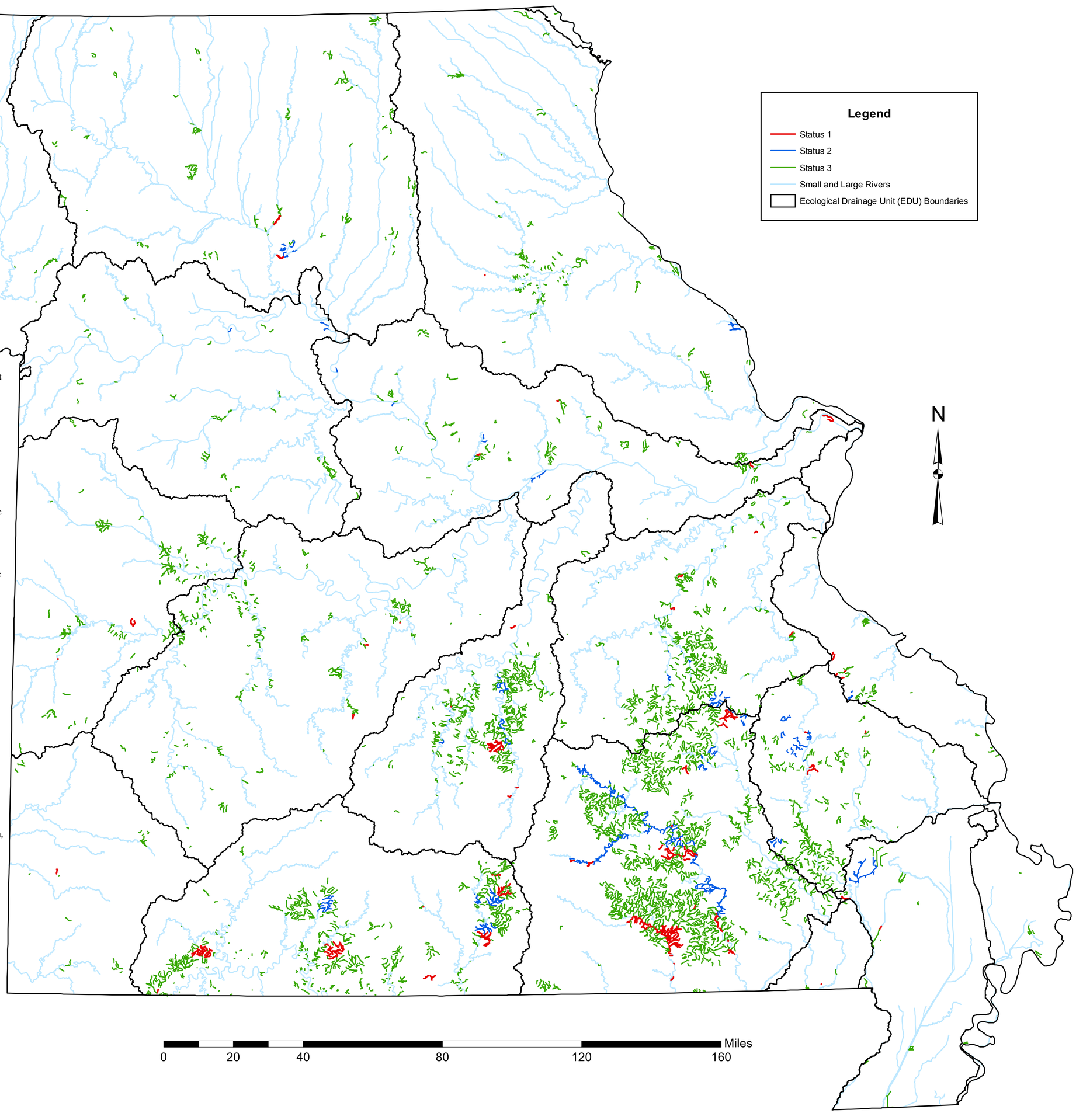
Biodiversity Management Status of Riverine Systems in Missouri



Objective
Depict the biodiversity management status of streams within public lands in Missouri.

General Description
The USGS Gap Analysis Program defines biodoversity management status categories as follows (after Scott et al. 1993, Edwards et al. 1994, Crist et al. 1996):

Status 1: An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation to maintain a natural state within which disturbance events (of natural type, frequency, intensity, and legacy) are allowed to proceed without interference or are mimicked through management.

Status 2: An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation to maintain a primarily natural state, but which may receive uses or management practices that degrade the quality of existing natural communities, including suppression of natural disturbance.

Status 3: An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover for the majority of the area, but subject to extractive uses of either a broad, low-intensity type (e.g., logging) or localized intense type (e.g., mining). It also confers protection to federally listed endangered and threatened species throughout the area.

Status 4: There are no known public or private institutional mandates or legally recognized easements or deed restrictions held by the managing entity to prevent conversion of natural habitat types to anthropogenic habitat types. The area generally allows conversion to unnatural land cover throughout.

Because Status 4 lands have little, if any, biodiversity protection, we depict only streams with a status of 1, 2 or 3. Streams designated as small and large rivers are shown to illustrate overall drainage patterns. All the streams are shown within the framework of the Ecological Drainage Units of Missouri.

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