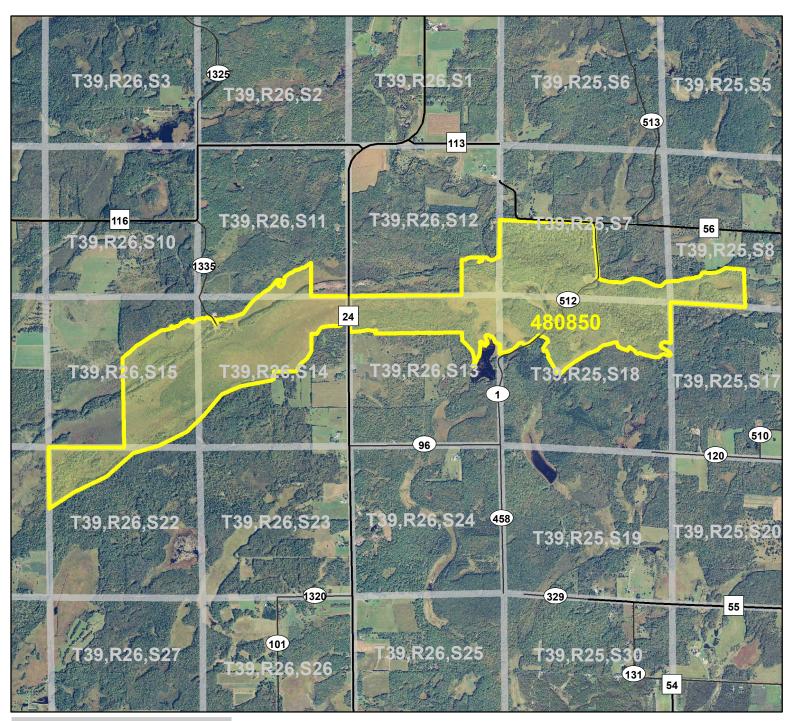
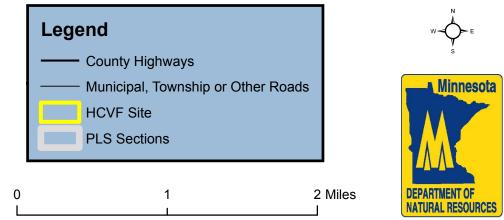
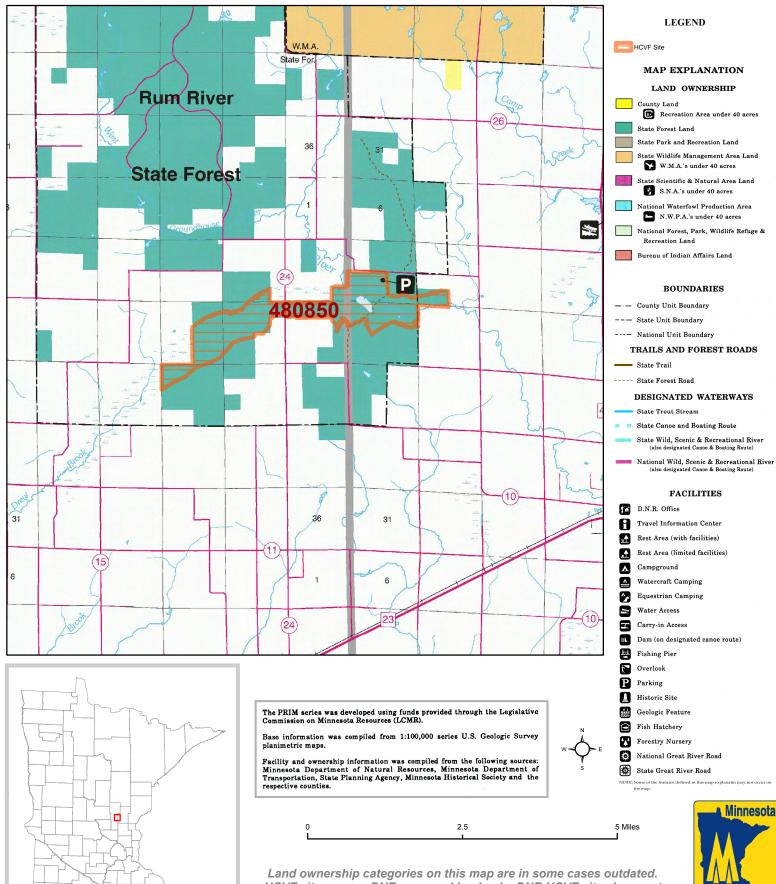
HCVF Site 480850 Mille Lacs Esker, Mille Lacs County







