CPL Applications
(Total to date: 129)

Spreadsheet

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Application

CPL1000109

Name and Contact

Project Identifier:	CPL1000109	Street Address 1:	2610 University Ave. #300
Project Name:	Lester Lake	Street Address 2:	
Organization Name:	The Trust for Public Land/Kabekona Lake Foundation	City:	St. Paul
		State:	MN
Organization Website:	www.rpl.org	Zip Code:	55114
Organization Contact Person:	Bob McGillivray		
Contact Email:	rjm@tpl.org		
Contact Phone:	651-999-5307		

Location

Primary County:	Hubbard
Nearest City:	Walker
Township:	142, 143
Project Site Name:	Lester Lake
Project Site Land Ownership:	State
Other Land Ownership:	

Project Information

Primary Activity:	Acquisition
Primary Habitat Type:	Fish, Game or Wildlife Habitat
Total Project Acres:	440
Total Project Sites:	1
Total Grant Amount Requested:	$400000
Total Match Amount:	$40000
Total Project Cost:	$1450000
Project Completion Date:	03/2010 (MM/YYYY)
Project Summary and Outcomes:	The acquisition of this sensitive 440 acre parcel, containing all of the shoreline of a 75 acre undeveloped lake, would create a new SNA open to public hunting and fishing. The land is largely surrounded by state land and would successfully connect and protect thousands of acres of high quality forest, wetland, creek, and lakeshore. This project will help implement several state priorities for fish, wildlife and habitat protection, as well as providing water quality and natural resource recreation benefits. Listed for sale, this land is threatened with development with potential hillside home sites overlooking the lake. This protection effort has strong local support.

Attachments

- Project Site Information Form
- Project Budget and Match Description
- Partner Committment Letter
- Financial Documentation
- Conservation Easement
- Supplementary Attachment #1
- Supplementary Attachment #2

Back

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program
Project Site Information

Contact information

Project name: Lester Lake

Organization: The Trust for Public Land / Kabekona Lake Foundation

Organization contact person (Project Manager): Bob McGillivray

Project information

Project site: Lester Lake

Project site land manager or easement holder: DNR

Private land owner (if applicable):

Legal : T142N | R32W | S5,6 | Qmany

County: Hubbard

Activity (may choose more than one): ☐ Enhancement ☐ Restoration ☒ Acquisition

Predominant Habitat (choose one): ☐ Forest ☐ Prairie ☐ Wetland ☒ Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat

Activity quantity: 440 ☒ Acres ☐ Miles ☐ Feet ☐ Structures ☐ Wetlands

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Project Site #2, if needed.

Project site:

Project site land manager or easement holder:

Private land owner (if applicable):

Legal : T | R | S | Q

County:

Activity (may choose more than one): ☐ Enhancement ☐ Restoration ☐ Acquisition

Predominant Habitat (choose one): ☐ Forest ☐ Prairie ☐ Wetland ☐ Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat

Activity quantity: ☐ Acres ☐ Miles ☐ Feet ☐ Structures ☐ Wetlands

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Project Site #3, if needed. Use Additional Project Sites form if needed.

Project site:

Project site land manager or easement holder:

Private land owner (if applicable):

Legal : T | R | S | Q

County:

Activity (may choose more than one): ☐ Enhancement ☐ Restoration ☐ Acquisition

Predominant Habitat (choose one): ☐ Forest ☐ Prairie ☐ Wetland ☐ Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat

Activity quantity: ☐ Acres ☐ Miles ☐ Feet ☐ Structures ☐ Wetlands

Project timeline:

Time frame	Goal	Time frame	Goal
November 2009	Apply for Grants		
December 2009	Appraisal Completed		
January 2010	Funding Package Completed		
February 2010	Due Diligence / Acquisition Procedures Completed		
March 2010	Closing / Protection Completed		

Project description and benefits (box will expand as typed into, not to be longer than 2 pages):
Attached seperately due to technical difficulties.

Please provide the answers to the following questions. Boxes will expand as typed into.

1. **For lands acquired in fee title that will be turned over to a public agency for long-term management:**
   a. Provide a description of the work necessary to bring the land up to agency standards and an estimate of the associated cost.

The following activities are anticipated to meet agency standards: create a parking area, complete a boundary survey, post the boundary, and build and install a wooden routed sign. The boundary survey costs between $5,000 and $10,000, and the posting an parking cost $5,000 to $10,000. The estimated total cost to bring the property up to agency standards is about $15,000 to $20,000, which will be funded out of current agency funds.

   b. What short- and long-term work is required to manage the land you acquire?

Three short-term management activities are anticipated: 1. Create a management plan; 3. Monitor the recently cut portion of the site; 2. Determine whether any invasives species are on the site. Three longer-term management activities are anticipated: 1. Implement the management plan; 2. Continue to monitor the lake, wetlands and uplands for invasive species; and 3. Restore a natural fire regime to restore the structure of the existing upland forest and allow the regeneration of the recently logged areas.

2. **For enhancement/ restoration projects on public lands:**

   a. Who is/will be the long-term manager for the project site?

NA.

   b. What short- and long-term maintenance work is required to sustain the habitat work you will do?

NA.

   c. Who will complete this maintenance work, and how will it be funded?

NA.

d. Will the CPL funds supplant any existing funds?

No.

As required by 2009 MN Session Law, Chapter 172 subd. 10 (8), "any agency or entity receiving an appropriation must, for any project funded in whole or in part with funds from the appropriation, give consideration to and **make timely written contact with the Minnesota Conservation Corps** for consideration of possible use of their services to contract for restoration and enhancement services". Contact MCC at cplg@conservationcorps.org, or email a copy of this form to the same address. For more information on costs, crew capabilities, etc., visit MCC's website at http://www.conservationcorps.org/useacrew.html.

Signature:

☒ I certify that I have read the Conservation Partners Legacy Grants Program **Request for Proposal**, **Program Manual** and other program documents, and have discussed this project with the appropriate public land manager, or private landowner and easement holder. I am authorized to apply for and manage these grant and match funds, and the project work by the organization or agency listed below. I have made timely written notification to MCC regarding my project.

Signature: Robert J. McGillivray	Organization/ Agency: The Trust for Public Land
Title: Senior Project Manager	Date: November 2, 2009

Please save this document to your computer or electronic storage device and attach this document as specified on the online submittal form when ready to apply. Contact CPL Grant Staff with any questions.

CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form Information

This form is for use by **Public Land Manager** or **Easement Holder** of lands where the proposed project will be occurring. This will serve as record of a meeting between the land manager or easement holder and the applying organization's representative. Please review the application brought to you by the organizations thoroughly, as this approval form is being required as part of a complete application. Those projects without this completed form submitted by 5pm CST on November 3, 2009 will not be considered during the first round of awards. Note that the Proposal ID# is an optional blank; if your agency or office routinely assigns numbers to projects, feel free to fill this in to keep your own records.

Applicants should be meeting with you to talk about their proposed projects with their **Project Planning Form** complete and ready to be reviewed. This includes a simple budget to help the applicants begin thinking about all of the costs that could be associated with the projects. Please use your expertise to help these groups realistically think about their project and costs.

The completion of this form is the appropriate point where any concerns or questions regarding the proposed project should be raised with the applicant. This form will also serve as record of those questions and concerns; applications will be carefully reviewed to make sure those concerns or questions were addressed by the organization. Those applications that do not address any areas you note on this form will not be considered; efforts will be made to make the organizations and managers or easement holders aware of the discrepancy and the need to re-apply for future available grant funds.

This form may also be used to **decline the proposed project** as presented **due to workload or staffing issues**. Please note in the comment section what additional offices were contacted to request staffing assistance to help complete this project. Managers or easement holders also have the ability to **deny a proposed project** based on faulty reasoning behind the project, lack of knowledge of topic by applicant, previous experience/ history with the applicants, project outside of the Management Plan for the land, etc.; please note your reasons within the comment section of the form. You may also decide to kick the application up to a higher level to make any sensitive determinations. The name and phone for this higher level review should be indicated (if necessary) at the final step of this form and a copy of the Project Planning form and your completed Review and Approval form should be sent for review as soon as possible. A copy of this form does not need to be supplied to the applicant at the time of the meeting.

There is a required Natural Heritage Database review for all work being performed on CPL projects. Public Land Managers with proper training have access to this database and should be performing this review at the time of their meeting with the applicant. Providing feedback on minimization techniques or avoidance times will be important information for the applicant. Any feature that occurs within one mile of the project site needs to be addressed on the final application; be sure to go over all of these occurrences regardless of impact by project. For those land managers or easement holders without access, please forward your completed review form to LSCPLGrants.DNR@state.mn.us with "**Heritage Database Review Needed**" in the subject line. CPL staff will make initial reviews and provide the feedback necessary to the applicant.

This form needs to be received by CPL staff no more than 3 days after your meeting with the applicant or no later than **October 25th, 2009 at 5pm CST if a Heritage Review is required**. The deadline for complete submission is November 3, 2009 at 5pm CST and without this form any applications received will be regarded as incomplete and will not be considered for this round of funding.

Please contact Leslie Tannahill (651-259-5242) or Jamie Gangaware (651-259-5174) for further information or help with this approval process, or email LSCPLGrants.DNR@state.mn.us for general information.

CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form

REVIEWER INFORMATION

Land manager/ easement holder name:	Margaret (Peggy) Booth / DNR Scientific & Natural Area Program		
Title:	SNA Program Supervisor	Date of meeting:	10/9/2009
Phone:	651-259-5088	Proposal ID #: (assigned by agency, optional)	
Email:	peggy.booth@state.mn.us		

PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Name:	Lester Lake	Organization:	The Trust for Public Land (TPL)
Contact Person:	Bob McGillivray		
Email:	Bob.McGillivray@tpl.org	Daytime Phone:	651-999-5307

Please check the appropriate boxes:

☒ I have read the application and discussed this proposed project with the above listed Organization Contact Person.

☐ For work on easements, the private landowner has been contacted and has given support and approval for this project.

I have performed a Natural Heritage Database review and found:

☐ this project to have no features within one mile.

☒ this project to have features within one mile, but project is not likely to adversely affect those features. I have recommended the following minimization strategy:

[redacted]This project involves purchasing land for the purpose of protected species like these. A management plan meeting CPL guidelines will be developed upon acquisiiton. No "minimization strategy is required.

☐ this project is likely to adversely affect Natural Heritage features. I feel that this project is important and should be forwarded to DNR Ecological Resources staff for further review.

☐ **I do not have access to the Natural Features database and will forward this completed form to DNR within 3 business days to CPL Staff at LSCPLGrants.DNR@dnr.state.mn.us for review.**

I have discussed what role my office will be expected to have in this project and find that the project, as described will require:

☐ minimal or no involvement from my office for completion.

☒ a commitment of involvement by staff that is reasonable and can be accomplished with current staffing levels and workload.

☐ an amount of staff involvement that cannot be committed during the project time period with current staffing levels. Unless additional staffing can be committed from other offices, Divisions or appropriate partners, I feel this project cannot be completed within the project timeline to our desired standards.

CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form

☒ I have discussed permits and applications that the applicant may be responsible for using the Working on DNR Lands and Working on Public Lands, or Working on Private Lands documents.

Upon final review of this project:

☒ I find this project to be consistent with sound conservation science. This work will benefit area fish, game and wildlife by restoring, enhancing or protecting forests, wetlands, prairies and habitat and is consistent with the management or stewardship plan for this land. (APPROVAL)

☐ I find that this project does not follow the management or stewardship plan for this land and does not fit within the long range goals for this land at this time on the local level. (DECLINE)

☐ I find that this project should be sent up to a higher level within the agency for further review and decision. I have forwarded the Project Planning Form and this Review and Approval Form for further review to:

Name:		Phone:	

☒**By checking this box and typing my name below I certify that I have met with the above applicant and discussed the proposed project and have provided feedback to the applicant.**

Name:	Margaret (Peggy) Booth

Comments: **This site is high priority for protection as a Scientific and Natural Area which the state has been working on acquiring for several years. This project will make that acquisition possible which wasn't able to happen before.**

Name:		Phone:	
Title:		Email:	

Additional necessary):	Comments(including approval or denial, reasoning):	review (if

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant
Project Budget and Match Worksheet, Application Requirement

Project name:	Lester Lake
Organization:	The Trust for Public Land, Kabekona Lake Foundation
Organization contact person (Project Manager):	Bob McGillivray

Please complete all sections and be as detailed as possible for all descriptions under the Details sections. Limit entries in large tables to numbers only, **round to the nearest dollar**. Do not edit table categories, only enter values or text into the table. The tables will adjust to accommodate additional text in each box. If all categories are not needed, please leave those fields blank.

