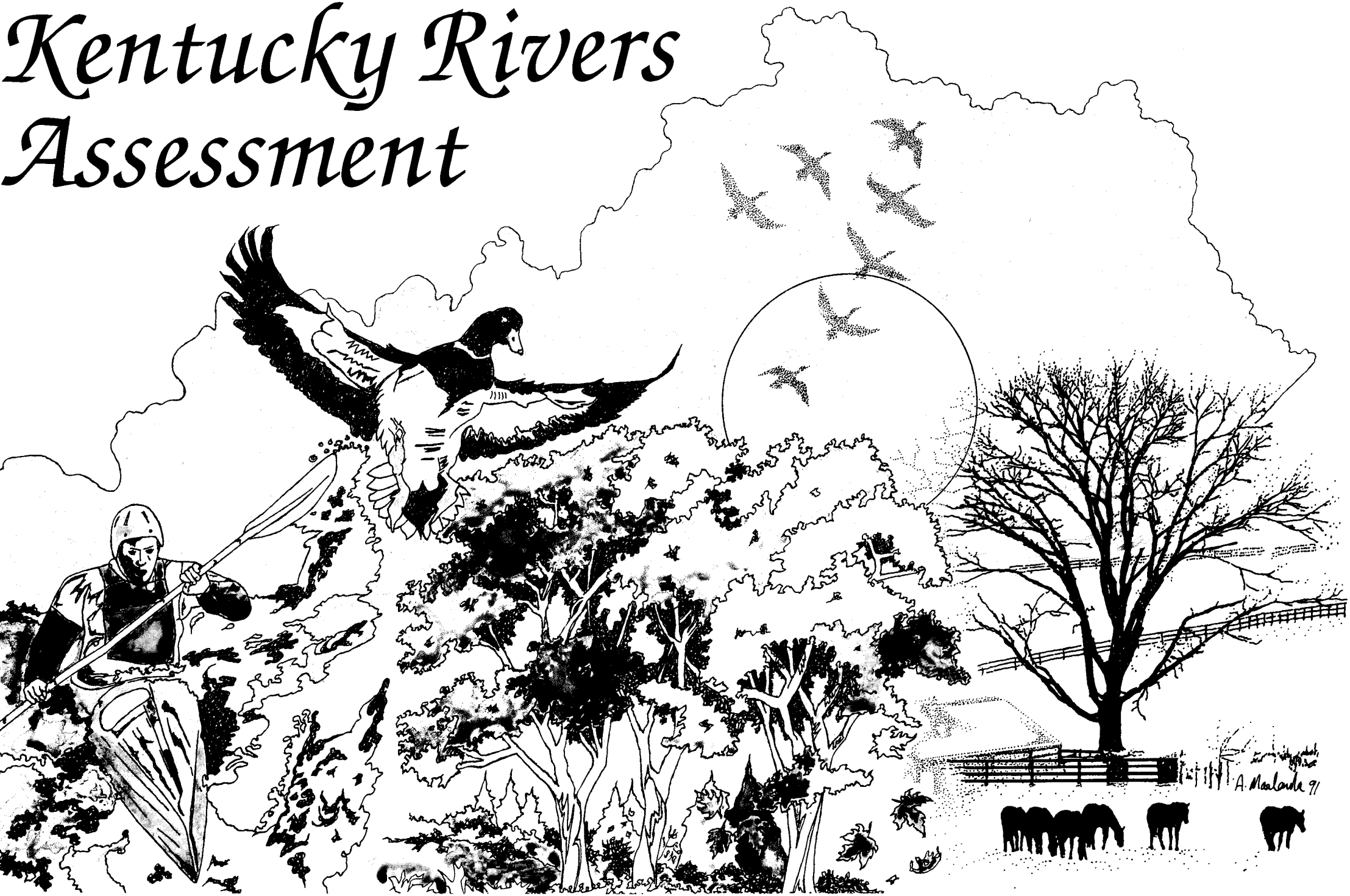
Kentucky Rivers Assessment



Natural Resources and
Environmental Protection Cabinet

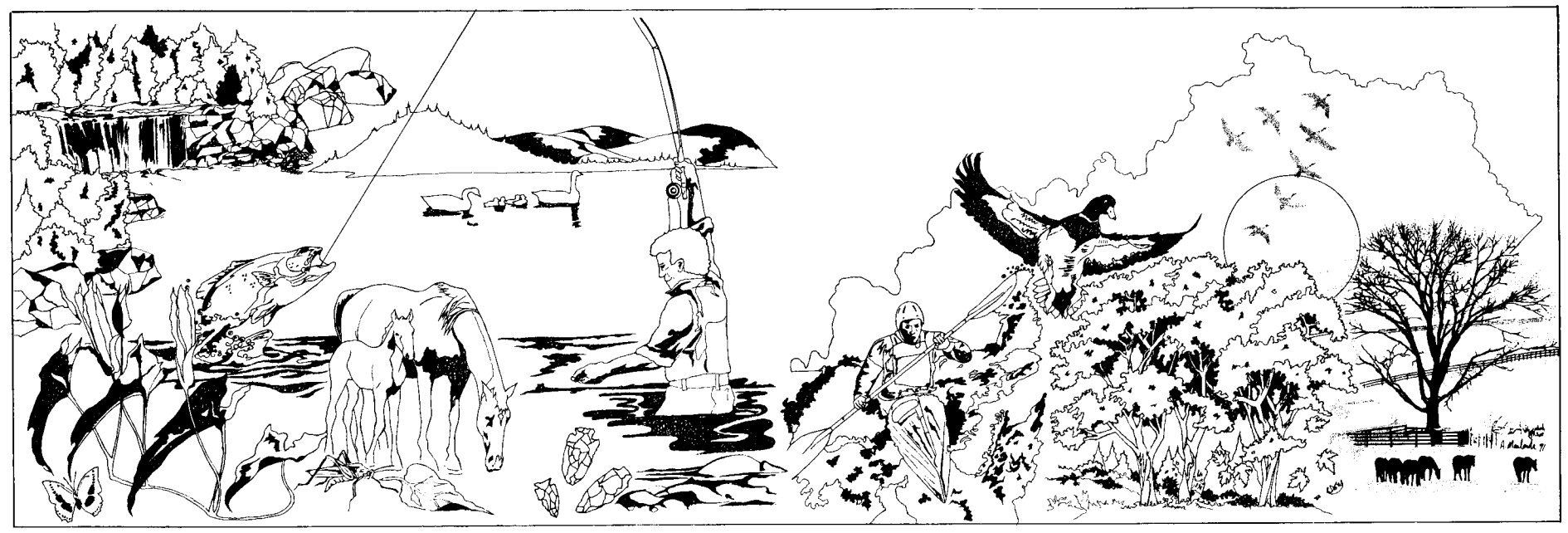
The Kentucky Division of Water is responsible for administering programs to ensure a continuous supply of safe drinking water; ensure the maintenance of water quality in the state; protect the state's water storage supplies from harmful overflow; preserve the safety of the citizens by preventing improper construction of water projects; and promote and regulate the conservation, development, and most beneficial use of the state's water resources.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Department of the Interior

The National Park Service is the premier park agency in the country responsible for the management of some 80 million acres in the United States. The Service does more than manage parks, however. Through its Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program, the National Park Service is responsible for developing national policies and programs concerning the conservation of the nation's river and trail resources. The Service also helps local communities and state governments create conservation plans for the development of greenways and protection of rivers and open space areas outside of the national parks.

The National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and the Kentucky Division of Water are equal opportunity agencies and offer all persons the benefits of participating in each of their programs and competing in all areas of employment regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap or other non-merit factor.

