

# Lake Pepin Bluffs



## Conservation Challenges:

- \*Oxygen-depleted lake waters
- \*Changes in agricultural practices
- \*Conversion to mining
- \*Deforestation/logging
- \*Increased draintiling makes stream flow more flashy, reduces groundwater for algific habitats
- \*Waterways are more incised, with more alluvium, and higher turbidity, TMDL
- \*Invasive spp.: Common buckthorn, Eurasian honeysuckle, garlic mustard, leafy spurge, Asian carp
- \*Fire-dependent communities are likely to decline due to difficulty in restoring natural fire regimes

## Conservation Opportunities:

\*

## Existing Conservation Network:

### State Parks:

### State Forests:

Richard J. Dorer  
Mem'l Hardwood

### SNAs:

Bald Eagle Bluff

### Aquatic Management Area:

Miller Creek

### Wildlife Management Area:

Pool 4

## Rare Species:

American Ginseng	Shovelnose Sturgeon
Bald Eagle	Skipjack Herring
Black Sandshell	Smooth Softshell
Blanding's Turtle	Spike
Blue Sucker	Squirrel-corn
Butterfly	Timber Rattlesnake
Buttonbush	Wartyback
Cattail Sedge	Washboard
Cliff Goldenrod	White Baneberry
Crystal Darter	
Davis' Sedge	
Ebonysell	
Elephant-ear	
Elktoe	
Gray's Sedge	
Green Dragon	
Hickorynut	
Higgins Eye	
Lake Sturgeon	
Milk snake	
Monkeyface	
Mucket	
Muskingum Sedge	
Paddle fish	
Peregrine Falcon	
Pirate Perch	
Pistolgrip	
Pugnose Minnow	
Purple Wartyback	
Round Pigtoe	
Sheepnose	



<http://sb-cap.com/images/lake-pepin-minnesota>

# Lake Pepin Bluffs Opportunity Area

## Ecological Significance:

The Lake Pepin Opportunity Area encompasses many of the same landscape features discussed in the Frontenac - Hay Creek OA, as both are located on the southern shore of Lake Pepin. Lake Pepin is a natural reservoir of the Mississippi River, allowing the river current to slow down and deposit alluvium at its headwaters. Much of this sediment contains high levels of agricultural and urban pollutants and creates zones of very low biological activity. Therefore, the need to provide ecological integrity of the lake and its shore areas is important to improve its resilience and its functions in the Mississippi Flyway. In addition, the lake has substantial importance as a scenic and recreational resource. This is the beginning of the section of the river that has bluffs approaching 600 feet in height above the river, providing much habitat diversity. This is seen by the presence of mixed white pine-hardwood communities along the bluff slopes. Goat prairies and lowland prairies are commonly more concentrated in other Blufflands OAs than Lake Pepin.



### Counties:

Wabasha

## Rare Native Plant Communities:

- Dry Bedrock Bluff Prairie (Southern)
- Floodplain Forest
- Red Oak - Sugar Maple - Basswood - (Bitternut Hickory) Forest
- Red Oak - White Oak Forest
- Silver Maple - (Virginia Creeper)
- Southern Dry Cliff
- Southern Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
- Spikerush - Bur Reed Marsh (Northern)
- Sugar Maple - Basswood - Red Oak - (Blue Beech) Forest