BUDGET: amounts being requested

Budget Item	Fiscal Year 2010	Fiscal Year 2011	Fiscal Year 2012	Total
Personnel				
Contracts				
Grant Administration				
Administration/ Environmental Compliance				
Fee Acquisition	**$400,000.00**			**$400,000.00**
Easement Acquisition				
Easement Stewardship				
Equipment/Tools/Supplies				
Travel				
Additional Budget items				
Total	**$400,000.00**			**$400,000.00**

DETAILS: detail the amounts listed in the above table.

Personnel Details:

Name	Title	Amount

Contract Details:

Contractor Name	Contracted Work	Amount

Grant Administration:

Administrative Activity	Description/ Amount	Amount

Administration/ Environmental Compliance

Activity	Description	Amount

Fee Acquisition/ Easement Acquisition/ Easement Stewardship Details:

The Trust for Public Land will convey the land to the DNR for management as a Scientific and Natural Area with hunting and fishing allowed. The total purchase price for the property will be its appraised fair market value which is estimated to be its assessed value of $1,450,000. Acqusition funding for this project is planned as follows:

Source	Amount
DNR SNA	500,000
DNR Fisheries	300,000
Conservation Partners Legacy Grant	400,000
Kabekona Lake Foundation	40,000
Habitat Conservation Partnership	210,000
TOTAL	1,450,000

Equipment/Tools/Supplies Details:

Item	Use	Amount

Travel Details:

Miles	Purpose	Amount

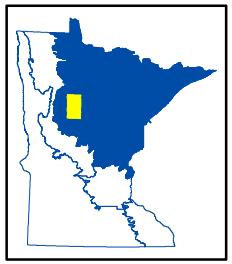
Additional Budget Items Details:

MATCH: Required 10% of total project funds, to be fulfilled by end of Fiscal Year 2012. Use provided rate sheet to determine unit rate and total value of in-kind services to be used as matching funds if applicable.

Source	Description	Units	Unit Rate	Total Value
Kabekona Lake Foundation	**Cash**			**$40,000.00**

Matching description/ comments: if needed

TPL will also donate the value of its real estate sevices on this project including due diligence costs such as appraial, environmental assessment and title review, as well as staff and legal time.



CPL100-109
Lester Lake

Hubbard County, LSOHC Northern Forest Planning Section

Minnesota
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Created by J.Gangaware, 11/2009

KABEKONA LAKE FOUNDATION
c/o LUTHER P. NERVIG
P.O. BOX 647
WADENA, MINNESOTA 56482

October 22, 2009

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant
MNDNR
500 Lafayette Road
Box 20
St Paul MN 55155

In Re: Lester Lake Acquisition Project

Gentlemen:

We are writing regarding the Lester Lake Project in Hubbard County which is a project to acquire 440 acres of undeveloped property within which is located a 60-acre private lake that flows into Kabekona Lake. We are partnering with Trust for Public Lands in this acquisition effort.

Kabekona Lake Association is an active association of lake owners on Kabekona Lake with a membership of 304 families. Kabekona Lake Foundation was established by the lake association 15 years ago and is governed by a separate board appointed by the association. Kabekona Lake Foundation has its funds invested with Minnesota Community Foundation of St. Paul.

We have committed Forty Thousand and no/100 Dollars ($40,000.00) toward the acquisition project and all of the funds are of non-state origin. We have sufficient funds that are immediately available within the foundation but we will also solicit our members for financial support. We will begin that process in November of this year and expect to raise the entire $40,000.00 without accessing the funds now in our foundation account. We can make our contribution prior to closing in March of 2010.

The Lester Lake acquisition project and financial contribution was unanimously supported by our board because it fits squarely within our stated purpose which is "to protect and develop the watershed, shores and environs of Kabekona Lake including its water quality, aquatic productivity, the flora and fauna of its shoreland, the aesthetic quality of its environment ...".

Kabekona Lake Foundation intends to be an active partner in the efforts to acquire Lester Lake.

Yours very truly,

KABEKONA LAKE FOUNDATION

Luther P. Nervig

LPN/whl

KABEKONA LAKE FOUNDATION

Protecting the Future of Kabekona Lake

WHAT IS IT. The Kabekona lake Foundation was established in 1994 when an agreement was signed with the Minnesota Community Foundation. The Kabekona Lake Foundation is a perpetual fund with only the earnings available for distribution. The fund is a 501c3 charitable foundation so that all donations are tax deductible.

WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE. The document establishing the foundation states that its purpose is to protect and develop the watershed, shores and environs of Kabekona Lake including its water quality, aquatic productivity, the flora and fauna of its shoreland, the aesthetic quality of its environment and to promote the social and cultural climate of its shore land residents.

WHAT ARE THE FOUNDATION'S ASSETS. The principal balance in the foundation as reported by the Minnesota Community Foundation as of June 30, 2006, is $90,478.00.

WHO DIRECTS THE FOUNDATION. The foundation has By-Laws which provide for a board of not less than 3 nor more than 9 members. The nine members of the board are Kabekona Lake residents and consist of Linda Bren, John Golv, John Hagge, John Lunde, Sonya Murphy, Judy Neppel, Luther Nervig, Steve Rogness and Merlin Taylor.

WHAT AMOUNT CAN THE FOUNDATION SPEND. The Minnesota Community Foundation sets a percentage of the fund that can be spent in any one calendar year and for 2006 that is 5%. So, if the fund earns 11%, we can spend 5% and the fund grows by 6%. In 2006 the fund will have approximately $4,523.00 to spend.

WHO CAN RECEIVE FOUNDATION GRANTS. The grant must go to a 501c3 charitable organization such as the Kabekona Lake Association or to a governmental entity such as Hubbard County, City of Laporte, etc. Grants cannot be made to an individual person.

HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR A GRANT. We have a grant application and the board will consider the application to see how it furthers the purpose of the foundation. The board will have the final decision on the grant application. We will solicit from all of the Kabekona Lake community ideas as to how the funds can be spent to improve and protect Kabekona Lake.

WHAT IS THE STATUS OF PRESENT GRANTS. Kabekona Lake Association applied for a grant to promote the septic pumping program of the association. The foundation approved a grant of $4,950.00 to be paid at the rate of $1,650.00 per year. We paid the first installment in April of this year.

WHEN SHOULD I GIVE TO THE FOUNDATION. We hope that gifts will grow this FOUNDATION so that we can take on a variety of projects in the future. The gifts are tax deductible and you could include the foundation in your year-end tax planning giving program. You can give in honor of an anniversary, wedding, birthday or just in thanks for this wonderful environment. You can give memorials. You can gift to us in cash, in stock and bonds, in appreciated real property, by naming the FOUNDATION as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy or annuity, and many other tax planning/estate planning options.

WHERE DO I SEND MY GIFT. You can send your gift to "Kabekona Lake Foundation" P.O. Box 8, Laporte, Minnesota 56461. The foundation will acknowledge your gifts.

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS. Contact any of the board members with your questions and if they cannot answer them, they will find the answer and get back to you.

August, 2006

Project Description and Benefits

The acquisition of this sensitive 440 acre parcel, containing all of the shoreline of a 75 acre undeveloped lake, would create a new SNA open to public hunting and fishing. The land is largely surrounded by state land and would successfully connect and protect thousands of acres of high quality forest, wetland, creek, and lakeshore. This project will help implement several state priorities for fish, wildlife and habitat protection, as well as providing water quality and natural resource recreation benefits. Listed for sale, this land is threatened with development with potential hillside home sites overlooking the lake. This protection effort has strong local support.

Provides Excellent Hunting and Fishing Opportunities:

Public ownership of this land would provide significant fishing and hunting opportunities to the public, in an area now restricted to private use, and would complement resource management on adjacent public recreation lands. Lester Lake contains an abundant population of several game fish species, including bass, pike and panfish. Numerous trophy-size fish have been caught. With a significant amount of emergent vegetation, the lake and nearby wetlands also afford excellent waterfowling opportunities. A range of upland forest habitat supports a large deer population and provides excellent grouse habitat.

Protects Priority Land and Water Habitats: Forest, Wetland, Shoreland:

Forest and Wetland: The Lester Lake project serves habitat goals central to the **Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan** (MSCPP). The project would protect priority land habitats, as well as critical shorelands of streams and lakes. Hosting a full spectrum of communities from upland, lowland, and aquatic types, this site earned recognition as having high biodiversity significance by the Minnesota County Biological Survey in its 2007 report: An Evaluation of the Ecological Significance of Lester Lake Forest, Hubbard County, Minnesota (the "Ecological Evaluation"). According to the report, the matrix of lowland communities on the south side of Lester Lake provides exceptional habitat value: White Cedar Swamp (A)(68.46 acres); Black Ash – Mountain Maple Swamp (Northern) (54.28 acres); Oak – Aspen – Red Maple Forest (37.53 acres); Red Pine – White Pine Forest (14.35 acres); and Sedge Meadow (A)(71.65 acres). The site hosts a Species of Special Concern: white adder's mouth orchid, which grows perched on hummocks of moss in white cedar swamp south of Lester Lake. According to the State Wildlife Action Plan, the Lester Lake project lies on the northern edge of the Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains subsection of the Northern Minnesota Drift Plains section, in the Laurentian Mixed Forest Province. The Ecological Evaluation stated that the Lester Lake area "merits consideration for the highest level of protection available" because it provides an excellent example of the biodiversity and landscape of the Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains subsection. The DNR then recommended the site for protection as a Scientific and Natural Area.

Protection of this forested land helps implement the **North Central Forest Landscape Plan** (2004). Protecting natural shoreline, protecting forestland, maintaining natural patterns and functions, and increasing conifers are the four recommended strategies in this plan. Retaining contiguous blocks of forested land and protecting critical natural shorelines within those blocks are recommended priority strategies (pp. 15 - 16). This project applies those strategies.

Shoreland and Shallow Lake: Water from many iron-rich springs and seeps flows into 75-acre Lester Lake, and then flows through Sucker Creek for about ½ mile on this property. Lester Lake provides aquatic habitat in its two miles of natural, shallow-sloping shoreline, but provides some deeper aquatic environment in the center of the lake. Northwest of the Lester Lake project, Sucker Creek enters Kabekona Lake, a significant recreation lake, which is part of the Leech Lake watershed. Protection of Lester Lake will prevent negative impacts development might have on the water quality in these vital lakes.

This habitat type – shallow areas of deeper lakes, together with adjacent permanent wetlands and mature forest – is particularly important for waterfowl in the Upper Mississippi River/Great Lakes Joint Venture (UMR/GLJV) area, according to the DNR's 2006 **Long Range Duck Recovery Plan** (pp. 7-8). The plan cites Minnesota's lake country as "the heart of the UMR/GLJV" because forested areas near shorelines provide essential cavity nesting. Protecting the forests to allow aspen, maple, and basswood trees to reach at least 24 inches in diameter could support five times the cavities than without protection. (p. 10) Brood survival in UMR/GLJV is particularly dependent on quality habitat near nests because ducklings' foraging time needs to be minimized in this area with abundant predators. (p. 11) For fall migration, permanent wetlands and shallow lakes provide the most

important habitat for feeding and resting. (p. 12-13) With this site's forested areas near shallow lake shoreline and permanent wetland, this project helps implement the state's **Long Range Duck Recovery Plan** in the heart of the UMR/GLJV area.

