.

**RECREATIONAL POTENTIAL:** The Jost-Brawley acquisitions bridge an unparalleled wilderness experience for Missouri by connecting the Mark Twain National Forest's Bell Mountain Wilderness with Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park's Goggins Mountain Wild Area to create a seamless wilderness landscape of over 15,000 acres. The Ozark Trail corridor provides popular public access through its entirety, giving wilderness seekers ready access to the most rugged and spectacular wild scenery in Missouri.

The Jost and Brawley tracts were acquired via the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) process, primarily to secure these critical area inholdings between the state and federal wilderness units, and create one of the largest unbroken wilderness areas in Missouri. Their addition to Goggins Mountain Wild Area protects the Ozark Trail corridor and its scenery, and preserves the opportunities for solitude and unconfined primitive recreation within its borders and for the greater wilderness area.

#### **MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS:**

ACQUISITION PURPOSE: Jost and the three Brawley tracts were acquired as compensatory mitigation for natural resource injury resulting from hazardous substances releases at the Glover Smelter Site and the Wet Fork Mine and Mill, via the Southeast Missouri Ozarks Regional Restoration Plan's Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) process. The Mark Twain National Forest's *Wilderness Connection and Watershed Protection for the East Fork of the Black River* and the Missouri Division of State Park's *Taum Sauk Mountain and Johnson's Shut-Ins State Parks Parcel Acquisition* were the respective proposals that secured these acquisitions, and in both cases primarily to consolidate the connection between the state and federal wilderness areas. It was the primary intent that these tracts be added to the Goggins Mountain Wild Area or Bell Mountain Wilderness, according to which side of the county line they occupied.

PRESENT USES: The new Jost and Brawley tract additions have been private forest lands and inholdings between the two wilderness areas. The Ozark Trail traverses them according to trail agreements with the previous owners, and is the addition's major recreational feature. No road access exists above the valley's lower slopes, and the land has primarily been used for

hunting. Some timber salvage took place after the 2009 derecho wind storm. The valleys on the east end are abandoned pastures, which have mostly reverted to cedar and autumn olive groves and thickets with limited open ground. The state park tract of this addition is rugged forest land, isolated from the rest of the state park and separated from its trails and visitor use areas.

Since its acquisition, the Jost tract has served as a location for feral hog eradication efforts. The county road that ends downstream of the Jost entrance gate serves as a service vehicle access point for this portion of the park and wilderness. Hog trapping sites have been operated in the fields at the east end to reduce the very active Bell-Goggins feral hog population. Otherwise there are no other established state park uses, except the intent via these purchases to fill the gap between state and federal wilderness, and make them part of the Goggins Mountain Wild Area.

PRESENT ACCESS: Access to the west side is best on foot via the Ozark Trail or on old logging roads up from the Jost bottoms. East-side access is via Country Road 216, and the very rough old drive continuing from its terminus to the Jost property entrance gate.

ADJACENT LAND USES: Most of the surrounding land is designated wilderness, either state park or National Forest. Some private land exists on the south and east boundaries, which is a mix of forest and pasture.

#### **MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES:**

1. WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT: The primary use and purpose will be as a wilderness resource, managed for its wild qualities, natural conditions and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation.
2. TRAIL MAINTENANCE: The Ozark Trail is the principal recreational feature, and will be managed according to wild area policy (DSP Policy N-06: Wild Areas).
3. ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT: Goggins Mountain Wild Area is not within any current Ecological Stewardship Management Areas, nor current fire management zones. The glades and woodlands are fire-dependent natural systems, and prescribed burns may be conducted according to DSP Policy N-06: Wild Areas. Feral hogs are a serious wilderness resource threat, and the major wild area management concern. Feral hog control including trapping is authorized in the old field areas at the lower end of the Jost Tract. Any control measures that require motorized access or other non-wilderness tactics elsewhere must be addressed by a Minimum Requirements Analysis as established by DSP Policy N-06: Wild Areas. No other ecological management is anticipated. If such develops, it must be addressed in a Wild Area Management Plan or by a Minimum Requirements Analysis.
4. WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT: DNR Wild Area Policy provides for administrative vehicular access for fire emergencies, but only when handmade fire lines inside the wild area or

indirect methods outside the boundary will not contain the fire. The Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park Wildfire Management Plan will be revised upon wild area designation to reflect the new boundaries of the Goggins Mountsin Wild Area, and to address access and suppression strategies that are protective of the wilderness resource. It will include detailed suppression plan maps that show natural fire breaks, pre-determine strategies for indirect suppression and mark the most suitable locations for constructed emergency fire suppression lines.

5. **WILD AREA PROTECTION:** All routine patrols, surveillances or other activities requiring access for administrative or enforcement purposes must be done on foot.
6. **EMERGENCY RESPONSE:** DNR Wild Area Policy provides for administrative vehicular access in emergency situations, and the park superintendent or designee is authorized to take immediate action in the event of an emergency or extraordinary circumstance. This includes search and rescue, law enforcement emergencies, airplane disaster, hazardous material spill or other situations where human health or the environment is in immediate jeopardy.

**POTENTIAL CONFLICTS:** At this time, potential intrusion into the wild area from surrounding roads by ATV use would compromise the division's priority to close all accessible entry points into the wild area. Access points should be blocked with physical constraints such as cedar trees or, under extreme threat, physical construction netting.

**ESTIMATED COST:**

INITIAL: None

ANNUAL: For trail maintenance and feral hog control

**PREPARED BY:** Ken McCarty