Kentucky Rivers Assessment



A Cooperative Statewide Rivers Assessment by the Kentucky Division of Water
and the
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service

1992

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FRONT COVER: *Illustration of the many river-related resources evaluated in the Kentucky Rivers Assessment. Scenes portray the four seasons starting with spring lilies on the back cover and ending with winter in the Bluegrass Region on the front cover. Cloud in the background of front cover is an outline of Kentucky. Illustration by Andrew Maslanka.*

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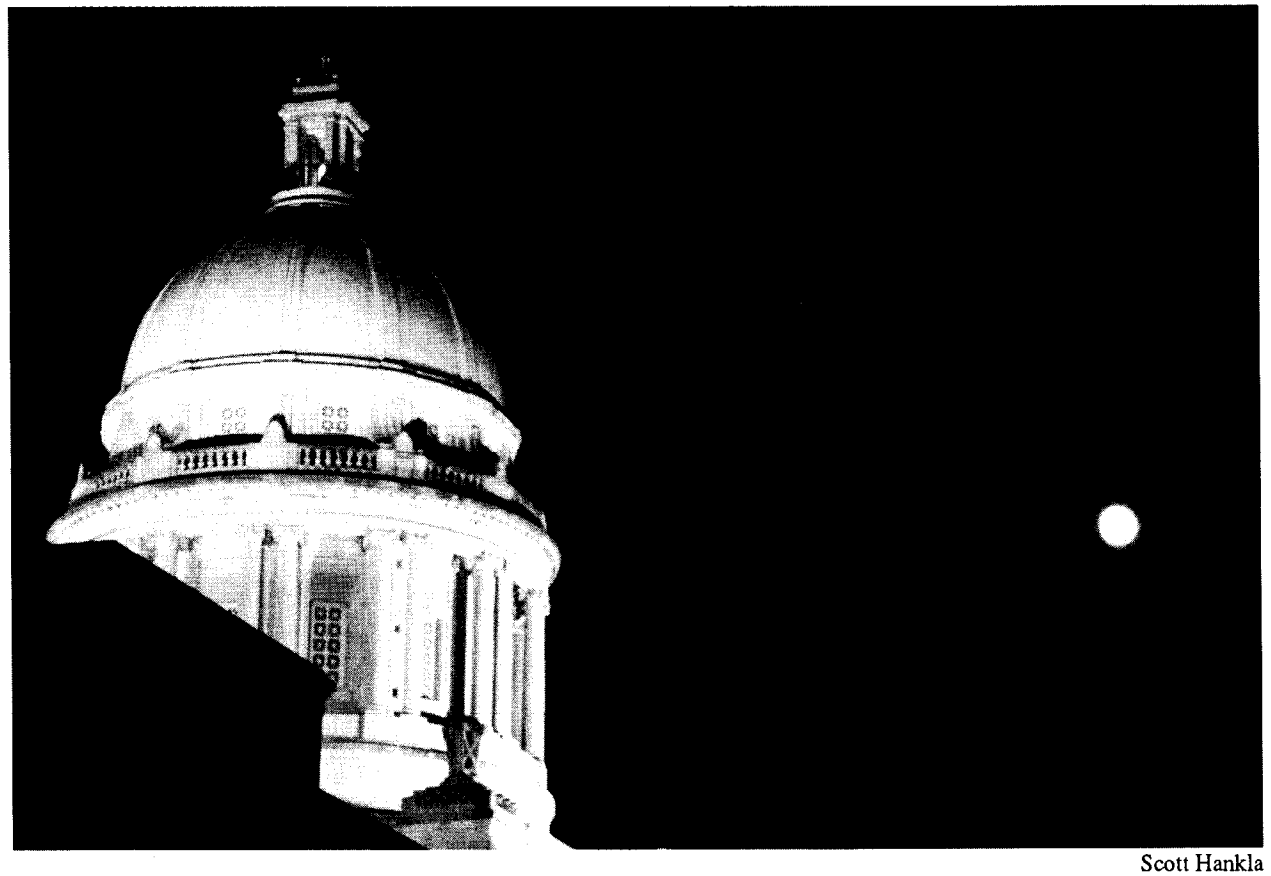