Supports Species of Greatest Conservation Need with Key Habitat:

Protecting this high quality habitat will help address two key priorities in the state wildlife action plan: preventing habitat loss, and preventing habitat degradation. In particular, upland coniferous red-white pine forest habitats and stream habitats, both on this site, are priorities for protection in the Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains subsection. Statewide, this ecological subsection is one of the most important for red-shouldered hawks; according to the Ecological Evaluation, this property provides the habitat likely to support red-shouldered hawks, sighted just to the east of the land. This property is within the Kabekona River reach, listed in the **State Wildlife Action Plan** as a stream reach with high Species of Greatest Conservation Need occurrences as well as an area of Aquatic Biodiversity Significance.

Consolidates Public Ownership and Improves Public Access:

Creating an opportunity for the public to enjoy species-based recreation is a state priority noted in the **State Wildlife Action Plan**. The Lester Lake project will consolidate public ownership of state forest land in the adjacent Paul Bunyan State Forest and provide new public access to and complete ownership of a 75-acre lake. Now Lester Lake has no public access, and Hubbard County has no Scientific and Natural Areas. Access for people to nature-based recreation - hunting and fishing - will improve with this purchase, which complements the fishing access in Kabekona Lake and hunting at a state WMA north of this site on Kabekona Lake. The **State Aquatic Management Area Plan** (2008) stated that shoreland acquisition on lakes is a priority for this part of the state: "Additional lake and warmwater stream shoreline needs to be acquired to insure public walk-in access to favorite angling destinations and to insure that critical cleanwater habitat is preserved." p. 31.

Protects Natural Habitat in An Area at High Risk of Development:

The landowners have been actively marketing the land, but are willing to provide a brief opportunity to protect the land. (TPL has secured an option through March to purchase the property). Kabekona Lake, a short distance to the north of Lester Lake, is now a heavily developed lakeshore community, with high recreational use in summer; this property, including an entire lakeshore and a south-facing hillside overlooking the lake, is at high risk of development, according to the Ecological Evaluation. This land is close to Walker and Park Rapids in an area under great development pressure. Sensitive natural resources in this prime area for lakeshore development are at high risk of losing ecological and recreation value. Protecting high resource value lands at risk of development is a high priority in many state plans, including the **State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan**. The land will go back on the market if it is not acquired by March.

Protects Water Quality Naturally and Keeps Water on the Landscape:

The MSCPP recommends protecting water quality naturally, and keeping water on the landscape to protect water quality and habitat. Forested areas in the upper reaches of watersheds are very effective in protecting water quality. As a forested area with swamps, lakeshore and hills, the Lester Lake property provides water quality benefits for the Leech Lake watershed. Lying in the upper reaches of the Leech Lake watershed, with Sucker Creek draining Lester Lake and entering Kabekona Lake, this property has a significant impact on water quality. Protecting this land would keep water on the landscape in wooded swamps, which provide exceptional water quality protection.

Broad Based Support:

Protection of this sensitive land is supported by many divisions of DNR including, SNA, Fisheries, Wildlife and Forrestry. It is also supported by by many local conservation and sportsmans groups including the Kabekona Lake Association and Foundation, the Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation, and the local chapter of Trout Unlimited. See attached letters of support. Awarding this grant will help these local groups achieve their conservation goals and protect habitat of statewide significance.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT
FOR
LESTER LAKE

1. Kabekona Lake Foundation (attached separately as Partner Commitment Letter).

2. Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation.

3. Trout Unlimited – Headwaters Chapter.

4. Hubbard County Commissioner Lyle C. Robinson (Commissioner for district in which Lester Lake is located).

Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation

PO Box 455
Hackensack, MN 56452
218/675-5773
www.leechlakewatershed.org

LEECH LAKE AREA WATERSHED FOUNDATION

Tax ID#: 41-1887906

October 22, 2009

Bob McGillivray
Trust for Public Land
2610 University Ave
St. Paul, Mn 55114

Dear Bob:

Thank you for contacting the Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation regarding your organization's intentions to acquire the privately owned Lester Lake in Hubbard County and surrounding land with final conveyance to the Minnesota DNR for public benefit.

This property is within the Leech Lake watershed and is of priority conservation interest to our organization because of its unique groundwater features, including natural spring and artisan resources. Lester Lake, which drains to Gulch Creek, is a key tributary of one of the highest quality lake resources in the Leech Lake watershed, Kabekona Lake. Protecting water quality in the Lester Lake lakeshed from development is critical to maintaining the high quality of its receiving waters.

This property also contains rare plant and animal species that are supported by its unique ecosystem. Your project would insure continued high biodiversity in this rapidly developing area..

The acquisition of the Lester Lake property and the protection of its natural features will be of high public benefit to the people of Minnesota. Please let us know how we can assist in this project. We appreciate The Trust for Public Land's efforts to partner with the Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation in its of protecting the water, woods, and wildlife of the Leech Lake watershed.

Sincerely,

Paula West, Executive Director
Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation

Trout Unlimited - Headwaters Chapter 642

Bemidji, MN 56601

November 1, 2009

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant
MNDNR
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Mn. 55155

Re: Kabekona Lake Foundation Grant Request

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of the Headwaters Chapter of Trout Unlimited to express our board's strong support for the grant request submitted by The Trust for Public Lands and the Kabekona Lake Foundation for acquisition of 440 acres of undeveloped lands immediately west of Kabekona Lake. The parcel in question includes Lester Lake and portions of Sucker Creek, which flows into Kabekona Lake. Kabekona supports not only a resident population of lake trout but also provides wintering habitat for brook trout descending from the Kabekona River, one of the state's premier brook trout fisheries and the site of a current habitat protection project funded by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. We believe it is vital to protect the source of the waters flowing into Kabekona in order to assure the future quality of the lake waters. Protecting this 440 acre natural forest from commercial development also provides future generations with access to Minnesota's forests. Thank You.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Young, President
Headwaters Chapter of Trout Unlimited
26365 Hay Creek Rd. NE
Tenstrike, Minn 56683

October 31,2009

To:

Luther Nervig
30328 county 37
Laporte, Mn. 56461

From: Commissioner Lyle C. Robinson
30253 State 200 P.O Box 58
Benedict, Mn 56436

Re: Lester lake property.

In my 22 years as county commissioner of the 4th district in Hubbard county. I have been asked to write many letters of recommendation. However this request is at the top of the list and will affect the long-term water quality of Kabekona Lake.

Luther please use this letter to help insure the preservation of this pristine Lester lake property. As Lester Lake is the key to long-term water quality at Kabakona Lake. I applaud your efforts to make this adventure happen. If I can be of any further assistance. Please me let me know.

Sincerely,

Lyle C Robinson

An Evaluation of the Ecological Significance of

Lester Lake Forest

Hubbard County, Minnesota

White Cedar Swamp (Northcentral), Lester Lake Forest

Prepared by:
Tim Whitfeld and Erika Rowe
Minnesota County Biological Survey
Division of Ecological Resources
Department of Natural Resources
Box 25, 500 Lafayette Rd.
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4025

November 29, 2007

SITE INFORMATION

SITE NAME: Lester Lake Forest

DATE: November 2007

AUTHOR: Timothy J. S. Whitfeld & Erika R. Rowe

AFFILIATION: Minnesota County Biological Survey

MINNESOTA COUNTY BIOLOGICAL SURVEY SITE NUMBER: 59

COUNTY: Hubbard

ECOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM REGION: Laurentian Mixed Forest Province; N. Minnesota Drift Lakes Plains Section; Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains Subsection; Itasca Moraine STEEP LTA.

USGS 7.5 MINUTE QUAD MAP (DNR QUAD CODE): J10A, Laporte

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T142N R32W PARTS OF SECTIONS 4, 5, & 6;
T143N R32W PART OF SECTIONS 31;
T143N R33W PART OF SECTION 36

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1853

OWNERSHIP: Gary & Sandra Roerick; Minnesota DNR – Forestry; Bieloh Bros. Inv. LLC; Steven & Cynthia Doke; Small tracts

CURRENT PROTECTION STATUS: DNR Forestry - Paul Bunyan State Forest: ~1200 acres

RECOMMENDED PROTECTION STATUS: Scientific and Natural Area; Wildlife Management Area

ACTION: The Commissioner's Advisory Committee approved this Ecological Evaluation on December 5, 2007 with parcels A, B, D, E and F proposed as potential SNA and for Ecological Resources to work with the Division of Forestry on the management and protection of MCBS mapped areas within parcel C except for the alignment of the permanent motorized trail.

ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Overview

Lester Lake Forest is part of the once contiguous forest of mixed hardwoods and pines and lowland forested swamps on the rolling hills of the Itasca Moraine. The site is on the northern edge of this moraine that spans the entire mid-section of Hubbard County, on the western edge of the Laurentian Mixed Forest Province. Numerous lakes of all sizes are scattered across this part of the state, as are small, medium, and large basins that support sedge meadows, rich fens, poor fens, and lowland conifers. The highlight of this project area is the matrix of lowland communities still present on the south side of Lester Lake such as **Northern Wet Ash Swamp, White Cedar Swamp, Lowland White Cedar Forest (Northern), Alder Swamp, and Sedge Meadow** (Figure 1). These lowland communities gradually slope to the northeast with many iron rich springs and seeps that drain into Lester Lake. **Dry-mesic oak-Aspen Forest** dominates the upland areas north and south of the lake. A small area of **Red Pine - White Pine Forest** also exists on the north side. The site includes a full spectrum of communities from upland, lowland, and aquatic and was recognized by the Minnesota County Biological Survey as a site of high biodiversity significance.

The site is ten miles east of the town of Lake George, sixteen miles northeast of Park Rapids and immediately west and east of State Hwy 64. Lester Lake itself is an undeveloped lake (~75 acres), making this a highlight of this site. Although many of the lakes and wetlands in this part of Hubbard County have not been as heavily developed as those in other areas, the region is not immune from the widespread trend towards lakeshore development. Kabekona Lake, just to the north of the Lester Lake Forest, is now a heavily developed lakeshore community and receives high recreational use in the summer. Protection of some of the higher quality, undisturbed lakes and the surrounding uplands should therefore be a top priority in the area.

In addition to the native plant communities, one small population of white adder's mouth orchid *(Malaxis monophyllos* var. *brachypoda* (A. Gray) Morris & Eames) was discovered in the White Cedar Swamp south of Lester Lake (Figure 1). This plant is listed as a Species of Special Concern in Minnesota. It is known from a number of sites scattered across north central Minnesota and a few in the far north part of the State, close to the Canadian border. A wide variety of bird species, although none of which are State listed species, have also been recorded here including many waterfowl species (Appendix B). Red-shouldered hawk and bald eagle nesting sites have been recorded in close proximity to Lester Lake as well (Figure 1).

Geologic Context and Features

Much of Hubbard County's landscape, except for an area in the northeast, is a result of the glacial advance and retreat of the Wadena lobe. This glacial lobe flowed south and southwest from the Winnipeg lowlands in Manitoba, where it incorporated limestone rocks, and moved into the central part of Minnesota during the early to middle part of the Wisconsin Age (75,000 to 40,000 years ago). The Wadena Lobe retreated northward, but readvanced to form the Itasca Moraine about 20,000 years ago. The Itasca Moraine, which runs from east to west across the central part of the county, is comprised of materials that are typically sandy loam glacial till and include significant deposits of sand and gravel. Slopes are complex and moderately steep to very steep. Areas of lacustrine materials have also been found in the Itasca moraine. These are believed to be deposits from small ice-walled lakes.

Lester Lake Forest lies on the northern edge of the Itasca Moraine in the Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains Subsection, near the western edge of the Laurentian Mixed Forest Province (Figure 3).

Topographic relief in the site ranges from approximately 1320 to 1400 feet. Soils are a well-drained complex of sandy loam to loamy sand and poorly drained mucky peat and mucky mineral soil.

PRE-SETTLEMENT VEGETATION

Before European Settlement, the site was part of a contiguous area of mixed pine with hardwood forest that extended far to the east and west. Logging has heavily impacted this once extensive conifer dominated forest leaving behind an early successional community, which lacks many of the species present in a more mature forest.

