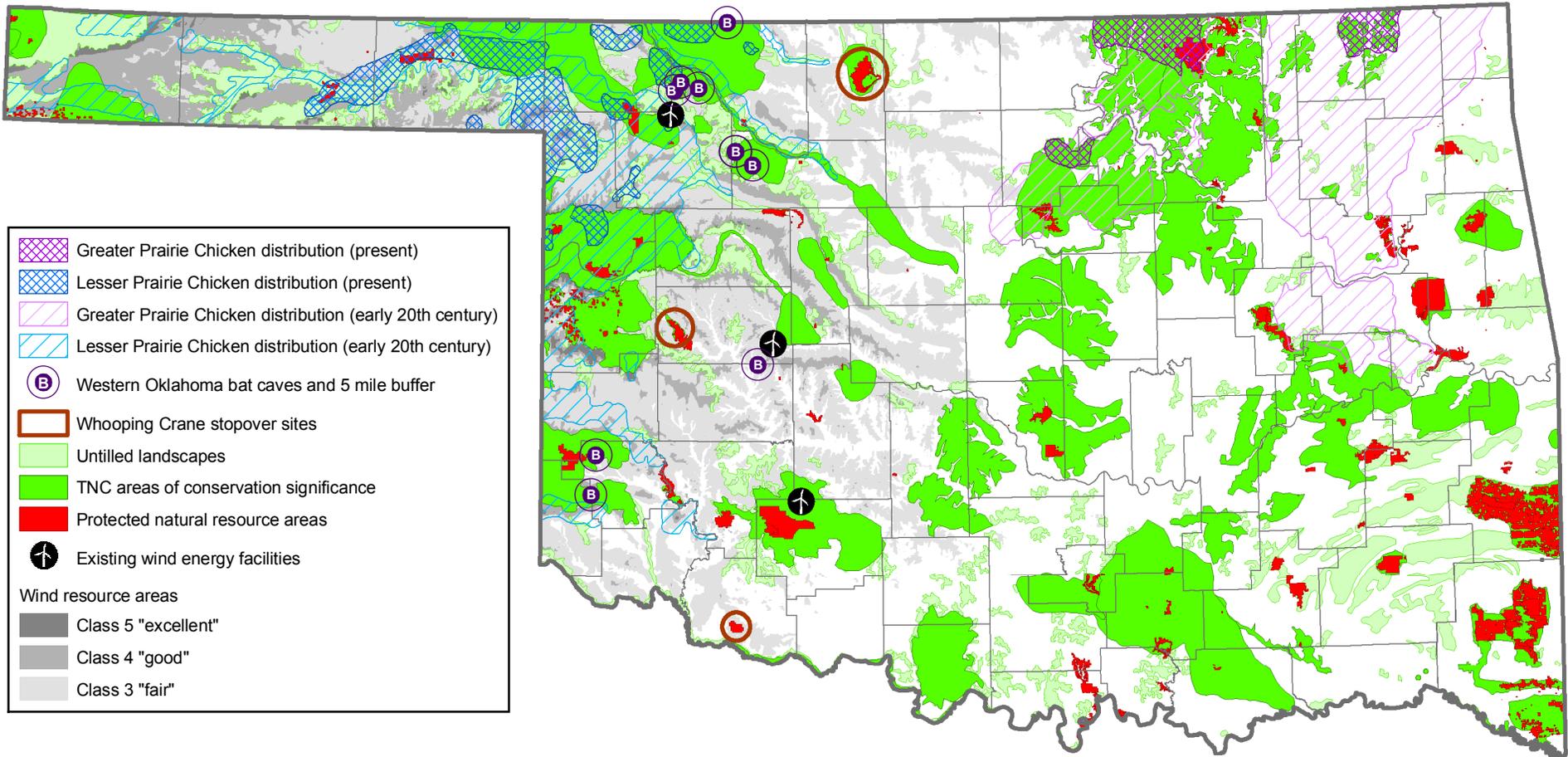


# Oklahoma Natural Resources: Wind, Wildlife, Untilled Landscapes, and Protected Areas

This map depicts general areas of conservation sensitivity and is intended to provide general guidance for wildlife appropriate siting of wind farms, transmission lines and other landscape-altering structures.