HCVF Site 480850 Mille Lacs Esker, Mille Lacs County



HCVF sites are on DNR-managed land only; DNR HCVF sites have not been identified on other ownerships.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

HCVF Informational Report

Report Run: September 3, 2013

General Information

HCVF #: 480850 HCVF Name: Mille Lacs Esker Acres of HCVF site: 1408.00 County: Mille Lacs

Data edited by: Region 3 HCVF Team **Role:** Region 3 HCVF Team **Date edited on:** 2013-07-24

Corresponding Land Administrator(s): FOR **Management Unit Name(s) (if applicable):** Rum River State Forest

HCVF Summary

This site provides a good example of a prominent esker and tunnel valley and includes some of the best quality, most intact natural areas in Rum River State Forest. Mesic hardwood native plant communities include Red Oak-Basswood Forest (MHc36a), Central Dry-Mesic Oak-Aspen Forest (MHc26), and Basswood-Black Ash Forest (MHc47a). Forested wetland plant communities include Rich Tamarack Swamp (FPn72a), Black Ash-Silver Maple Terrace Forest (FFn57a), Black Ash-Yellow Birch-Red Maple-Alder Swamp (WFn64b), Black Ash-Yellow Birch-Red Maple-Basswood Swamp (WFn55b), Poor Tamarack-Black Spruce Swamp (APn81b). Open wetland plant communities include Low Shrub Poor Fen (APn91a), Graminoid Poor Fen (APn91b), Willow-Dogwood Shrub Swamp (WMn82a), Northern Mixed Cattail Marsh (MRn83), and Sedge Meadow (WMn82b). The Groundhouse River flows through a gap in an esker within this block. The wetland communities are likely little changed since presettlement times and uplands were likely logged of at least the pines around the turn of the 20th century. Rare features include Butternut, Blanding's turtle, and Wood's sedge, all of which fill gaps for the WSU Section. Gravel mining is a primary concern regarding the long-term quality of this site.

HCVs known to be present that factored into HCVF designation.

FSC expects DNR to maintain HCVs within designated HCVFs. Because HCVF boundaries are not the same as the larger, multi-ownership MBS Sites, this list will differ from the values identified during the MBS Survey.

HCV1b (S1 or S2 species): one reptile/amphibian species, butternut (Juglans cinerea). HCV1g (Outstanding Key Habitats Examples): mixed hardwood-pine forests. HCV2-LMFa (Large habitat block): - 1400 acres both forest and wetland. HCV2-LMFbii (blocks with rare species): yes. HCV3b (S1 or S2 plant community): MRn83. HCV3c (Special S3 plant community): FFn57a, FPn72a, APn91b, MHc47a, WFn55b, Mesic hardwood forest native plant communites (NPCs) on esker, & wetland NPCs in tunnel valley.

Management Considerations

Overall management objectives for the entire HCVF:

Maintain natural hydrologic processes, avoid any disturbance to wetlands. Manage Mesic Hardwood Forests with minimal canopy opening. Minimize recreational use. Prohibit gravel mining.

Management direction from the following sources was considered in developing the above recommendations:

No information entered.

Are the HCVs within this HCVF likely to benefit from coordination with adjacent landowner(s)? _Yes_

This HCVF was flagged by the Regional HCVF Team as warranting cross-ownership coordination efforts. The specific HCVs likely to benefit from such coordination with adjacent landowners are identified below.

Potential for coordination with private landowners. Esker and tunnel valley continue many miles - could determine major landowners and offer technical assistance.

General Comments

No information entered.

Reference to rare plants and animals, Minnesota Biological Survey Sites of Biological Significance and mapped native plant communities are records maintained in the Minnesota DNR's Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS). A date of information is associated with each record. The NHIS is continually updated as new information becomes available. The lack of data listed for any geographic area should not be construed to mean that no significant features are present.

... Report End ...