



Where the water connects us all



The Historic Entrance to Mammoth Cave. NPS photo by Jackie Wheat.

What is the Mammoth Cave Biosphere Region? The Mammoth Cave Biosphere Region (MCBR) is an internationally recognized place where local residents, public and private sector organizations, and technical experts cooperate to maintain thriving communities while conserving our unique natural resources. Led by an Advisory Council, the Biosphere Region strives for clean groundwater for our people and our environment.



A Farm in the Mammoth Cave Biosphere Region. NPS Photo.

What are the main goals of the Mammoth Cave Biosphere Region?

The Biosphere Region is committed to achieving sustainable development in the area around Mammoth Cave National Park to improve the economic and cultural well-being of local people in ways that are compatible with the internationally renowned karst area, particularly with respect to the effects of groundwater pollution. The

MCBR promotes the conservation of water resources and biodiversity because they both provide essential benefits to our people and our environment. The MCBR supports sustainable economic development for healthy people and a healthy economy. We need development within our communities to improve our quality of life. Sustainable development ensures that our businesses will thrive in harmony with our environment

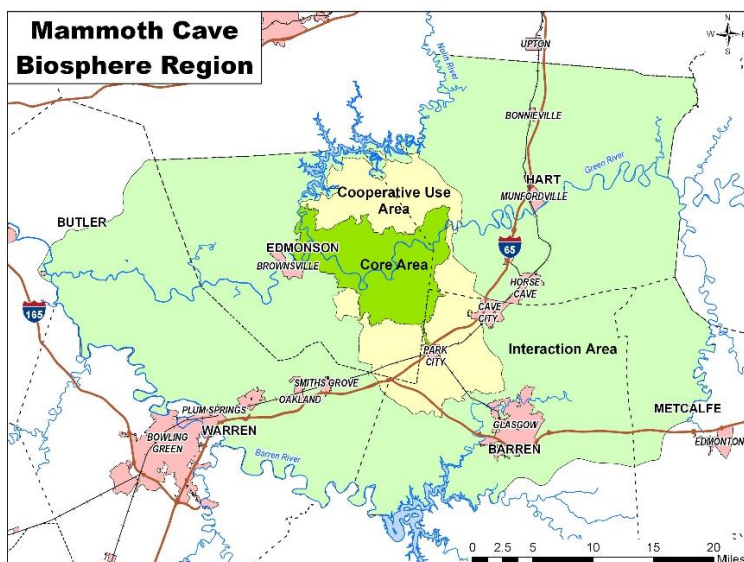


and continue to be successful in a changing world for generations to come. The MCBR encourages research and education so that we can better understand our resources and utilize them in a way that maintains them for future generations. Our Biosphere Region is a learning space and we want everyone who lives here to be proud of the beautiful and unique place that they call home.

When and how was the Mammoth Cave Biosphere Region established? The Biosphere Region was established in 1990 by members from the local community who desired a better future for themselves and their environment. They sought recognition from UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, so that their home could be recognized for its beauty and prosperity. Since then the Biosphere Region has been run by volunteers from the local communities and will always be a local movement aimed at improving the quality of life for all those who live there.

How is the Mammoth Cave Biosphere Region structured? The Biosphere Region is governed by a 25-member Advisory Council with members from federal, state and local governments, non-profit organizations, community groups, and local universities. Activities are supported by an agreement between Mammoth Cave National Park, the Barren River Area Development District, and Western Kentucky University. The MCBR

is organized into three interrelated areas that support our local partnerships, known as the Core Area, the Cooperative Use Area, and the Interaction Area.



Map of the Mammoth Cave Biosphere Region in southcentral Kentucky.

Where is the Mammoth Cave Biosphere Region located?

The MCBR is located in southcentral Kentucky in Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Metcalfe, and Warren counties. It spans a total of 909,328 acres owned by private landowners (private businesses, properties,

farms, etc.), industry, the federal government (Mammoth Cave National Park), and state and local governments (State Parks & Recreation Areas, public parks, roadways, etc.). Essentially, the Mammoth Cave Biosphere Region encompasses all of the places where we live our normal lives to help us remember that we are a part of, not apart from, our environment.

For more information: Visit <https://www.bradd.org/index.php/mammoth-cave-biosphere-region> or our Facebook Page @MammothCaveBiosphereRegion