## Ecological Evaluations:

Floodplain east of Read's Landing

## Other Candidate Sites:

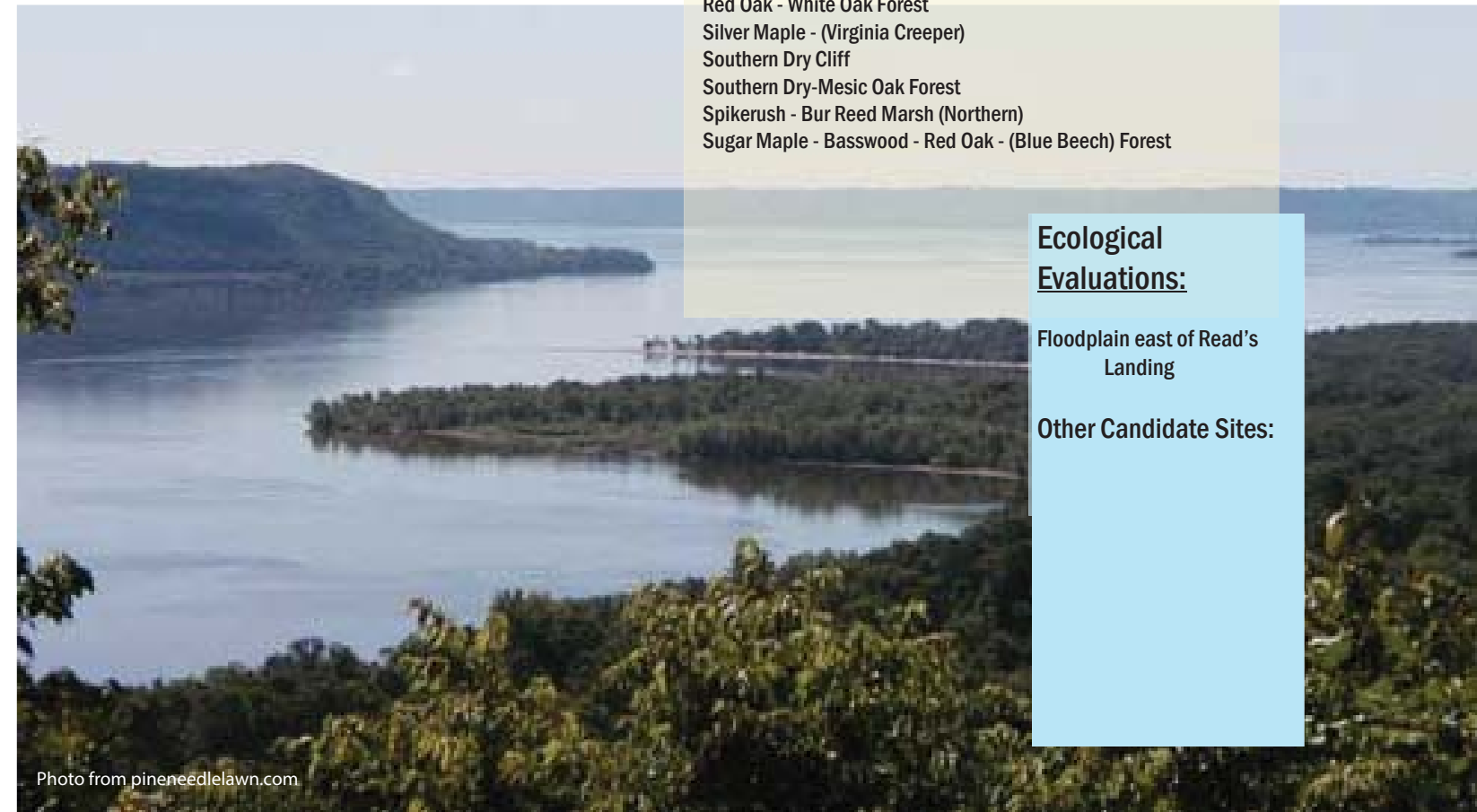
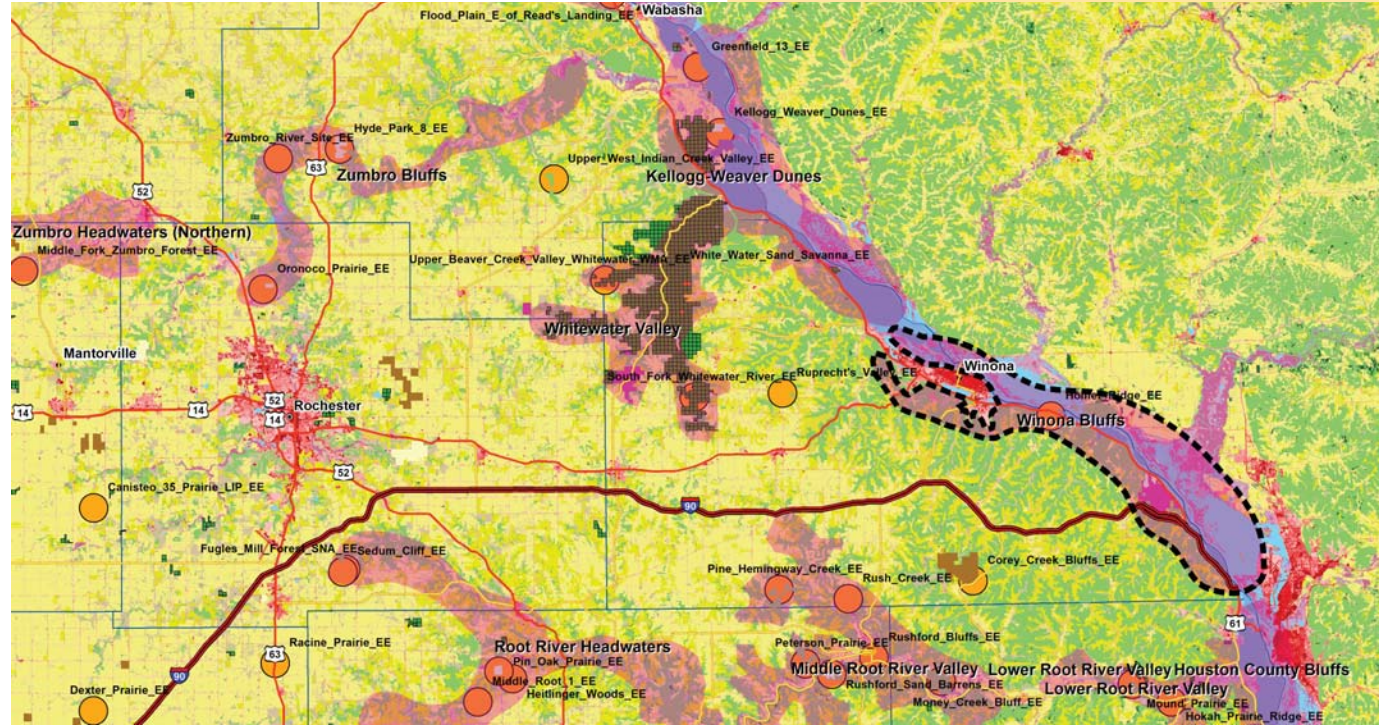