The predominant upland vegetation on the Itasca Moraine was a mix of aspen-birch and pine forests (mixed red and white pine). Jack pine *(Pinus banksiana)*, in a mix with northern pin oak *(Quercus ellipsoidalis)* or red oak *(Q. rubra)*, was the most common species on excessively drained portions. Mixed hardwood and pine forests, dominated by a diverse mix of northern hardwoods and white pine *(Pinus strobus)*, were found in the most fire-protected areas at the northern and eastern edges of the Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains subsection. Conifer bogs and swamps dominated the lowlands.

NATIVE PLANT COMMUNITIES (see Figure 1 and Appendix A)

FDc34a Red Pine - White Pine Forest

Dry-mesic pine forest commonly found on rolling moraine and outwash deposits. Soils are sand-gravel over a base of clay till. Analysis of Public Land Survey records indicates light surface fires occurred frequently in this community (about every 30years) and intense crown fires occurred approximately every 110 years. The most common canopy tree is trembling aspen with red pine *(Pinus resinosa)*, white pine *(Pinus strobus)*, jack pine, big-toothed aspen *(Populus grandidentata)*, red oak *(Quercus rubra)*, and paper birch *(Betula papyrifera)* also frequent. This community is often dominated by some of the same species as MHc26 and can look similar when dominated by aspen, oak, or paper birch. FDc34, however, is more likely to have bunchberry *(Cornus canadensis)* and prairie willow *(Salix humilis)* in the shrub layer. Canopy cover varies from patchy to continuous (25-100%). The understory cover varies from patchy to interrupted (25-75%). The most common trees include paper birch, trembling aspen, balsam fir *(Abies balsamea)*, white spruce *(Picea glauca)*, white pine, bur oak *(Quercus macrocarpa)*, red maple *(Acer rubrum)*, and red oak. The shrub layer cover varies from interrupted to continuous (75-100%). Common species include beaked hazel, American hazel, prairie willow, red raspberry *(Rubus idaeus var. strigosus)*, lowbush blueberry *(Vaccinium angustifolium)*, round-leaved dogwood *(Cornus rugosa)*, juneberry *(Amelanchier* spp.), chokecherry *(Prunus virginiana)*, and downy arrowwood *(Viburnum rafinesquianum)*. Herbaceous species cover varies from patchy to continuous (25-100%) with large-leaved aster *(Aster macrophyllus)*, bracken fern *(Pteridium aquilinum* var. *latiusculum)*, false melic grass *(Schizachne purpurascens)*, wild sarsaparilla *(Aralia nudicaulis)*, Canada mayflower *(Maianthemum canadense)*, northern bedstraw *(Galium boreale)*, rose-twisted stalk *(Streptopus roseus)*, sweet-scented bedstraw *(Galium triflorum)*, dwarf raspberry *(Rubus pubescens)*, Pennsylvania sedge *(Carex pensylvanica* var. *digyna)*, mountain rice grass *(Oryzopsis asperifolia)*, early meadow-rue *(Thalictrum dioicum)*, and wood anemone *(Anemone quinquefolia var. quinquefolia)* all common. Approximate area mapped: 65 acres

MHc26a Oak - Aspen - Red Maple Forest

Dry-mesic hardwood forest found on the rolling well drained loamy sand soils of moraine deposits. Analysis of Public Land Survey records indicates fires were not common in this community. Light surface fires occurred about every 160 years and intense crown fires only every 370 years. This community has many species in common with FDc34 and can appear very similar to hardwood-dominated sites of FDc34. However, MHc26 is more likely to have black cherry *(Prunus serotina)*, sugar maple *(Acer saccharum)*, and ironwood *(Ostrya virginiana)* in the understory. The cover of canopy trees varies from interrupted to continuous (50-100%). The most common canopy tree is

trembling aspen. Other occasional canopy species include paper birch, big-toothed aspen, bur oak, red oak, basswood *(Tilia americana)*, red maple, and sugar maple. The subcanopy is typically patchy to interrupted (25-75% cover). The most common trees are red maple, ironwood, trembling aspen, bur oak, sugar maple, and paper birch. Shrub layer cover varies from patchy to continuous (25-100%) with beaked hazel, downy arrowwood, lowbush blueberry, chokecherry, bush honeysuckle *(Diervilla lonicera)*, juneberry, sugar maple, ironwood, round-leaved dogwood, and mountain maple *(Acer spicatum)* all common. Herbaceous layer cover varies from patchy to interrupted (25-75%). The most common species include large-leaved aster, Pennsylvania sedge, early-meadow rue, Canada mayflower, wild sarsaparilla, bracken fern, rose-twisted stalk, mountain rice grass, pale bellwort *(Uvularia sessilifolia)*, dwarf raspberry, lady fern *(Athyrium filix-femina var. angustum)*, large-flowered bellwort *(Uvularia grandiflora)*, hog peanut *(Amphicarpaea bracteata)*, round-lobed hepatica *(Anemone americana)*, and blue bead lily *(Clintonia borealis)*. Approximate area mapped: 423 acres

WFn53b Lowland White Cedar Forest (Northern)

Wet conifer-hardwood forests on mucky soils. Typically present in settings where saturated soils are present through most of the growing season along gently sloping upland drains. Catastrophic disturbances were infrequent in this community. An analysis of Public Land Survey records indicates that the rotation of catastrophic fires was about 800 years, and the rotation of catastrophic windthrow was about 365 years. The canopy can be patchy to nearly continuous (25-75%) and dominated by white cedar, sometimes with black ash *(Fraxinus nigra)*, balsam fir, paper birch, and yellow birch *(Betula alleghaniensis)* present in the canopy. Occasionally black spruce *(Picea mariana)* is also present in lesser amounts. White cedar, balsam fir, paper birch and black ash are often in the subcanopy, but most often the community is relatively open below the canopy. Shrub layer is sparse to patchy (5-50% cover). Mountain maple and speckled alder *(Alnus incana* ssp. *rugosa)* occasionally are abundant. Fly honeysuckle *(Lonicera canadensis)* and seedlings of balsam fir, black ash, white cedar, American elm *(Ulmus americana)*, and red maple are commonly present. The ground layer is patchy to continuous (25-100% cover) with upland forest herbs on hummocks and decaying logs and wetland forest species in pools and mucky hollows. Common species include jack-in-the-pulpit *(Arisaema triphyllum)*, bulblet fern *(Cystopteris bulbifera)*, wild sarsaparilla, two-leaved miterwort *(Mitella diphylla)*, lady fern, alpine enchanter's nightshade *(Circaea alpina* var. *alpina)*, naked miterwort *(Mitella nuda)*, bluebead lily, dwarf raspberry, common oak fern *(Gymnocarpium dryopteris)*, long-stalked sedge *(Carex pedunculata)*, soft-leaved sedge *(Carex disperma)*, bristle-stalked sedge *(Carex leptalea)*, and drooping woodreed *(Cinna latifolia)*. Sphagnum is typically absent from this community, instead brown mosses and occasional patches of feathermosses and Mnium moss exist and are restricted to hollows, logs and bases of trees. Approximate area mapped: 30 acres

WFn55c Black Ash - Mountain Maple Swamp (Northern)

Wet hardwood forests found on mucky, mineral soil in shallow basins. Standing water is typically present in the spring but the water table drops below ground level later in the summer. An analysis of Public Land Survey records indicates that fires and other catastrophic disturbances were infrequent in this community. Events that result in the partial loss of trees (for example, selective windthrow) were occasional occurring every 140 years. The canopy cover varies from interrupted to continuous (50-75%) and the most common trees include black ash, trembling aspen, yellow birch, and balsam poplar *(Populus balsamifera)*. The understory cover is patchy (25-50%) with black ash, balsam fir, American elm, yellow birch, basswood, and white spruce. Shrub layer cover ranges from patchy to interrupted (25-75%). The most common species include mountain maple, speckled alder, swamp red currant *(Ribes triste)*, red-osier dogwood *(Cornus sericea)*, and dwarf alder *(Rhamnus alnifolia)*, and seedlings of black ash and balsam fir. The herbaceous layer cover is interrupted to continuous (50-100%) with upland forest herbs on hummocks around the bases of canopy tree trunks and on fallen logs; wetland forest

herbs occur in hollows between the hummocks. Common herbaceous species include marsh marigold, dwarf raspberry, naked miterwort, three-leaved false Solomon's seal *(Smilacina trifolia)*, swamp thistle *(Cirsium muticum)*, wild sarsaparilla, common wood fern, early meadow rue, interior sedge *(Carex interior)*, alpine enchanter's nightshade, lady fern, ostrich fern *(Matteuccia struthiopteris* var. *pensylvanica)*, tussock sedge *(Carex stricta)*, lake sedge *(Carex lacustris)*, fowl manna grass *(Glyceria striata)*, bristle-stalked sedge, and drooping woodreed. Mosses can be abundant, typically non-*Sphagnum* species. Approximate area mapped: 365 acres

FPn63b White Cedar Swamp (Northcentral)
Conifer dominated swamps on wet peat soils. Present on gentle slopes in areas influenced by mineral-rich (neutral pH) subsurface flow or groundwater seepage. The ground layer is characterized by low hummocks that are often covered with *Sphagnum* moss and feathermosses. Liverworts are also common. Analysis of Public Land Survey records indicates that catastrophic disturbances (fires or windthrow) are rare in this community. The canopy is typically interrupted to continuous (50-100% cover). White cedar is the most abundant tree with scattered black spruce and tamarack *(Larix laricina)*. Balsam fir and black spruce are occasionally dominant in the canopy and sometimes form patches within the larger white cedar-dominated swamp. The subcanopy is patchy to interrupted (25-75% cover) with white cedar, tamarack, black spruce, paper birch and balsam fir often present. The shrub layer is also patchy to interrupted (25-75%) with dwarf alder, Labrador tea *(Ledum groenlandicum)*, speckled alder, fly honeysuckle, mountain maple, creeping snowberry *(Gaultheria hispidula)*, and small cranberry *(Vaccinium oxycoccos)*. The herbaceous layer varies from patchy to continuous (25-100% cover) depending on the density of the canopy. Common species include bristle stalked sedge, dwarf raspberry, three-leaved false Solomon's seal, goldthread *(Coptis trifolia)*, bunchberry, naked miterwort, heart-leaved twayblade *(Listera cordata var. cordata)*, tall northern bog orchid *(Platanthera hyperborea)*, soft-leaved sedge, twinflower *(Linnaea borealis* var. *longiflora)*, interior sedge, bulblet fern, bluebead lily, one-sided pyrola *(Pyrola secunda)*, common marsh marigold *(Caltha palustris)*, and small northern bog orchid *(Platanthera obtusata)*. White adder's mouth orchid is found in this plant community type. Approximate area mapped: 332 acres

FPn73a Alder - (Maple - Loosestrife) Swamp
Tall shrub wetlands found on mineral, muck, or peat soils in basins. The water table remains at or near the surface for much of the year and the pH is nearly neutral. This community often occurs adjacent to or as patches within forested rich swamp communities. Tall trees are not common but occasionally, tamarack, paper birch, and red maple are present. The shrub layer is interrupted to continuous (50-100% cover) and dominated by speckled alder, with bog birch *(Betula pumila)*, leatherleaf *(Chamaedaphne calyculata)*, and willows *(Salix* spp.) also common. Other frequent shrubs include red osier dogwood, swamp gooseberry *(Ribes hirtellum)*, skunk currant *(Ribes glandulosum)*, and swamp red current. The herbaceous layer is also interrupted to continuous (50-100% cover) with lake sedge, tussock sedge, bluejoint *(Calamagrostis canadensis)*, dwarf raspberry, crested fern *(Dryopteris cristata)*, northern bugleweed *(Lycopus uniflorus)*, northern marsh fern *(Thelypteris palustris* var. *pubescens)*, red-stemmed aster *(Aster firmus)*, spotted touch-me-not *(Impatiens capensis)*, three-leaved false Solomon's seal, and bunchberry all common. Approximate area mapped: 10 acres

