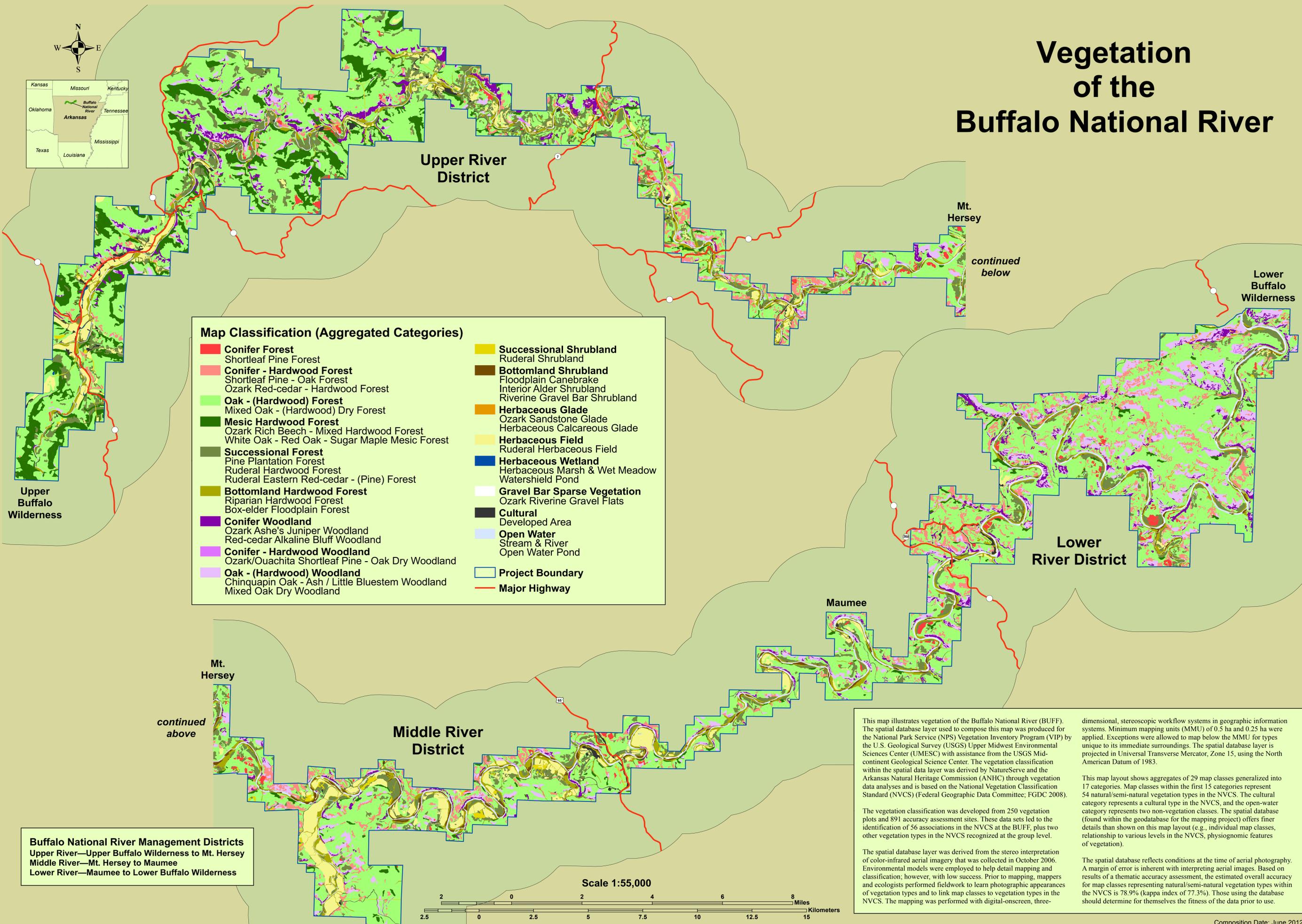




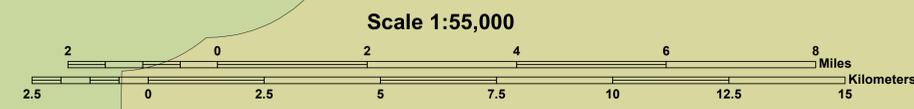
Vegetation of the Buffalo National River



