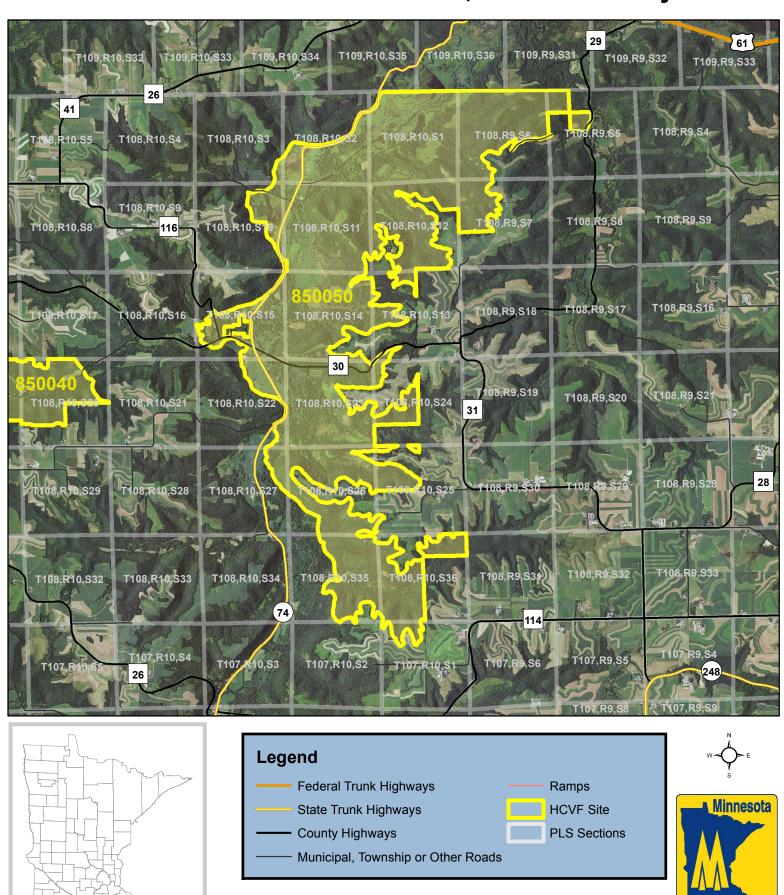
# **HCVF Site 850050**

### Whitewater Sand Savannas, Winona County



1.75

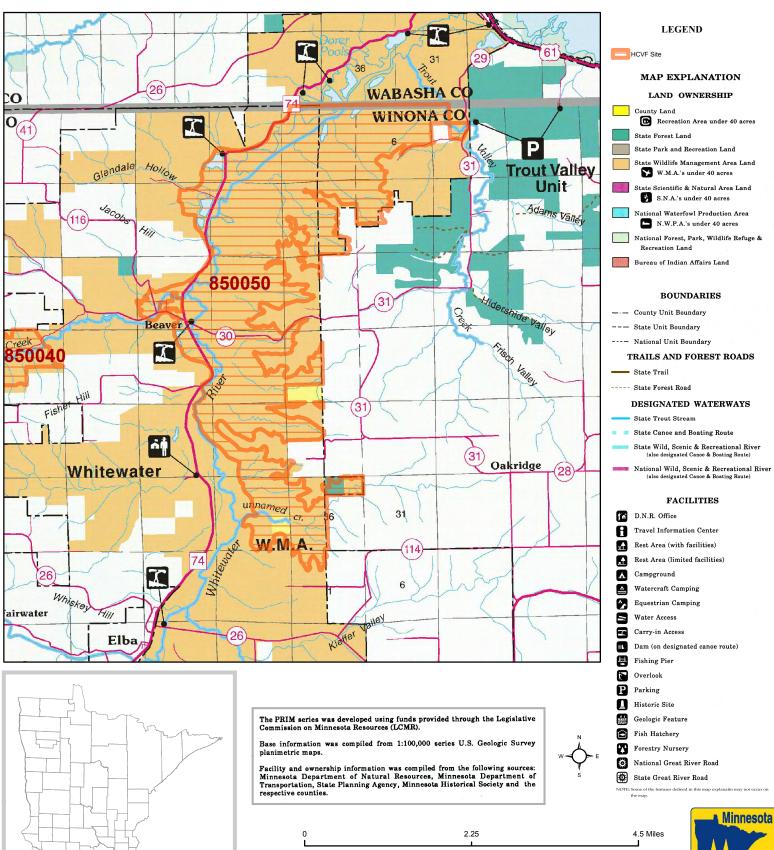
**DEPARTMENT OF** 

**NATURAL RESOURCES** 

3.5 Miles

## **HCVF Site 850050**

### Whitewater Sand Savannas, Winona County



Land ownership categories on this map are in some cases outdated. HCVF sites are on DNR-managed land only; DNR HCVF sites have not been identified on other ownerships.



## **HCVF Informational Report**

Report Run: September 3, 2013

#### **General Information**

HCVF #: 850050

**HCVF Name:** Whitewater Sand Savannas

Acres of HCVF site: 5856.31

County: Winona

Data edited by: Region 3 HCVF Team

**Role:** Region 3 HCVF Team **Date edited on:** 2013-08-01

**Corresponding Land Administrator(s):** FAW

Management Unit Name(s) (if applicable): Whitewater Sand Savannas Area (Whitewater WMA)

### **HCVF Summary**

Bluffs and valleys east of the Whitewater River and floodplain along the river. Large, very significant site. Valleys with Plainfield Sand support dry oak savanna, dry jack pine savanna, Karner blue butterflies, rare reptiles/amphibans, many rare plants. Large high quality bedrock bluff prairies with rare plants, as well as mesic prairies and dry barrens prairies. Portions of n-facing steep slopes with high-quality mature oak forest. Thirteen rare plant species and 18 rare animal species. This site together with other savanna in Whitewater WMA have only population of Karner blue butterflies in the state.

#### 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 (S or-S2 species): two reptile/amphian species, Karner blue, Persius dusky wing, ottoe skipper, Rough-seeded fameflower (Phemeranthus rugospermus), valerian (Valeriana edulis var. ciliata), one-flowered broomrape (Orobanche uniflora), beach heather (Hudsonia tomentosa), sea-beach needle grass (Aristida tuberculosa), clasping milkweed (Asclepias ampexicaulis). HCV1c (Federal T or E species): Karner