WMn82b Sedge Meadow
Open wetlands dominated by a dense cover of broad-leaved graminoids with scattered shrubs. Present on mineral to sapric peat around Lester Lake. The community is subject to inundation in the spring and after heavy rain but there is often a drawdown of water levels during the summer. Shrub cover is less than 25% with only a few scattered willows, red-osier dogwood, and speckled alder. Graminoid cover is continuous (75-100%) with abundant lakes sedge, tussock sedge, bluejoint, beaked sedge *(Carex*

utriculata), and prairie sedge *(Carex prairea)*. Forb cover is patchy (25-50%) with marsh bellflower *(Campanula aparinoides)*, tufted loosestrife *(Lysimachia thyrsiflora)*, marsh skullcap *(Scutellaria galericulata)*, great water dock *(Rumex orbiculatus)*, northern marsh fern, downy willow herb *(Epilobium strictum)*, bulb-bearing water hemlock *(Cicuta bulbifera)*, water smartweed *(Polygonum amphibium)*, and marsh cinquefoil *(Potentilla palustris)* common. Approximate area mapped: 219 acres

Young Forest Complex
Areas of upland forest recently (within the last 40years) subject to timber harvest. Trembling aspen and big-toothed aspen dominate these areas. Depending on the degree of disturbance caused by logging operations, these sites may or may not develop into diverse forest stands as they mature. Approximate area mapped: 138 acres

Beaver Complex
A complex encompassing small to medium-sized wetlands that have been altered or are influenced by beaver-created impoundments, usually along watershed drainages. These are generally unforested wetlands, though trees and shrubs may have been common prior to beaver impoundment. Standing dead trees (snags) and shrubs and downed wood are common in many of these wetlands. Patches of open water occur directly behind the dam (often mapped separately as open water). Cattails, lake sedge, and other tussock-forming sedges are often dominant in the wettest zones near the dam. Slightly drier zones often support speckled alder, ericaceous shrubs or bluejoint. Remnants of the wetland communities present before flooding by beaver dams are sometimes found at higher elevations in the watershed. Wetland community types that are frequently inundated by beavers include alder swamp, wet meadow, rich fen, white cedar swamp, and northern wet ash swamp. Approximate area mapped: 117 acres

RARE SPECIES (Appendix A)
White adder's mouth orchid is listed as a Species of Special Concern in Minnesota. This species grows perched on hummocks of *Sphagnum* or other mosses in black spruce, tamarack, and white cedar swamps. The plant is small and inconspicuous (11-22cm) and can easily blend in with the moss and vegetation. It arises from a pseudobulb and has one basal leaf per stem that. Because the leaf is strongly sheathing, it appears to be attached partway up the stem.

Bird surveys in 2005 (see Appendix B) located one breeding season occurrence of a Red-shouldered Hawk *(Buteo lineatus* - a Species of Special Concern) two miles east of Lester Lake Forest in similar upland forest habitat. Red-shouldered Hawks prefer large areas of unfragmented, mature forest with an open understory and scattered small wetland basins for hunting. Their prey consists of small mammals, reptiles, amphibians, crayfish, and occasionally birds. The landscape of Lester Lake Forest has the required elements for Red-Shouldered Hawk habitat and there is a strong possibility this species may be found within the boundaries of the ecological evaluation area.

LAND OWNERSHIP
Approximately half of the site is in state ownership because it is on the northern edge of the Paul Bunyan State Forest. The other half of the site, including the lake, is in private ownership, mostly under three owners (Figure 2). The primary owner, Bieloh Bros. Inv. LLC., has already expressed their interest in selling their land to the DNR.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS/CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

PAST AND CURRENT HUMAN DISTURBANCE AND USE

Expansion of the current timber harvesting operations is the biggest threat to this site. The largest, most recently cut area is on the north side of Lester Lake where fire-dependant forest predominates; this area is mapped as "recently cut" (Figure 1). Additional harvest in the upland forests surrounding Lester Lake would not only eliminate these forest types in the short term, but would also further eliminate the buffer surrounding the wetland communities and the lake exposing them to increased run off and erosion. Further fragmentation of the forest would reduce the potential habitat for animal species that require intact forest interior for successful breeding. The habitat for these species has already been reduced throughout the region by extensive timber harvest, agriculture, and housing development. Of these disturbances, timber harvest and associated activities such as the creation of new haul roads, skid trails, and log landings are one of the biggest threat to the Lester Lake Forest, especially where they come in close contact with wetland communities and drainageways. These activities open up the canopy, expose the forest floor to soil compaction, and cause disturbance that creates conditions suitable for invasive plant species.

According to Mark Carlstrom, Park Rapids Area Forester, Lester Lake is considered to be a highly valued duck hunting lake. Also according to Mark, the owner prior to Bieloh Bros. Inc. had brought in albino beaver and had attempted to raise them there (Figure 2, Area A). This venture was not successful, but remnant fencing can be seen in scattered locations around the property, particularly on the south side of the lake. There didn't seem to be any other visible signs of that activity (See attached Lester Lake field visit from Becky Marty).

ROADS & TRAILS

At present there are no roads through the main part of the site. However, State Hwy 64 divides the smaller wetland from Lester Lake and the native plant communities on the east side (Figure 1). There are a few smaller, older logging trails that enter the site from the east side of Hwy 64, but they only go so far as the areas mapped as Young Forest along the edge of the site. A network of DNR Forestry roads skirts the lower southeast edge of the Site, which could potentially provide access to the lowland communities south of the lake (Figure 1). A threat is posed by these trails since they provide potential access to Lester Lake Forest. Since most of the soils in the southern portion of the site are predominately mucky wetland soils, they are, needless to say, sensitive to OHV by exposing soils to erosion, altering stream flow, and serving as corridors for the establishment of invasive species. In order to preserve the integrity of both the uplands and lowlands, minimizing the number of trails and roads in the Lester Lake Forest site should be a top priority.

RESTORATION

Reforestation of cut-over areas and restoring a natural fire cycle to the uplands are potential management options. Returning a natural fire regime to the site would begin to restore the structure of the existing upland forest and allow the regeneration of the recently logged areas to mimic naturally disturbed areas of pre-settlement forests. Reforestation should take into consideration the full array of species that would exist naturally in a diverse, mature forest. Consulting the *Field Guide to the Native Plant Communities of Minnesota: the Laurentian Mixed Forest*, soils, and adjacent older forests will help provide guidance as to what species a particular community should encompass, whether it be FDc34 or MHc26.

PROTECTION STRATEGIES & SUMMARY

The Lester Lake Forest is significant because it contains a full range of high quality, native plant communities including upland dry-mesic pine forest, lowland conifer forest, and aquatic communities. There are no other existing SNA's in this subsection, or the neighboring ones for that matter, that are of a similar nature as this site (Figure 3). According to DNR Forestry records, some of the lowland cedar and black ash swamps that are under their management have stand ages that date between 90-160 years old, depending on the stand. And although there has been some disturbance by way of recent logging in the upland forest, the lowland areas are unfragmented and provide a protective buffer around Lester Lake.

The core area of the site for protection includes portions of A, B, C, and possibly a portion of F (Figure 2). Area C is owned by the Minnesota DNR - Forestry and includes much of the site. Area A, B, and F are privately owned by Bieloh Bros. Inv. LLC., Gary and Sandra Roerick, and Steven and Cynthia Doke, respectively. Within these ownerships, the matrix of lowland native plant communities, Lester Lake and its outlet Sucker Creek, and the population of white adder's mouth are represented. As mentioned earlier, Bieloh Bros. has already approached the DNR with an interest in selling their land. Despite recent timber harvesting activities on the north side of the lake on Bieloh Bros. property, this area should be considered for protection as well (Figure 1). This side of Lester Lake would be a prime area for lakeshore development, and including it would ensure that all of Lester Lake, including a buffer zone, would be protected.

Protecting the core area of the site ensures that the highlight of this site, the lowland forested swamps and Lester Lake, are captured and continues to remain intact. The Lester Lake Forest is an excellent example of the biodiversity and landscape of the Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains Subsection and merits consideration for the highest level of protection available.

INFORMATION SOURCES

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Minnesota County Biological Survey. 2006-2007. Native plant community and plant field data (from Tim Whitfeld & Erika Rowe)

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. 2003. Field Guide to the Native Plant Communities of Minnesota: the Laurentian Mixed Forest. Ecological Land Classification Program, Minnesota County Biological Survey, and Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program. MNDNR St. Paul, MN.

Okajangas, R. W. & C. L. Matsch. 1982. Minnesota's geology. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis.

Smith, W. R. 1993. Orchids of Minnesota. University of Minnesota Press.

USDA-NRCS (1998). Soil Survey of Hubbard County, Minnesota.