Photo from pineneedlelawn.com



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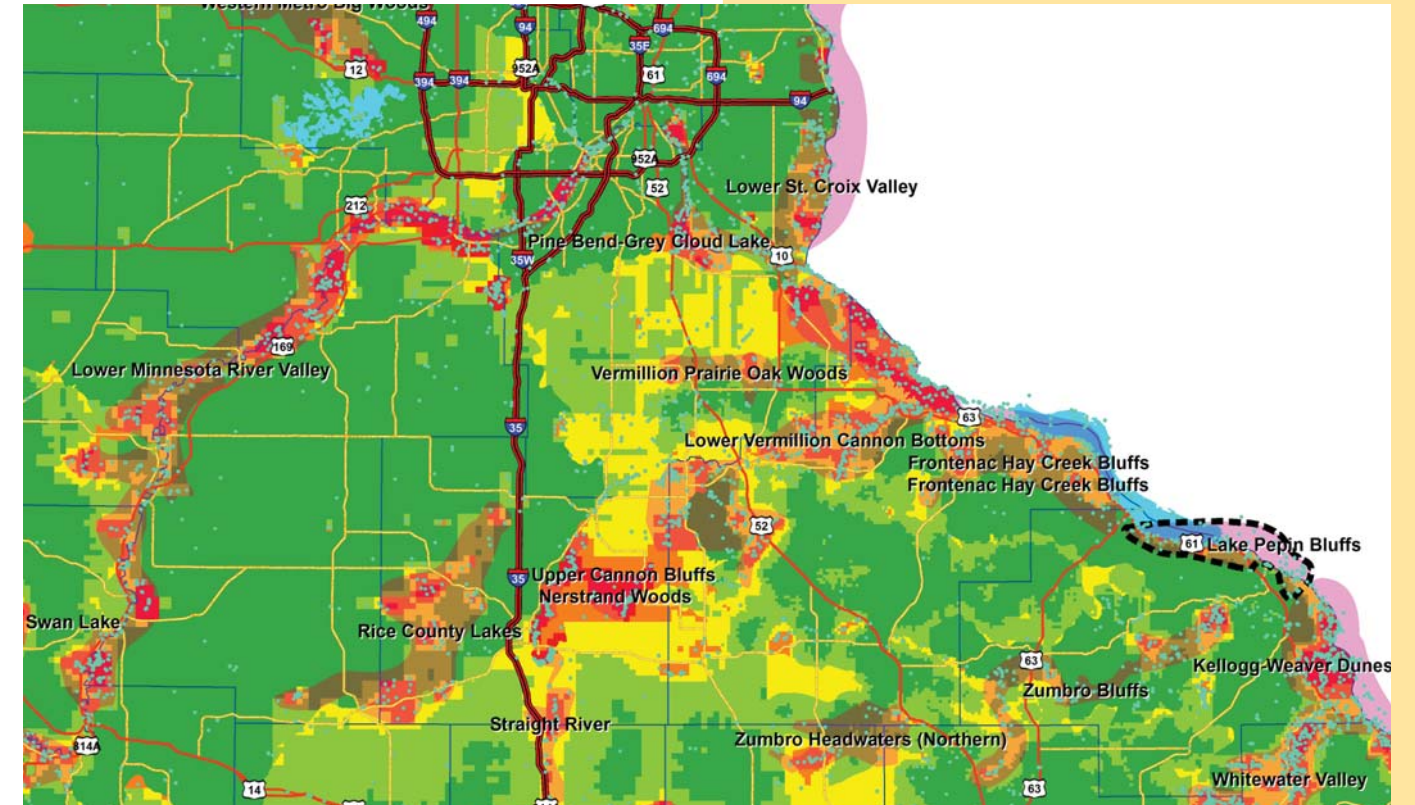
Ecological Evaluations, Land Cover, Public Ownership
















Please see Legend at the front of the Opportunity Area Descriptions for a key to this map

# Lake Pepin Bluffs

Marxan Prioritization, Element Occurrences



## Legend

-  Profiled COA
  -  Conservation Opportunity Area
  -  Rare Feature
  -  County Boundary
  -  Large Lake
- Marxan Conservation Prioritization**
-  Lowest Priority
  -  Low Priority
  -  Medium Priority
  -  High Priority
  -  Highest Priority
  -  Interstate Highway
  -  U.S. Trunk Highway
  -  MN Trunk Highway