

Regionally Significant Environmental and Historic Resources in the OKI Region

Category	Description
Agricultural Districts	<p>Farmland where transportation projects may involve additional costs (mitigation may be required for impacts from state-funded projects)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural Districts in Ohio and Kentucky programs (not available in Indiana) are enrolled for 5-year protection as agricultural use at the property owner's request.
Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Species	<p>Animal and plant species that are federally or state listed as endangered (in danger of extinction), threatened (likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future), or at risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 161 species native to the OKI Region are state listed. ▪ Nearly 2/3 of the region's 104 state-listed animal species depend on aquatic habitat for survival, and more than 1/4 of these are "critically imperiled" or "imperiled" at global levels. ▪ The survival of listed species depends partly on the viability of other Regionally Significant Resources -- Streams with Special Significance, Streams with Habitat Value, State Conserved Area, Wetlands.
Historic Places	<p>Properties in the National Register of Historic Places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties in the NRHP (or eligible for listing) "must receive consideration based on the National Historic Preservation Act prior to an undertaking involving Federal monies."
Prime Farmland	<p>Land outside of the Urbanized Area where transportation projects may involve additional costs if they reduce the land's use or suitability as farmland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prime Farmland has soil characteristics that make it the world's most productive agricultural areas and a globally-scarce resource. ▪ Impacts to Prime and Important Farmland from federally-funded projects are to be avoided or mitigated under federal policy.
State Conserved Areas	<p>State parks, state wildlife areas (Ohio) and wildlife management areas (Kentucky), and state preserves (dedicated under state law)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State investment in these areas help sustain multiple environmental resources.
Streams with Habitat Value	<p>Streams or stream segments that attain their designated use as aquatic habitat (as Warmwater Habitat or a higher level: Ohio Exceptional Warmwater Habitat, Ohio Coldwater Habitat or Kentucky Outstanding State Resource Water).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ "Designated uses" are part of the strategy for meeting Clean Water Act goals: to restore and maintain the ... nation's waters so that they can support the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish and wildlife and recreation in and on the water."

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Category	Description
Streams with Special Significance	<p>Streams or stream segments identified for conservation or protection by the states based on one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Designated as a National and State Scenic River based on outstanding qualities to be protected for the future (the national system includes about 1/4 of 1% of the nation's rivers)▪ Identified as a priority area for conserving aquatic species (in state wildlife conservation/action plans)▪ Designated for use as habitat by species that require a high level of water quality (in administrative code for state water quality standards)▪ Classified for high ecological value (in Antidegradation Policy included in state water quality standards)
Wetlands	<p>Areas where transportation projects are likely to involve additional costs if impacts to wetland functions are not avoided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ About 80% of the Oxbow of the Great Miami River is conserved (used by an outstanding array of species).▪ More than a third of the nation's threatened and endangered species live only in wetlands.