Figure 1: Native Plant Communities of Lester Lake Forest

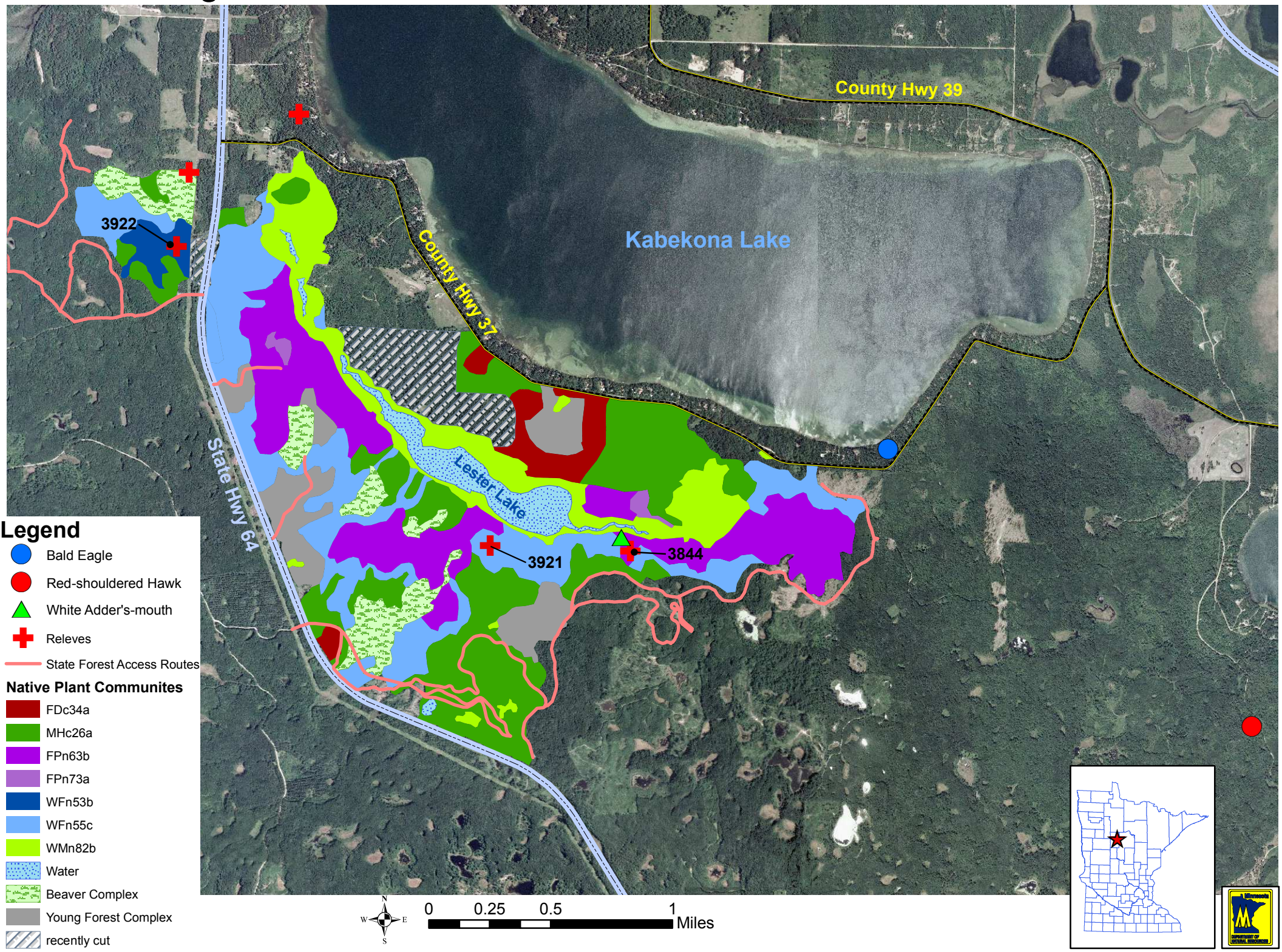


Figure 2: Land Ownership for Lester Lake Forest

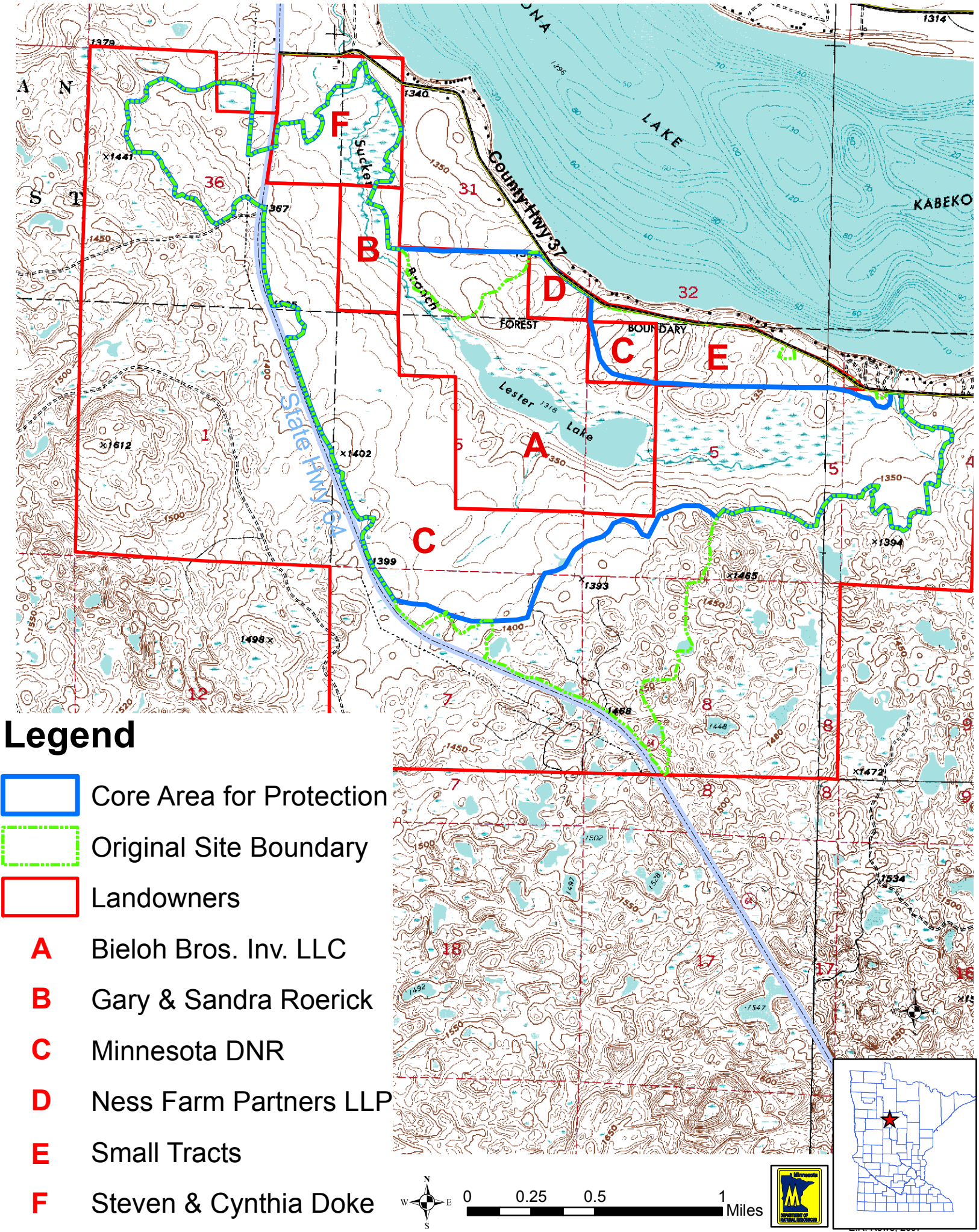
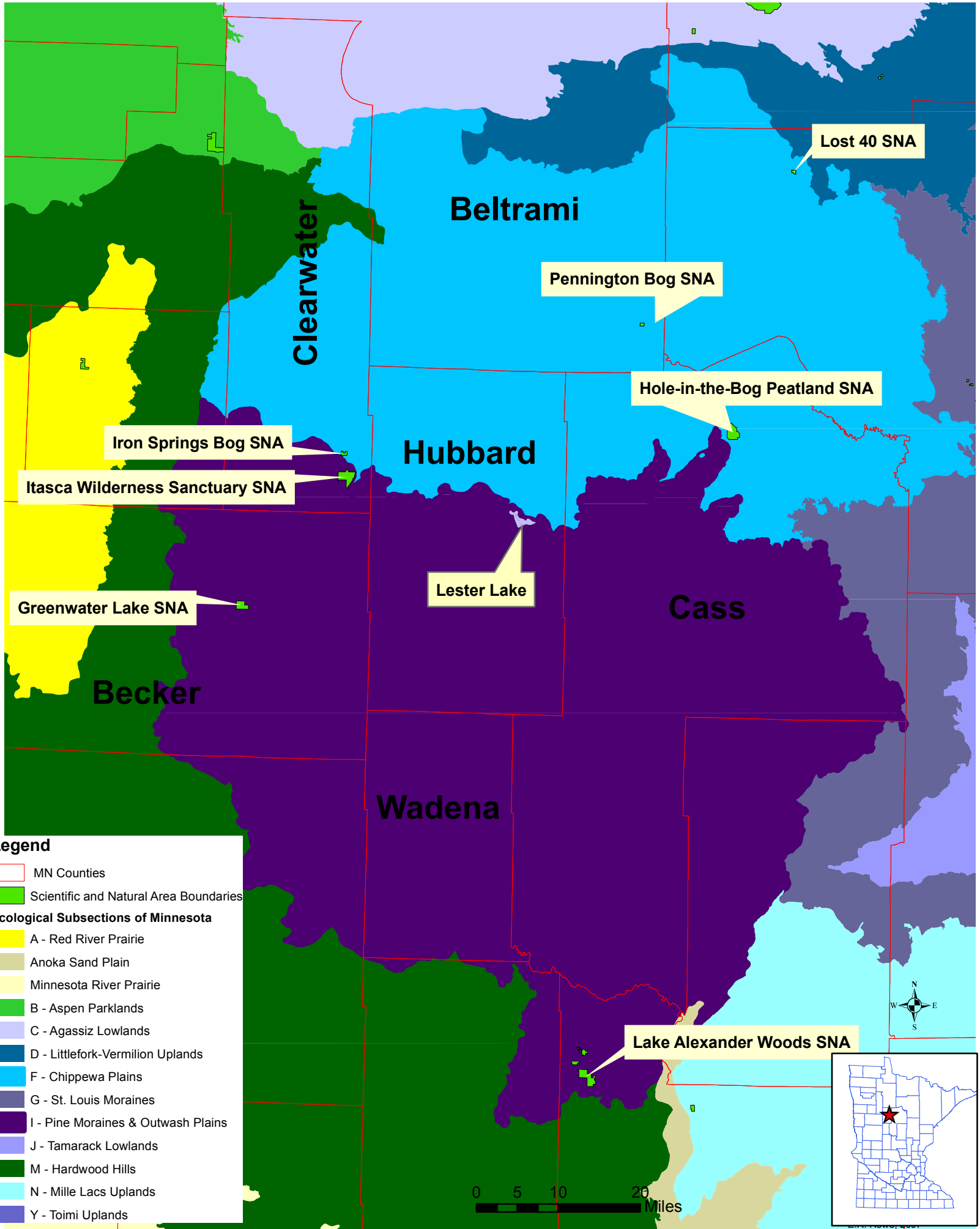


Figure 3: Location of Lester Lake Forest in Relation to Other SNAs



APPENDIX A: ELEMENT SUMMARY

Element	State Status[1]	EO Rank[2]	# EOs in subsection[3]	Area in site (Acres)
White adder's mouth orchid	SPC	B	-	-
Red Pine - White Pine Forest	-	C		65
Oak - Aspen - Red Maple Forest	-	B/C	-	423
Black Ash - Mountain Maple (Swamp)	-	B	-	365
Lowland White Cedar Forest (Northern)		A/B	-	30
White Cedar Swamp (Northcentral)	-	A/B	-	332
Alder - (Maple - Loosestrife) Swamp	-	B	-	24
Sedge Meadow	-	A/B	-	219

[1]For rare plants and animals, only endangered and threatened ranks have legal status (SPC = Species of Special Concern).
[2] EO = element occurrence. Ranks describe the ecological quality of the rare feature or native plant community on an A-D scale. A = highest, D = lowest.
[3] Number of occurrences recorded in the Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains subsection in the Natural Heritage Information System. Consider this list to be incomplete since surveys are still in progress in the area.

FPn63b White Cedar Swamp (Northcentral)

Lester Lake

White adder's mouth orchid

Iron rich seeps in FPn63

Black Ash – Mountain Maple Swamp WFn55c

Appendix B . Birds found in and around Lester Lake Forest, June 2005

Common Name	Scientific Name
Canada Goose	*Branta canadensis*
Trumpeter Swan (THR)	*Cygnus buccinator*
Common Goldeneye	*Bucephala clangula*
Common Loon	*Gavia immer*
Turkey Vulture	*Cathartes aura*
Bald Eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*
Cooper's Hawk	*Accipiter cooperii*
Red-shouldered Hawk (SPC)	*Buteo lineatus*
Broad-winged Hawk	*Buteo platypterus*
Ring-billed Gull	*Larus delawarensis*
Black-billed Cuckoo	*Coccyzus erythropthalmus*
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	*Archilochus colubris*
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**	*Sphyrapicus varius*
Hairy Woodpecker	*Picoides villosus*
Pileated Woodpecker	*Dryocopus pileatus*
Eastern Wood-Pewee**	*Contopus virens*
Least Flycatcher**	*Empidonax minimus*
Great Crested Flycatcher**	*Myiarchus crinitus*
Yellow-throated Vireo**	*Vireo flavifrons*
Warbling Vireo	*Vireo gilvus*
Red-eyed Vireo**	*Vireo olivaceus*
Blue Jay**	*Cyanocitta cristata*
American Crow	*Corvus brachyrhynchos*
Common Raven**	*Corvus corax*
Black-capped Chickadee**	*Poecile atricapillus*
Red-breasted Nuthatch	*Sitta canadensis*
White-breasted Nuthatch**	*Sitta carolinensis*
Winter Wren	*Troglodytes troglodytes*
Veery**	*Catharus fuscescens*
Hermit Thrush**	*Catharus guttatus*
Wood Thrush	*Hylocichla mustelina*
Gray Catbird**	*Dumetella carolinensis*
Cedar Waxwing	*Bombycilla cedrorum*
Golden-winged Warbler	*Vermivora chrysoptera*
Nashville Warbler	*Vermivora ruficapilla*
Northern Parula**	*Parula americana*
Yellow Warbler**	*Dendroica petechia*
Chestnut-sided Warbler**	*Dendroica pensylvanica*
Black-throated Green Warbler	*Dendroica virens*
Blackburnian Warbler	*Dendroica fusca*
Pine Warbler	*Dendroica pinus*
Black-and-white Warbler**	*Mniotilta varia*
American Redstart**	*Setophaga ruticilla*
Ovenbird**	*Seiurus aurocapilla*
Northern Waterthrush	*Seiurus noveboracensis*
Mourning Warbler**	*Oporornis philadelphicus*
Common Yellowthroat	*Geothlypis trichas*
Canada Warbler	*Wilsonia canadensis*
Scarlet Tanager**	*Piranga olivacea*
Eastern Towhee**	*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*
Chipping Sparrow	*Spizella passerina*
Song Sparrow**	*Melospiza melodia*
Swamp Sparrow	*Melospiza georgiana*
White-throated Sparrow	*Zonotrichia albicollis*
Rose-breasted Grosbeak**	*Pheucticus ludovicianus*
Red-winged Blackbird	*Agelaius phoeniceus*
Common Grackle	*Quiscalus quiscula*
Brown-headed Cowbird	*Molothrus ater*
Baltimore Oriole	*Icterus galbula*
Purple Finch	*Carpodacus purpureus*
American Goldfinch	*Carduelis tristis*
Evening Grosbeak	*Coccothraustes vespertinus*

