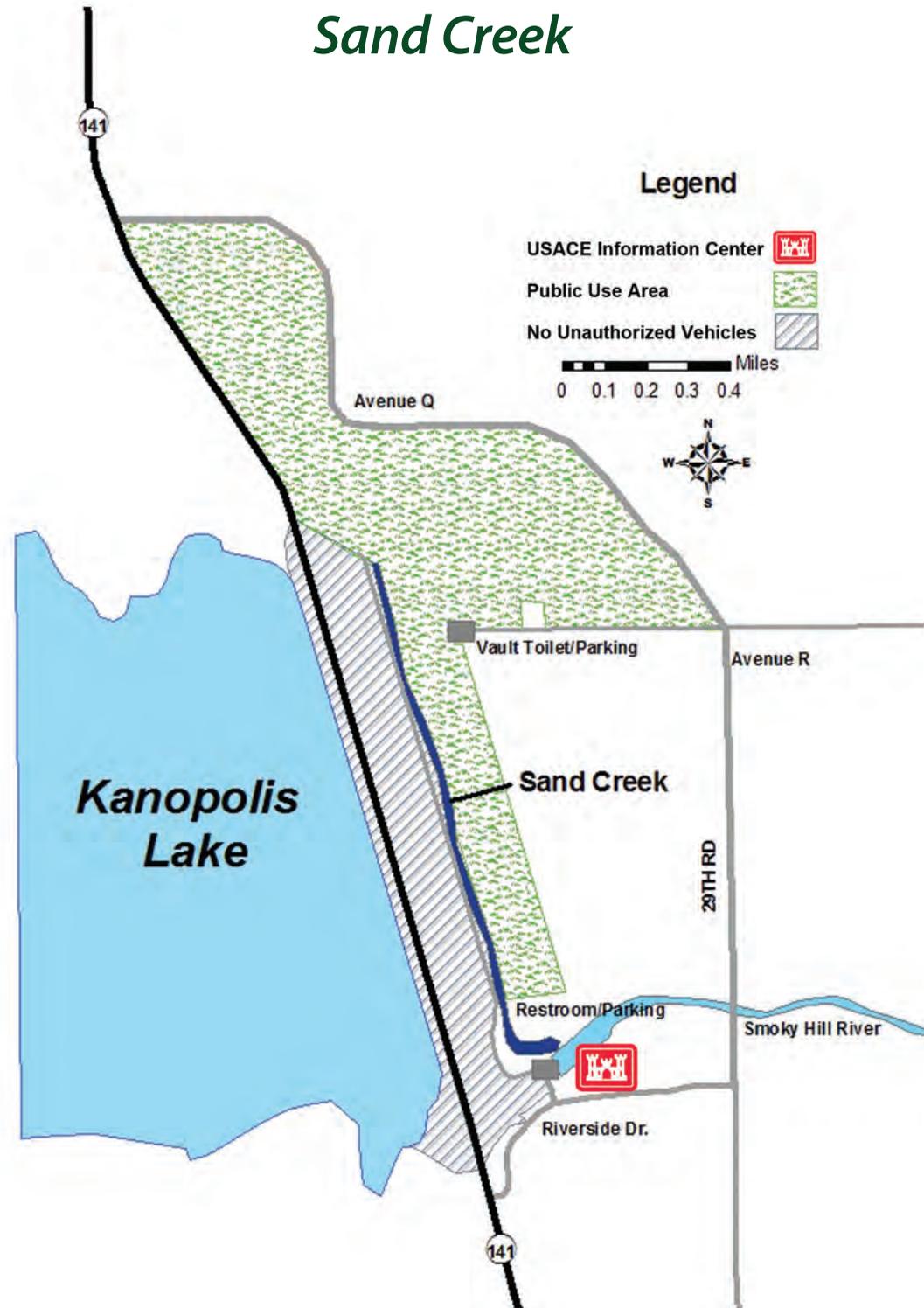


# Sand Creek



## Public Safety

This area is utilized by the general public for hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation year round. Various users must coexist. Please keep the safety of yourself and others around you in mind at all times when you are visiting Sand creek and all other U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Project lands.

## Rules & Regulations

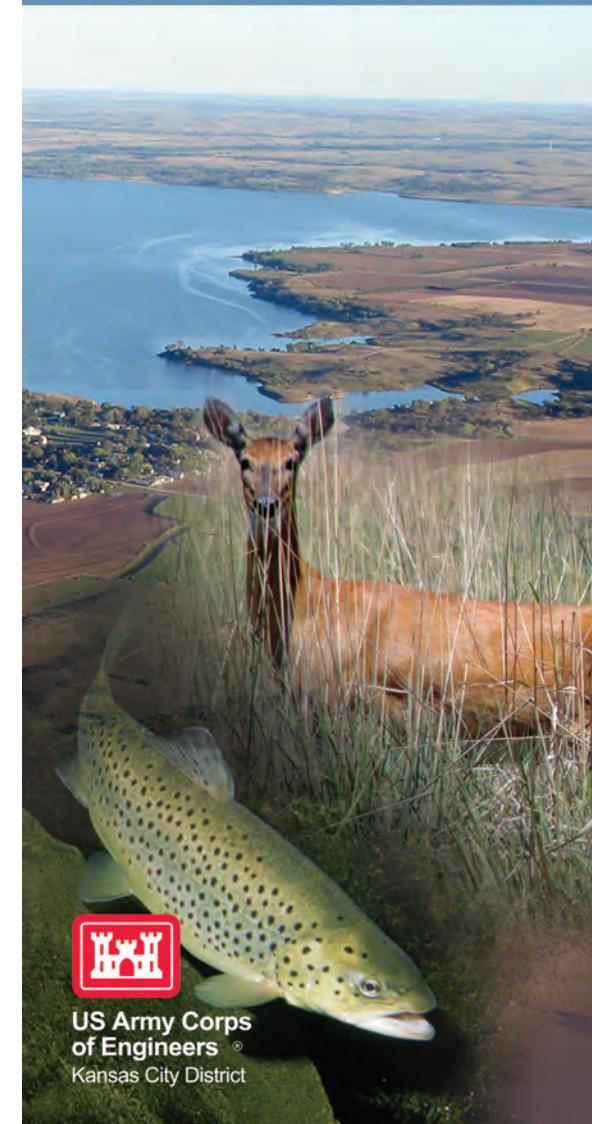
- Foot traffic only is permitted, no motorized vehicles allowed in the Sand Creek Area.
- All State and Federal Regulations apply, including Title 36.
- Obey all posted signs and boundaries.
- Pack out what you pack in.