Present Greater and Lesser Prairie Chicken distributions:  
The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS,  
with comments from the Sutton Avian Research Center and  
the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.  
January 2005

Early 20th century prairie chicken distributions:  
Digitized from Duck, L.G. and J.B. Fletcher. 1943.  
Lesser and Greater Prairie Chicken distribution and densities.  
in A Survey of the Game and Furbearing Animals of Oklahoma.  
Oklahoma Game and Fish Commission.

Protected natural resource areas:  
State parks, wildlife management areas;  
National parks, grasslands/forests, wildlife refuges;  
and Nature Conservancy preserves.  
The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS,  
February 2005

Untilled landscapes:  
Central and Western Oklahoma -  
Ostlie, Wayne. 2003. Untilled Landscapes of the Great Plains.  
The Nature Conservancy, Midwest Science Center.  
Eastern Oklahoma -  
The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS,  
January 2005

Western Oklahoma bat caves:  
The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS,  
January 2005

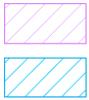
Whooping Crane stopover sites  
Modified from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Whooping Crane sightings, 1947-1999  
The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS,  
February 2005

Wind resource areas:  
Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative  
[www.ocgi.okstate.edu/owpi](http://www.ocgi.okstate.edu/owpi)  
August 2005



Present Greater and Lesser Prairie Chicken distributions:

The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS, with comments from the Sutton Avian Research Center and the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. January 2005.



Early 20th century prairie chicken distributions:

Digitized from Duck, L.G. and J.B. Fletcher. 1943. Lesser and Greater Prairie Chicken distribution and densities. in A Survey of the Game and Furbearing Animals of Oklahoma. Oklahoma Game and Fish Commission.



Protected natural resource areas:

State parks, wildlife management areas; National parks, grasslands/forests, wildlife refuges; and Nature Conservancy preserves. The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS, February 2005.



Untilled landscapes:

Central and Western Oklahoma – Ostlie, Wayne. 2003. Untilled Landscapes of the Great Plains. The Nature Conservancy, Midwest Science Center.

Eastern Oklahoma - The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS, January 2005.

*These polygons represent landscape-scale areas with largely intact natural or semi-natural vegetation as identified through an interpretation of early 1990's Landsat Thematic Mapper (TM) satellite imagery. Landsat TM scenes were visually interpreted to delineate untilled landscape-scale areas, with landscape areas subsequently digitized and assembled into a GIS data layer for use in conservation planning.*



TNC areas of conservation significance:

The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS, January 2005.

*Areas identified for high biodiversity significance by The Nature Conservancy and partner organizations. Sites in some ecoregions are preliminary and subject to change. These areas are generally considered important for conserving the native species, communities, and ecological systems of the state. The area polygons were delineated in ecoregional conservation assessments and site conservation plans by The Nature Conservancy and partners, and account for conservation "targets" across multiple scales (i.e. individual species as well as entire ecological systems).*



Western Oklahoma bat caves:

The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS, January 2005.

*These caves represent sites of conservation importance as identified in a 1993 report to The Nature Conservancy on caves of the gypsum karst region of western Oklahoma. Other caves exist across the state; however, many of these are not mapped. As most of Oklahoma's best wind potential sites are located in the western counties, the area in the vicinity of these caves likely represents the greatest potential risk of wind energy associated bat mortality in the state.*



Wind resource areas:

Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative [www.ocgi.okstate.edu/owpi](http://www.ocgi.okstate.edu/owpi) August 2005.



Whooping Crane stopover sites:

Modified from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Whooping Crane sightings, 1947-1999 The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Chapter GIS, February 2005.