** species found inside the boundary of the Lester Lake Forest (T133N R32W Sec. 01)

Appendix C. Plants Species Recorded in Lester Lake Forest (from field notes taken in 2006 and 2007)

Herbaceous plants

Alpine enchanter's nightshade - *Circaea alpina*
American spikenard - Aralia racemosa
American vetch - *Vicia americana*
Awl-fruited sedge - *Carex stipata*
Bearded shorthusk - *Brachyelytrum erectum*
Bladder sedge - *Carex intumescens*
Blue cohosh - *Caulophyllum thalictroides*
Bluebead lily - *Clintonia borealis*
Bog aster - *Aster borealis*
Bracken fern - *Pteridium aquilinum*
Bristle-stalked sedge - *Carex leptalea*
Brook cinquefoil - *Potentilla rivalis*
Bulb-bearing water hemlock - *Cicuta bulbifera*
Bulblet fern - *Cystoptis bulbifera*
Bunchberry - *Cornus canadensis*
Canada mayflower - *Maianthemum canadense*
Cattail - *Typha* spp.
Cinnamon fern - *Osmunda cinnamomea*
Clayton's sweet cicely - *Osmorhiza claytonii*
Columbine - *Aquilegia canadensis*
Common oak fern - *Gymnocarpium dryopteris*
Crested fern - *Dryopteris cristata*
Dewey's sedge - *Carex deweyana*
Downy rattlesnake plantain - *Goodyera repens*
Drooping wood sedge - *Carex arctata*
Drooping woodreed - *Cinna latifolia*
Dwarf Raspberry - *Rubus pubescens*
Dwarf scouring rush - *Equisetum scirpoides*
Early coralroot - *Corallorhiza trifida*
Early meadow rue - *Thalictrum dioicum*
False melic grass - *Schizachne purpurascens*
Fowl manna grass - *Glyceria striata*
Gold thread - *Coptis groenlandica*
Golden fruited sedge - *Carex aurea*
Golden ragwort - *Senecio aureus*
Great water dock - *Rumex orbiculatus*
Green-flowered pyrola - *Pyrola chlorantha*
Heart-leaved twayblade - *Listera cordata*
Hog peanut - *Amphicarpaea bracteata*
Interior sedge - *Carex interior*
Interrupted fern - *Osmunda claytoniana*
Jack-in-the-pulpit - *Arisaema triphyllum*
Lady fern - *Athyrium angustum*
Lake sedge - *Carex lacustris*
Large round-leaved orchid - *Platanthera orbiculata*
Large-flowered bellwort - *Uvularia grandiflora*
Large-leaved aster - *Aster macrophylla*
Long-stalked sedge - *Carex pedunculata*
Marsh marigold - *Caltha palustris*
Marsh vetchling - *Lathyrus palustris*
Mountain rice grass - *Oryzopsis asperifolia*
Naked miterwort - *Mitella nuda*
Nodding trillium - *Trillium cernuum*
Northern blue flag - *Iris versicolor*
Northern bugleweed - *Lycopus uniflora*
One-flowered pyrola - *Moneses uniflora*
Ostrich fern - *Matteuccia struthiopteris*
Pale bellwort - *Uvularia sessilifolia*
Pale vetchling - *Lathyrus ochroleucus*
Philadelphia fleabane - *Erigeron philadelphicus*
Pipsissewa - *Chimaphila umbellata*
Pitcher plant - *Sarracenia purpurea*
Pointed woodrush - *Luzula acuminata*
Porcupine sedge - *Carex hystericina*
Prairie sedge - *Carex prairea*
Rattlesnake fern - *Botrychium virginianum*
Red baneberry - *Actaea rubra*
Red-stemmed aster - *Aster puniceus*
Rose twisted stalk - *Streptopus roseus*
Round-leaved sundew - *Drosera rotundifolia*
Round-lobed hepatica - *Hepatica americana*
Showy lady's slipper orchid - *Cypripedium reginae*
Small northern bog orchid - *Platanthera obtusata*
Smooth rattlesnakeroot *Prenanthes racemosa*
Soft-leaved sedge - *Carex disperma*
Spotted touch-me-not - *Impatiens capensis*
Starflower - *Trientalis borealis*
Striped coralroot - *Corallorhiza striata*
Swamp saxifrage - *Saxifraga pensylvanica*
Swamp thistle - *Cirsium muticum*
Sweet-scented bedstraw - *Galium triflorum*
Tall northern bog orchid - *Platanthera hyperborea*
Three-flowered false Solomon's seal - *Smilacina triflorum*
Two-leaved miterwort - *Mitella diphylla*
Tufted loosestrife - *Lysimachia thyrsiflora*
Tussock sedge - *Carex stricta*
Twinflower - *Linnaea borealis*
White adder's mouth -*Malaxis monophyllus*
Wild calla - *Calla palustris*
Wild ginger - *Asarum canadense*
Wild sarsaparilla - *Aralia nudicaulis*
Wild strawberry - *Fragaria virginiana*
Wood anemone - *Anemone quinquefolia*
Woodland horsetail - *Equisetum sylvaticum*
Yellow-lady's slipper - *Cypripedium calceolus* var. *parviflorum*
Zig-zag goldenrod - *Solidago flexicaulis*

Woody Plants

Allegheny blackberry - *Rubus allegheniensis*
American elm - *Ulmus americana*
American hazelnut - *Corylus americana*
Balsam fir - *Abies balsamea*
Balsam willow - *Salix pyrifolia*
Beaked hazel - *Corylus cornuta*
Black ash - *Fraxinus nigra*
Black spruce - *Picea mariana*
Bur oak - *Quecrus macrocarpa*
Bush honeysuckle - *Diervilla lonicera*
Chokecherry - *Prunus virginiana*
Creeping snowberry - *Gaultheria hispidula*
Downy arrowood - *Viburnum rafinesquianum*
Dwarf alder - *Rhamnus alnifolia*
Fly honeysuckle - *Lonicera canadensis*
Green ash - *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*
Hairy honeysuckle - *Lonicera hirsuta*
Ironwood - *Ostrya virginiana*
Jack pine - *Pinus banksiana*
Juneberry - *Amelanchier* spp.
Labrador tea - *Ledum groenlandicum*
Lowbush blueberry - *Vaccinium angustifolium*
Mountain maple - *Acer spicatum*
Pagoda dogwood - *Cornus alterniflora*
Paper birch - *Betula papyrifera*
Pin cherry - *Prunus pensylvanica*
Poison ivy - *Toxicodendron rydbergii*
Prairie willow - *Salix humulis*
Prickly gooseberry - *Ribes cynosbati*
Prickly rose - *Rose acicularis*
Red maple - *Acer rubrum*
Red oak - *Quercus rubra*
Red-osier dogwood - *Cornus sericea*
Round-leaved dogwood - *Cornus rugosa*
Showy mountain ash - *Sorbus decora*
Small cranberry - *Vaccinium oxycoccus*
Speckled alder - *Alnus incana*
Swamp red currant - *Ribes triste*
Tamarack - *Larix laricina*
Trembling aspen - *Populus tremuloides*
Velvet-leaved blueberry - *Vaccinium myrtilloides*
White cedar - *Thuja occidentalis*
White pine - *Pinus strobus*
White spruce - *Picea glauca*
Wintergreen - *Gaultheria procumbens*
Yellow birch - *Betula alleghaniensis*

MINNESOTA NATURAL HERITAGE & NONGAME RESEARCH PROGRAM
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DNR RELEVE #:**3844**

10:53 Friday, NOVEMBER 30, 2007

------ EDIT RELEVE REPORT FORM, MINNESOTA VEGETATION DATABASE ------

GENERAL INFORMATION
Surveyor's Releve #: **TW 06-13** EO Rec #: **0**
*Surveyor's ID Code: **TJW (Tim Whitfeld)**
Date: **2** Month: **AUG** Year: **2006** (e.g. 04 JUL 1993)
CBS Site #: **59** or Site Name: **Steamboat River 6**
DNR Ownership Code: **71 (County (Tax Forfeit))**
*NC Code: **WCXXSE (White Cedar Swamp Seepage Subtype)**
Commun. Ranking in Releve:**B** Stand typical of Commun. Type:_ Releve typical of Stand:_

LOCATIONAL INFORMATION
State Code: **MN** *County Code: **29 (Hubbard)**
Quad Codes DNR: **J10A** Universal: **47094B7 (Laporte)**
Township: **142N** (e.g. 143N) Range: **32W** (e.g. 32W)
QQRT: **NE** QRT: **SW** of Section **5**
Latitude: **47 degrees, 8 minutes, 30 seconds** LL/GPS registration:
Longitude: **94 degrees, 45 minutes, 35 seconds** *Accuracy: _ Marker: _

RELEVE INFORMATION
Releve Size (sq. m.): **400** Elev. (ft.): **0** Slope: Slope Position: _
*ECS Subsection: **0**
Minnesota Soil Atlas Mapping Unit:
*Geomorphic Unit:

Remarks: **Scatt fire-scarred stumps, a few cut. Most canopy trees are 20-30cm dbh. Scatt smaller trees. Most cedars are straight-trunked, few have upward-curving boles. Few downed small spruce & cedar.**

OTHER DATA COLLECTED
Soils: Forestry: o=old growth Water Chemistry: Publication:
y=forestry
* = Variables with computerized code dictionaries (See Releve Handbook)

E 6-6 C Woody Needleleaf Evergreen, Height: 10-20m, Cover continuous
2 4. Thuja occidentalis L.
2 2. Picea mariana (Mill.) B.S.P.
2 +. Larix laricina (DuRoi) Koch

E 5-5 A Woody Needleleaf Evergreen, Height: 5-10m, Cover almost absent
2 R. Thuja occidentalis L.

E 1-3 A Woody Needleleaf Evergreen, Height: .0-2m, Cover almost absent
2 1. Thuja occidentalis L. SD
2 +. Picea mariana (Mill.) B.S.P. SD

D 1-3 B Woody Broadleaf Deciduous, Height: .0-2m, Cover barely present
2 +. Lonicera canadensis Marsh.
2 +. Cornus stolonifera Michx.
2 +. Acer spicatum Lam.
2 +. Quercus rubra L. SD
2 R. Cornus alternifolia L. f.
2 +. Rhamnus alnifolia L'Her
2 +. Fraxinus nigra Marsh. SD
2 R. Rhus radicans L.
2 R. Acer rubrum L.
2 R. Ribes cynosbati L.
5 +. Amelanchier SD
2 R. Corylus cornuta Marsh.

B 1-2 B Woody Broadleaf Evergreen, Height: .0-.5m, Cover barely present
2 1. Gaultheria procumbens L.
2 R. Vaccinium angustifolium Ait.

G 1-2 R Graminoid, Height: .0-.5m, Cover rare
2 2. Carex leptalea Wahlenb.
2 +. Carex pedunculata Muhl. ex Willd.
2 +. Carex trisperma Dewey

C 1-2 A Climber, Height: .0-.5m, Cover almost absent
2 +. Lonicera hirsuta Eat.