blue. HCV1e ( rare species concentration): Plants, lepidoptera, birds, herps, jumping spiders, prairie voles, 16 SGCN species. HCV1g (Examplies of Outstanding Key Habitats): Oak savanna. HCV2a -EBF (intact forest block): yes. HCV2b - EBF (old forest): yes. HCV2c - EBF (forest block in ag. landscape): yes. HCV3a (G1 or G2 plant community): FDs27c, UPs14a1, UPs14a2, UPs13a, UPs23a. HCV3b (S1 or S2 plant community): FDs27b, FDs27c, UPs14a1, UPs14a2, UPs13a, UPs23a. HCV3c (Special S3 plant community): FDs38a, MHs37a, UPs13c, FDs38a, UPs13c. HCV3d (Natural origin pine stand): jack pine.

### **Management Considerations**

Overall management objectives for the entire HCVF:

All upland plant communities are fire-dependent, so use of prescribed fire is important component. Fire intensity, seasonality, & frequency need to incorporate rare animal concerns, especially invertebrates and reptiles/amphibians. Timber harvest should be done with care to avoid invasive species increases & to maintain native plant community types. Floodplain habitat is degraded, often dominated by reed canary grass and could use restoration to native plant communities, including floodplain forest, sedge meadows, and possibly others such as seepage meadows. Some floodplain rare species (red-shouldered hawk, cerulean warbler) are forest species & would benefit from more floodplain forest cover. Others (gallinule, pickerel frogs, and reptiles/amphibians utilize sedge meadows and pools. Pickerel frogs and other reptiles and also use forests occasionally, & one species nests in sand prairie and savanna.

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

High Biodiversity Site Plan

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

#### **General Comments**

This is a "High Biodiversity Site" identified by the Blufflands SFRMP. Site includes 3 Representative Sample Areas: Lupine Valley, Fabel Ravine, and Whitewater Sand Savannas.

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 ...