Map Classification (Aggregated Categories)

■ Conifer Forest Shortleaf Pine Forest	■ Successional Shrubland Ruderal Shrubland
■ Conifer - Hardwood Forest Shortleaf Pine - Oak Forest Ozark Red-cedar - Hardwood Forest	■ Bottomland Shrubland Floodplain Canebrake Interior Alder Shrubland Riverine Gravel Bar Shrubland
■ Oak - (Hardwood) Forest Mixed Oak - (Hardwood) Dry Forest	■ Herbaceous Glade Ozark Sandstone Glade Herbaceous Calcareous Glade
■ Mesic Hardwood Forest Ozark Rich Beech - Mixed Hardwood Forest White Oak - Red Oak - Sugar Maple Mesic Forest	■ Herbaceous Field Ruderal Herbaceous Field
■ Successional Forest Pine Plantation Forest Ruderal Hardwood Forest Ruderal Eastern Red-cedar - (Pine) Forest	■ Herbaceous Wetland Herbaceous Marsh & Wet Meadow Watershed Pond
■ Bottomland Hardwood Forest Riparian Hardwood Forest Box-elder Floodplain Forest	■ Gravel Bar Sparse Vegetation Ozark Riverine Gravel Flats
■ Conifer Woodland Ozark Ashe's Juniper Woodland Red-cedar Alkaline Bluff Woodland	■ Cultural Developed Area
■ Conifer - Hardwood Woodland Ozark/Ouachita Shortleaf Pine - Oak Dry Woodland	■ Open Water Stream & River Open Water Pond
■ Oak - (Hardwood) Woodland Chinquapin Oak - Ash / Little Bluestem Woodland Mixed Oak Dry Woodland	 Project Boundary
	— Major Highway

Buffalo National River Management Districts
 Upper River—Upper Buffalo Wilderness to Mt. Hersey
 Middle River—Mt. Hersey to Maumee
 Lower River—Maumee to Lower Buffalo Wilderness



This map illustrates vegetation of the Buffalo National River (BUFF). The spatial database layer used to compose this map was produced for the National Park Service (NPS) Vegetation Inventory Program (VIP) by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center (UMESC) with assistance from the USGS Mid-continent Geological Science Center. The vegetation classification within the spatial data layer was derived by NatureServe and the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission (ANHC) through vegetation data analyses and is based on the National Vegetation Classification Standard (NVCS) (Federal Geographic Data Committee; FGDC 2008).

The vegetation classification was developed from 250 vegetation plots and 891 accuracy assessment sites. These data sets led to the identification of 56 associations in the NVCS at the BUFF, plus two other vegetation types in the NVCS recognized at the group level.

The spatial database layer was derived from the stereo interpretation of color-infrared aerial imagery that was collected in October 2006. Environmental models were employed to help detail mapping and classification; however, with low success. Prior to mapping, mappers and ecologists performed fieldwork to learn photographic appearances of vegetation types and to link map classes to vegetation types in the NVCS. The mapping was performed with digital-onscreen, three-

dimensional, stereoscopic workflow systems in geographic information systems. Minimum mapping units (MMU) of 0.5 ha and 0.25 ha were applied. Exceptions were allowed to map below the MMU for types unique to its immediate surroundings. The spatial database layer is projected in Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 15, using the North American Datum of 1983.

This map layout shows aggregates of 29 map classes generalized into 17 categories. Map classes within the first 15 categories represent 54 natural/semi-natural vegetation types in the NVCS. The cultural category represents a cultural type in the NVCS, and the open-water category represents two non-vegetation classes. The spatial database (found within the geodatabase for the mapping project) offers finer details than shown on this map layout (e.g., individual map classes, relationship to various levels in the NVCS, physiognomic features of vegetation).

The spatial database reflects conditions at the time of aerial photography. A margin of error is inherent with interpreting aerial images. Based on results of a thematic accuracy assessment, the estimated overall accuracy for map classes representing natural/semi-natural vegetation types within the NVCS is 78.9% (kappa index of 77.3%). Those using the database should determine for themselves the fitness of the data prior to use.