L 1-1 C Lichen/Moss, Height: .0-.1m, Cover continuous
5 1. Sphagnum
7 5. Unknown or Indeterminable Plant

H 1-2 P Forb, Height: .0-.5m, Cover patchy
2 1. Linnaea borealis L.
2 1. Cornus canadensis L.
2 +. Rubus pubescens Raf.
2 +. Trientalis borealis Raf.
2 1. Coptis groenlandica (Oeder) Fern.
2 1. Platanthera obtusata (Pursh) Lindl.
2 +. Viola renifolia Gray
2 1. Goodyera repens (L.) R. Br.
2 1. Mitella nuda L.
2 +. Galium triflorum Michx.
2 +. Moneses uniflora (L.) Gray
2 R. Halenia deflexa (Smith) Griseb.
2 +. Malaxis unifolia Michx.
2 R. Botrychium virginianum (L.) Sw.
2 +. Impatiens capensis Meerb.
2 +. Maianthemum canadense Desf.
2 +. Aster macrophyllus L.
2 +. Clintonia borealis (Ait.) Raf.
2 R. Aralia nudicaulis L.
2 R. Corallorhiza trifida Chat.
2 +. Smilacina trifolia (L.) Desf.
2 R. Platanthera orbiculata (Pursh) Lindl.
6 R. cf. Athyrium
2 +. Equisetum scirpoides Michx.

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DNR RELEVE #:**3921**

10:53 Friday, NOVEMBER 30, 2007

------ EDIT RELEVE REPORT FORM, MINNESOTA VEGETATION DATABASE ------

GENERAL INFORMATION
Surveyor's Releve #: EO Rec #: **0**
*Surveyor's ID Code: **ERR (Erika R. Rowe)**
Date: **22** Month: **AUG** Year: **2007** (e.g. 04 JUL 1993)
CBS Site #: **50** or Site Name:
DNR Ownership Code: **20 (Mn Dnr Forestry (State Forest and Con-Con Land))**
*NC Code: **WCXXSE (White Cedar Swamp Seepage Subtype)**
Commun. Ranking in Releve:**AB** Stand typical of Commun. Type:_ Releve typical of Stand:_

LOCATIONAL INFORMATION
State Code: **MN** *County Code: **29 (Hubbard)**
Quad Codes DNR: **J10A** Universal: **47094B7 (Laporte)**
Township: **143N** (e.g. 143N) Range: **33W** (e.g. 32W)
QQRT: **SW** QRT: **NE** of Section **36**
Latitude: **47 degrees, 9 minutes, 33 seconds** LL/GPS registration:
Longitude: **94 degrees, 48 minutes, 1 seconds** *Accuracy: _ Marker: _

RELEVE INFORMATION
Releve Size (sq. m.): **400** Elev. (ft.): **1350** Slope: **05NE** Slope Position: _
*ECS Subsection: **0**
Minnesota Soil Atlas Mapping Unit:
*Geomorphic Unit:

Remarks: **Cedars very straight, avg dbh=45cm. Blk spruce avg 25-30cm, 1 @ 48cm. Slight slope w/iron-rich springs drain to NE. Soil saturated sapric muck. Occas tip-ups. No stumps, sphagnum. Occas mnium,mosses**

OTHER DATA COLLECTED
Soils: Forestry: o=old growth y=forestry Water Chemistry: Publication:
* = Variables with computerized code dictionaries (See Releve Handbook)

E 5-6 C Woody Needleleaf Evergreen, Height: 5-20m, Cover continuous
2 4. Thuja occidentalis L.
2 1. Picea mariana (Mill.) B.S.P.

D 5-6 B Woody Broadleaf Deciduous, Height: 5-20m, Cover barely present
2 1. Betula papyrifera Marsh.
2 R. Betula alleghaniensis Britt. OP

D 4-4 R Woody Broadleaf Deciduous, Height: 2-5m, Cover rare
2 2. Acer spicatum Lam.
2 1. Ulmus americana L.

E 1-3 A Woody Needleleaf Evergreen, Height: .0-2m, Cover almost absent
2 +. Picea mariana (Mill.) B.S.P. SD
2 +. Thuja occidentalis L. SD

D 1-3 R Woody Broadleaf Deciduous, Height: .0-2m, Cover rare
2 2. Acer spicatum Lam.
2 +. Quercus macrocarpa Michx. SD
2 1. Fraxinus nigra Marsh. SD
2 +. Cornus alternifolia L. f.
2 +. Corylus cornuta Marsh.
2 +. Lonicera canadensis Marsh.
2 1. Ulmus americana L.
2 +. Quercus rubra L. SD
2 R. Betula papyrifera Marsh. SD
2 +. Rhus radicans L.

H 1-2 P Forb, Height: .0-.5m, Cover patchy
2 3. Cystopteris bulbifera (L.) Bernh.
2 1. Arisaema triphyllum (L.) Schott
2 +. Asarum canadense L.
2 +. Aralia nudicaulis L.

H 1-2 P Forb, Height: .0-.5m, Cover patchy (continued)

2	+.	Aralia racemosa L.
2	1.	Circaea alpina L.
2	1.	Athyrium angustum (Willd.) Presl
4	1.	Viola cf. macloskeyi Lloyd
2	+.	Botrychium virginianum (L.) Sw.
2	1.	Mitella nuda L.
2	+.	Impatiens capensis Meerb.
2	+.	Goodyera repens (L.) R. Br.
2	+.	Cypripedium calceolus L.
2	1.	Mitella diphylla L.
2	+.	Clintonia borealis (Ait.) Raf.
2	+.	Gymnocarpium dryopteris (L.) Newm.
2	+.	Streptopus roseus Michx.
2	+.	Sanicula marilandica L.
2	+.	Dryopteris carthusiana (Vill.) H. P. Fuchs
2	+.	Galium triflorum Michx.
2	+.	Thalictrum dioicum L.
2	+.	Rubus pubescens Raf.
2	+.	Trientalis borealis Raf.
2	+.	Amphicarpaea bracteata (L.) Fern.
2	R.	Platanthera orbiculata (Pursh) Lindl.
2	+.	Fragaria virginiana Duchesne

G 1-2 R Graminoid, Height: .0-.5m, Cover rare

2	2.	Carex pedunculata Muhl. ex Willd.
2	+.	Carex deweyana Schwein.
2	+.	Cinna latifolia (Trev.) Griseb.

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DNR RELEVE #:**3922**

10:53 Friday, NOVEMBER 30, 2007

------ EDIT RreleVE REPORT FORM, MINNESOTA VEGETATION DATABASE ------

GENERAL INFORMATION
Surveyor's Releve #: EO Rec #: **0**
*Surveyor's ID Code: **ERR (Erika R. Rowe)**
Date: **28** Month: **JUN** Year: **2007** (e.g. 04 JUL 1993)
CBS Site #: **59** or Site Name: **Lester Lake**
DNR Ownership Code: **00 (Private Ownership)**
*NC Code: **BAXXXX (Black Ash Swamp)**
Commun. Ranking in Releve:**AB** Stand typical of Commun. Type:_ Releve typical of Stand:_

LOCATIONAL INFORMATION
State Code: **MN** *County Code: **29 (Hubbard)**
Quad Codes DNR: **J10A** Universal: **47094B7 (Laporte)**
Township: **142N** (e.g. 143N) Range: **32W** (e.g. 32W)
QQRT: **NE** QRT: **SE** of Section **6**
Latitude: **47 degrees, 8 minutes, 30 seconds** LL/GPS registration:
Longitude: **94 degrees, 46 minutes, 19 seconds** *Accuracy: _ Marker: _

RELEVE INFORMATION
Releve Size (sq. m.): **400** Elev. (ft.): **1360** Slope: **00LV** Slope Position: _
*ECS Subsection: **0**
Minnesota Soil Atlas Mapping Unit:
*Geomorphic Unit:

Remarks: **No standing H2O in hollows. Blk ash avg dbh=30-35cm. Soil moist-mucky sapric-hemic peat >6 in deep. Part of larger forested wetland complex. FPn63 common along creeks & lakeshore. ~200m SW of Lester Lk**

OTHER DATA COLLECTED
Soils: Forestry: o=old growth y=forestry Water Chemistry: Publication:
* = Variables with computerized code dictionaries (See Releve Handbook)

D 5-6 I Woody Broadleaf Deciduous, Height: 5-20m, Cover interrupted
2 4. Fraxinus nigra Marsh.
2 1. Betula papyrifera Marsh.
2 R. Populus tremuloides Michx.

E 5-6 B Woody Needleleaf Evergreen, Height: 5-20m, Cover barely present
2 +. Abies balsamea (L.) Mill.

D 4-4 P Woody Broadleaf Deciduous, Height: 2-5m, Cover patchy
2 +. Acer spicatum Lam.
2 2. Fraxinus nigra Marsh.
2 2. Ulmus americana L.
2 +. Tilia americana L.

E 4-4 R Woody Needleleaf Evergreen, Height: 2-5m, Cover rare
2 1. Abies balsamea (L.) Mill.
2 +. Picea glauca (Moench) Voss

E 1-3 B Woody Needleleaf Evergreen, Height: .0-2m, Cover barely present
2 +. Abies balsamea (L.) Mill.
2 +. Picea glauca (Moench) Voss

D 1-3 P Woody Broadleaf Deciduous, Height: .0-2m, Cover patchy
2 2. Acer spicatum Lam.
2 +. Ribes triste Pall.
2 +. Betula papyrifera Marsh.
2 1. Fraxinus nigra Marsh. SD
2 +. Ribes hirtellum Michx.
2 +. Corylus cornuta Marsh.
2 R. Viburnum trilobum Marsh.
2 +. Cornus alternifolia L. f.
2 R. Prunus virginiana L.
2 1. Ulmus americana L. SD

G 1-2 R Graminoid, Height: .0-.5m, Cover rare

2	+.	Carex interior Bailey	
2	+.	Carex leptalea Wahlenb.	
2	1.	Carex deweyana Schwein.	
2	+.	Cinna latifolia (Trev.) Griseb.	
4	2.	Carex cf. assiniboinensis W. Boott	##
2	+.	Carex stipata Muhl. ex Willd.	
2	+.	Carex intumescens Rudge	
2	1.	Carex pedunculata Muhl. ex Willd.	
2	+.	Brachyelytrum erectum (Schreb.) Beauv.	
2	+.	Carex disperma Dewey	
2	1.	Luzula acuminata Raf.	

L 1-1 R Lichen/Moss, Height: .0-.1m, Cover rare

	.	SPHA GNS relid AND scov BLANK

H 1-2 I Forb, Height: .0-.5m, Cover interrupted

2	+.	Trillium cernuum L.
2	1.	Gymnocarpium dryopteris (L.) Newm.
2	1.	Rubus pubescens Raf.
2	2.	Mitella nuda L.
2	+.	Viola macloskeyi Lloyd
2	+.	Thalictrum dioicum L.
2	+.	Osmorhiza claytonii (Michx.) Clarke
2	+.	Arisaema triphyllum (L.) Schott
2	+.	Asarum canadense L.
2	+.	Galium asprellum Michx.
2	+.	Galium triflorum Michx.
2	+.	Equisetum scirpoides Michx.
2	1.	Circaea alpina L.
0	+.	Cypripedium calceolus L.
2	+.	Aralia racemosa L.
2	+.	Dryopteris carthusiana (Vill.) H. P. Fuchs
2	1.	Athyrium angustum (Willd.) Presl
2	+.	Aster macrophyllus L.
2	+.	Fragaria virginiana Duchesne
2	+.	Streptopus roseus Michx.
2	+.	Cicuta maculata L.
2	+.	Aralia nudicaulis L.
2	+.	Clintonia borealis (Ait.) Raf.
2	+.	Caltha palustris L.
2	+.	Equisetum pratense Ehrh.
2	+.	Thelypteris palustris Schott
2	+.	Ranunculus recurvatus Poir.
2	+.	Actaea rubra (Ait.) Willd.
2	+.	Aster lateriflorus (L.) Britt.
2	+.	Sanicula marilandica L.