

Lake Louise

Conservation Challenges:

- *Conversion to agricultural uses
- *Changes in agricultural practices
- *Deforestation/logging
- *Increased draitiling makes stream flow more flashy, reduces groundwater
- *Fluctuating/declining lake levels
- *Invasive spp.: Buckthorns, Eurasian honeysuckle, garlic mustard, leafy spurge, EAB
- *Habitat fragmentation
- *Urbanization/lakeshore development
- *Eutrophic lakes
- *Fire-dependent communities are likely to decline due to difficulty in restoring natural fire regimes
- *Wind farms

Conservation Opportunities:

- * Watershed is engaged in natural resource management planning

Existing Conservation Network:

State Parks: Lake Louise

State Forests:

SNAs: Shooting Star

Wildlife Management Areas:

- Upper Iowa WMA
- Beaver Creek WMA
- Cartney WMA
- Leroy WMA
- Rustic Retreat WMA

Aquatic Management Areas: Etna Creek

Waterfowl Production Areas (USFWS):

Rare Species:

- American Brook Lamprey
- Big Tick-trefoil
- Black Redhorse
- Blanding's Turtle
- Clinton's Bulrush
- Colonial Waterbird Nesting Site
- Cowbane
- Creek Heelsplitter
- Ellipse
- Fluted-shell
- Glade mallow
- Great Indian-plantain
- Henslow's Sparrow
- Lilia-leaved Twayblade
- Loggerhead Shrike
- Nodding Wild Onion
- Northern Brook Lamprey
- Plains Wild Indigo
- Prairie Milkweed
- Prairie Shooting Star
- Rattlesnake-master
- Rough avens
- Smooth-sheathed Sedge
- Snowy Campion
- Sullivant's Milkweed
- Sweet-smelling Indian-plantain
- Tuberclad Rein-orchid
- Tuberous Indian-plantain
- Upland Sandpiper
- Valerian
- Virginia Water Horehound
- Western Prairie Fringed Orchid
- White Wild Indigo
- Wild Quinine
- Yellow-fruited Sedge
- Yellow Pimpernel

Lake Louise Opportunity Area

Ecological Significance:

The Lake Louise Opportunity Area is located along the Iowa state line within several transition areas. The area is within the prairie-savanna-forest ecotone. It is also in the transition from the level till plains to the lesser-glaciated areas of southeastern MN. A shift in substrata layers from Devonian to Ordovician also occurs nearby. The headwaters of the Upper Iowa River are in the OA, as the Upper Iowa is one of the most ecologically significant watersheds within Iowa and southeastern Minnesota. Relict communities and species occur in the cliffs and slopes as the river becomes more entrenched. While these features are not present within the upper portions of the watershed, protection of the headwaters will have beneficial impacts to the watershed downstream.



Counties:

- Fillmore
- Mower

Rare Native Plant Communities:

- Calcareous Fen (Southeastern)
- Mesic Oak Savanna (Southern)
- Mesic Prairie (Southern)
- Sedge Meadow
- Seepage Meadow/Carr, Tussock Sedge Subtype
- Wet Prairie (Southern)



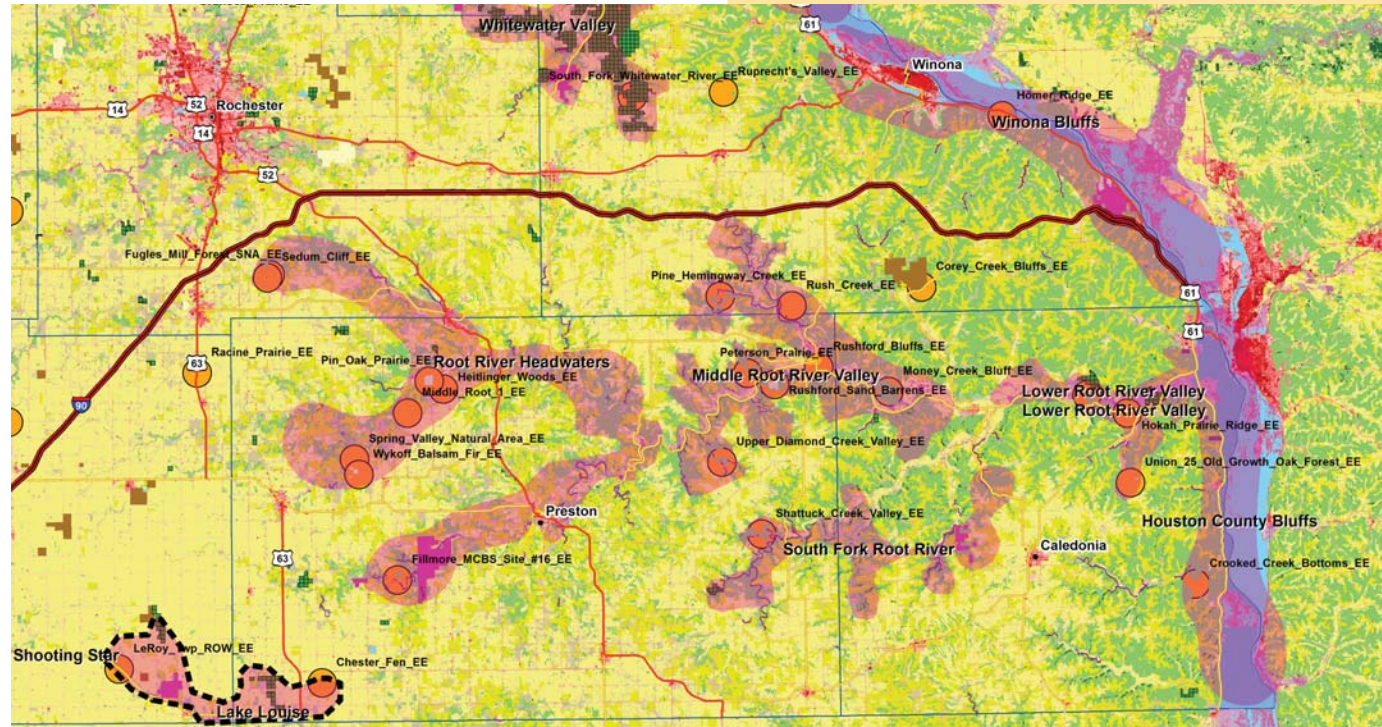
Photo from Minnesota-visitor.com

Ecological Evaluations:

- Chester Fen
- LeRoy Township ROW

Lake Louise

Ecological Evaluations, Land Cover, Public Ownership



Lake Louise

Marxan Prioritization, Element Occurrences

