#### **Conservation Challenges: Conservation Opportunities:** Highly erodible red clay soils located on steep terrain \* Watershed is engaged in natural resource \*Water resource vulnerability to red clay suspension, managment planning that increases vulnerability to chemical pollution \* Large amount of public land \*Sedimentation in estuarine habitats of Lake Superior tributaries and fisheries \*Conversion to timber and agricultural uses \*Changes in agricultural practices \*Increased draintiling makes stream flow more flashy, reduces **Rare Species:** \*Fluctuating/declining groundwater levels \*Invasive spp.: Emerald Ash Borer, buckthorns, Eurasian hon. A Species of Sedge eysuckle, garlic mustard, leafy spurge Blunt-lobed Grape fern \*Habitat fragmentation Carey's Smartweed **Colonial Waterbird Nesting Site Creek Heelsplitter Eastern Hemlock Four-toed Salamander Halberd-leaved Tearthumb Lanceleaf Grapefern Leafless Water Milfoil Least Moonwort Matricary Grapefern** Moschatel **Necklace Spike Sedge Northern Brook Lamprey Northern Goshawk Spotted Salamander** Thread-like Naiad **Triangle Moonwort Three-Stamened Waterwort Upland Sandpiper Existing Conservation Network:** Vasey's Pondweed White Adder's-mouth **State Parks:** White Baneberry **Wood Turtle State Forests:** Nemadji **SNAs:** Black Lake Bog **Blackhoof River** Wildlife Management Areas: Storlie Wrenshall **USFWS National Wildlife Refuge:** Private:

# Nemadji Uplands Opportunity Area

### **Ecological Significance:**

The Nemadji Uplands are part of a large, nearly roadless area in Pine County that extends eastward into Wisconsin. It is located near the intersection of the boreal forest biome, the northwestern sand barrens of Wisconsin, and southern deciduous forest. It provides habitat for a number of northern species including the timber wolf. Most of the southern portion of the uplands is a mosaic of forest, woodland, swamp, and wetland. The northern portion of the uplands becomes more incised as rivers draining toward Lake Superior cut into the friable, red clays found in the Nemadji watershed. The Nemadji River and tributaries to it and the St. Louis River have cut dramatic valleys into the landscape with cliffs of red clay left from ongoing slumping activity. The vulnerability of this landscape to erosion and human activity expose the rivers and the headwaters of Duluth Harbor and Lake Superior to high levels of sediment and other constituents. This fragile landscape merits protection of its middle and lower reaches to reduce the erosion and slumping that disturbs both the terrestrial and aquatic aspects of this landscape.



**Counties:** 

Carlton Pine

#### **Rare Native Plant Communities:**

Black Spruce Bog
Black Spruce Bog, Semi-Treed Subtype
Bog Birch - Alder Shore Fen
Red Oak - Sugar Maple - Basswood (Bluebead Lily) Forest
Sugar Maple - Basswood - (Bluebead Lily) Forest
Willow - Dogwood Shrub Swamp

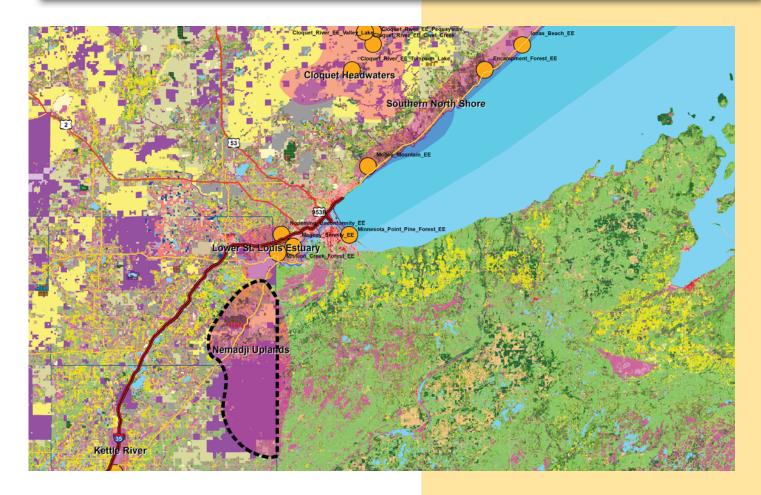


## Ecological Evaluations:

Dewey Thompson
Aspen Parkland
Lake Bronson Parkland
Norway Dunes
Peatland 2

# Nemadji Uplands

## **Ecological Evaluations, Land Cover, Public Ownership**



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

# Nemadji Uplands Marxan Prioritization, Element Occurrences

