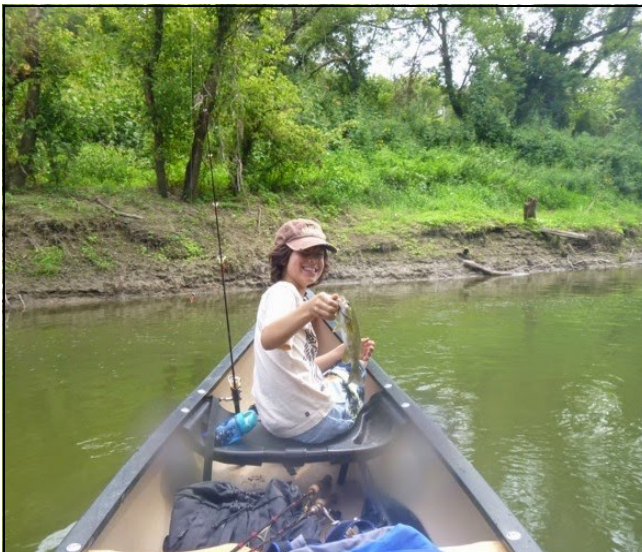
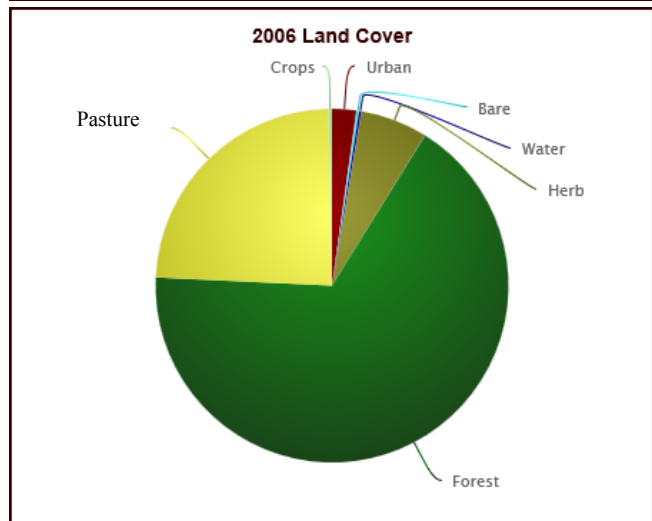
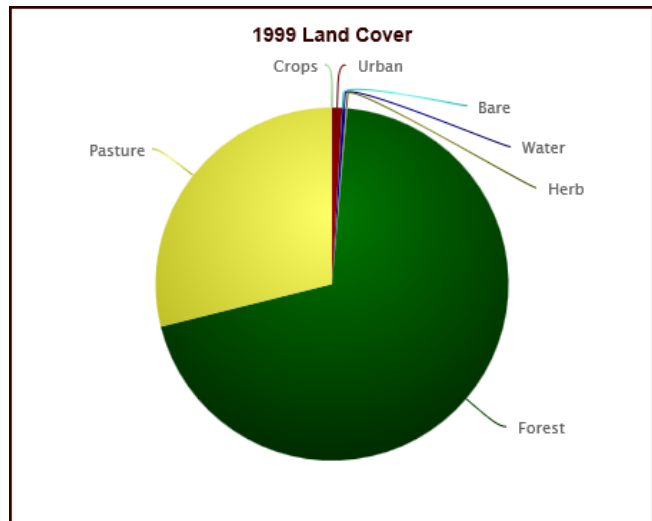


1.2 Land Use

The Ozarks are a truly magnificent place to live and the Kings River watershed is one of its crown jewels. Unpolluted streams, bountiful wildlife, and breath-taking scenery make it unlikely that this area will remain a secret forever. Like other local streams, the Kings River escaped a planned dam to be built by the Army Corps of Engineers in the 1950s. Unlike many other streams, the Kings River watershed remains primarily in the hands of private property owners.

The Kings River Watershed totals 591 square miles and drains portions of Carroll, Madison, Newton, and Boone counties in Arkansas. The Kings River flows generally northward for nearly ninety miles from the Boston Mountains to Table Rock Lake in Missouri. The largest tributary, Osage Creek, is the receiving waterbody for effluent from the Berryville wastewater treatment facility, the only centralized treatment facility in the watershed. Our watershed is still very rural, with a population density of only around 25 people per square mile. However, our population has almost doubled since 1990. Our area is not yet experiencing the population boom that is occurring in Washington and Benton Counties, but urban land use has been steadily on the rise during the last 20 years.



The Kings River watershed hosts hundreds of species of fish, crayfish, mussels, turtles, and aquatic insects. Eighteen of these species cannot be found anywhere outside of the Ozarks. Many anglers visit the Kings River to enjoy the excellent small-mouth bass fishing. The Kings River between Trigger Gap and the Hwy 62 bridge is a designated trophy zone with a limit of one fish over 18 inches per day.

To natives and newbies alike, thank you for being great neighbors and helping us to protect this special area so that our kids may experience its magic.