U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kanopolis Project Office  
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Marquette, KS 67464  
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# The **SAND CREEK** at Kanopolis Lake

## Interpretive Reference Guide & Map



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Kansas City District

## General

The Sand Creek area of Kanopolis Lake is the result of a joint effort between The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District (USACE), the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Kansas Department of Wildlife Parks and Tourism and the Lyons Creek

Watershed Joint District No. 41.

The goal of the joint effort was to create habitat pools, provide grade control/erosion protection, and enhance

stream habitat; thereby, providing suitable habitat for KDWPT's trout stocking program, this partnership became known as the Sand Creek Habitat Development and Mitigation Project. This partnership has resulted in a high quality public fishery that is unique to Kansas. The Sand Creek, also referred to as the Kanopolis Seep Stream, encompasses 15 acres of water along 7,100 feet of stream channel and over 400 acres USACE managed lands. This project started with the construction of the earthen embankment dam at Kanopolis. It was constructed in close proximity to a small stream known as Sand Creek. The Sand Creek water shed is approximately a 9 square mile area upstream of the USACE boundary. This stream was redirected so that it flowed parallel to the toe of the dam and consistently maintained a minimum natural flow of approximately 4-5 gallons per second .

A design change was incorporated into the structure in the early 1950's which provided a through seepage collector system. This system collected water that seeps through the embankment and contributes approximately 1-2 cubic feet per second to the total flow of the stream. The water of the collector system being filter through several hundred feet of the Kanopolis embankment enters the Sand Creek very clean and at a constant temperature 55-60 degrees.



In the late 1970's interest in creating a trout program grew from the general public and USACE personnel. In the fall of 1986 a pilot program was put into place and the Kansas Fish and Game (now Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism) stocked 800 12"-15" Rainbow trout.

Fish have been stocked in Sand Creek since 1986. In 2008 the effort to create a more stable fishery and more desirable habitat, came from the partnership. Over the next two years, these groups along with numerous volunteers created an excellent trout fishery and amazing habitat for wildlife around Kanopolis Lake.



## Fishing

Since the initial stocking in 1986, Sand Creek has been the home to both Rainbow and Brown Trout. A major draw to Sand Creek is trout fishing. It is stocked 6 times a year from October through March. Each stocking, a mix of 1,400 Rainbow and Brown Trout, about half pound each, are released into Sand Creek. ***The water has been filtered through the Dam and because it remains a fairly consistent temperature***, Sand Creek stays warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer, allowing for successful trout fishing. Trout fishing season runs October 15-April 15. Only artificial lures are allowed between marked poles 9 through 16.

## Hunting

The Sand Creek area offers a wide range of habitat for Kansas native wildlife. The managed lands around Sand Creek offers hunters access to pursue Whitetail deer, Rio Grande Hybrid turkey, and upland bird species such as pheasants and quail. The creek itself offers water fowler's active duck hunting.



Hunting and Furharvesting in this area is allowed in the public use area behind the dam, along the east bank of Sand Creek. ***This area is restricted to shotgun and archery hunting only.***

## Construction

In the Spring of 2008 the partnership of the USACE, NRCS, KDWPT and LCWD began discussion on the Sand Creek Habitat Development and Mitigation Project at Kanopolis Lake. The partners put together this project focusing on their common



interests of fisheries management, recreation development, and natural resource conservation. The construction encompassed 8 different sites along the length of Sand Creek. This created four major and one minor grade control structures, constructed from "shot rock." The grade control structures are between 2-3 feet in height and keyed into both banks. The grade control structures create slack water pools strategically distributed throughout Sand Creek and would a line with a series of stream and habitat enhancement features designed along approximately 4,600 linear feet of stream channel. These structures in part were also created to prevent future channel degradation in the flash flood prone, Sand Creek In addition to the grade control structures, the construction included habitat enhancement like the creation of pools and the installation of luncker boxes. Stream bank stabilization structures were also installed. One of the final processes in construction was the planting of trees, which in the future will be overhanging the banks of Sand Creek to provide shade and bank stabilization. After more than 2 years of construction, Sand Creek Habitat Development and Mitigation Project resulted in quality wetland for wildlife and aquatic habitat suitable for trout.