Scott Hankla

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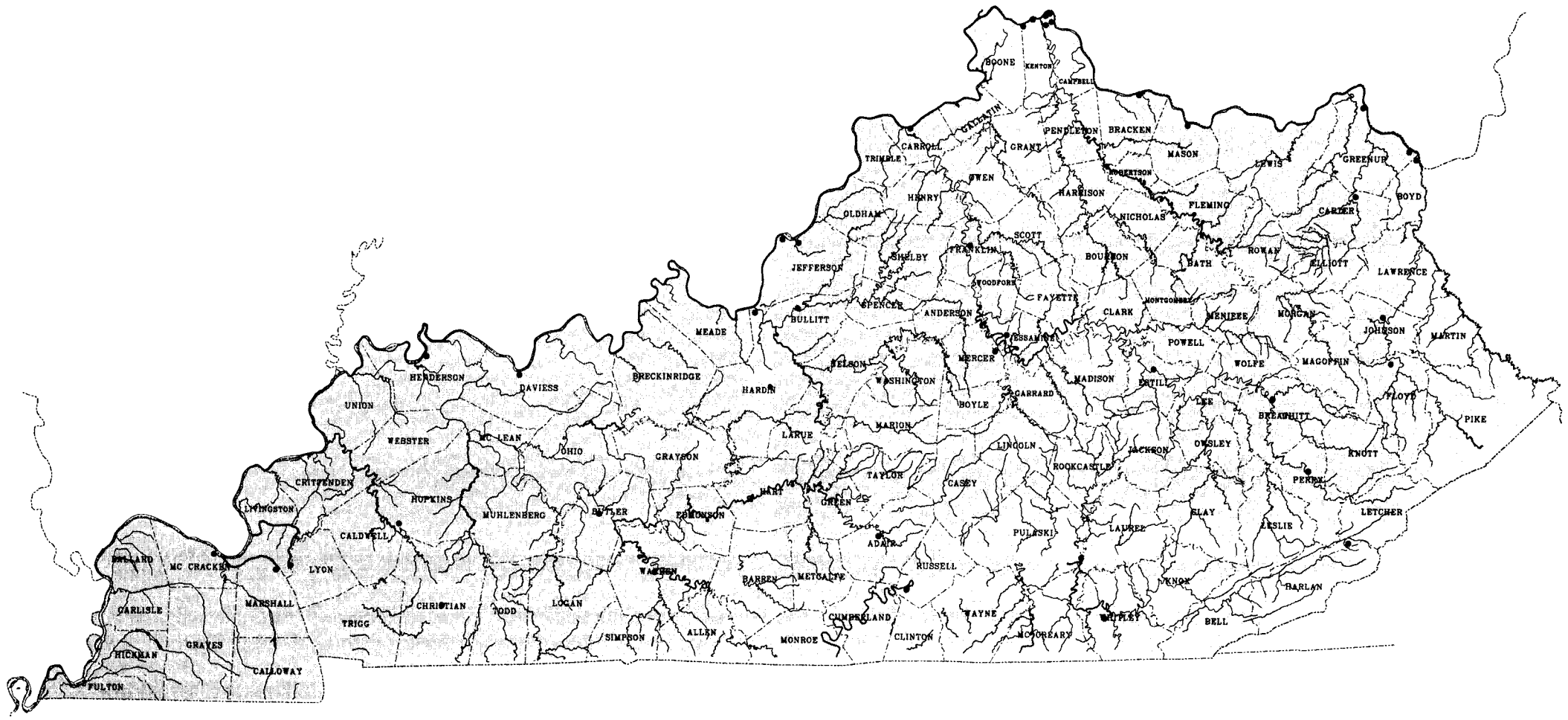
Executive Summary

Rivers and their surrounding lands represent some of America's most valuable natural, cultural, and historical resources. Throughout the settlement and subsequent development of Kentucky, flowing waterways have provided us with transportation routes, fish and wildlife, recreational opportunities, drinking water, irrigation for agriculture, hydropower for communities and industry, waste assimilation and aesthetic values. From both a utilitarian and an aesthetic viewpoint, river corridors are regarded as a central feature in Kentucky's landscape, contributing to economic development as well as environmental quality. Planning and managing for the wise use and development of river corridors is an effort in balancing the many competing demands for water and associated land resources.

Kentucky Study Rivers