

**Conservation Challenges:**

- \*Conversion to agricultural uses
- \*Changes in agricultural practices
- \*Increased draitiling makes stream flow more flashy, reduces groundwater
- \*Fluctuating/ declining groundwater levels
- \*Invasive spp.: Buckthorns, Eurasian honeysuckle, garlic mustard, leafy spurge, EAB
- \*Habitat fragmentation
- \*Agricultural water pollutants/sedimentation
- \*Fire-dependent communities are likely to decline due to difficulty in restoring natural fire regimes

**Conservation Opportunities:**

**Existing Conservation Network:**

State Parks:

State Forests:

SNAs:

- Wildlife Management Areas:
- Bean Dam
  - Gravel Pit 3084
  - Hay Snake
  - Kroschel
  - Lake Five
  - Mille Lacs

- Aquatic Management Areas:
- Little Knife
  - Knife Lake

**Rare Features:**

- A Species of Sedge
- American Bittern
- Bald Eagle
- Beach Grass
- Beach-heather
- Black Sandshell
- Blunt-lobed Grapefern
- Bog Bluegrass
- Bur-marigold
- Bitternut
- Colonial Waterbird Nesting Site
- Common Tern
- Creek Heelsplitter
- Eastern Hemlock
- Elktoe
- False Mermaid
- Fluted Shell
- Gilt Darter
- Goblin Fern
- Halbard-leaved Tearthumb
- Hairy-necked Tiger Beetle
- Henslow's Sparrow
- Humped Bladderwort
- Lake and Wetland Deposition (Quaternary)
- Lake Sturgeon
- Lanceleaf Grape Fern
- Leafless Water Milfoil
- Least Moonwort
- Matricary Grapefern
- Mingan Moonwort
- Mixed Unit or Sequence (Lower Proterozoic, Upper Proterozoic)
- Moschatel
- Mucket
- Red Shouldered Hawk
- Robbin's Spike-rush
- Ross' Sedge
- Sand Beach (Lake Superior)
- Sandhill Crane
- Snailseed Pondweed
- Southern Brook Lamprey
- Spike
- Thread-like Naiad
- Triangle Moonwort
- Virginia Water Horehound
- Wood's Sedge
- Yellow Rail

# Southeastern Mille Lacs

## Opportunity Area

**Ecological Significance:**

While the Mille Lacs Moraine is an Eastern Broadleaf Forest community, it is located far enough to the north, that it has aspects more commonly seen within the Laurentian Mixed Forest. Wetlands receiving cold air drainage commonly have conifers such as tamarack, black spruce or white pine. White pine and balsam fir may also have a limited presence in upland communities too. The moraine lands provide opportunities for different microclimates and variations in plant community types. This Opportunity Area is in a setting that contains much connectivity of forested lands unlike the land that is more intensively farmed to the south and west. While the composition of the forests could change with a warming climate, they will still provide a key role in providing corridors for species migration.



**Counties:**

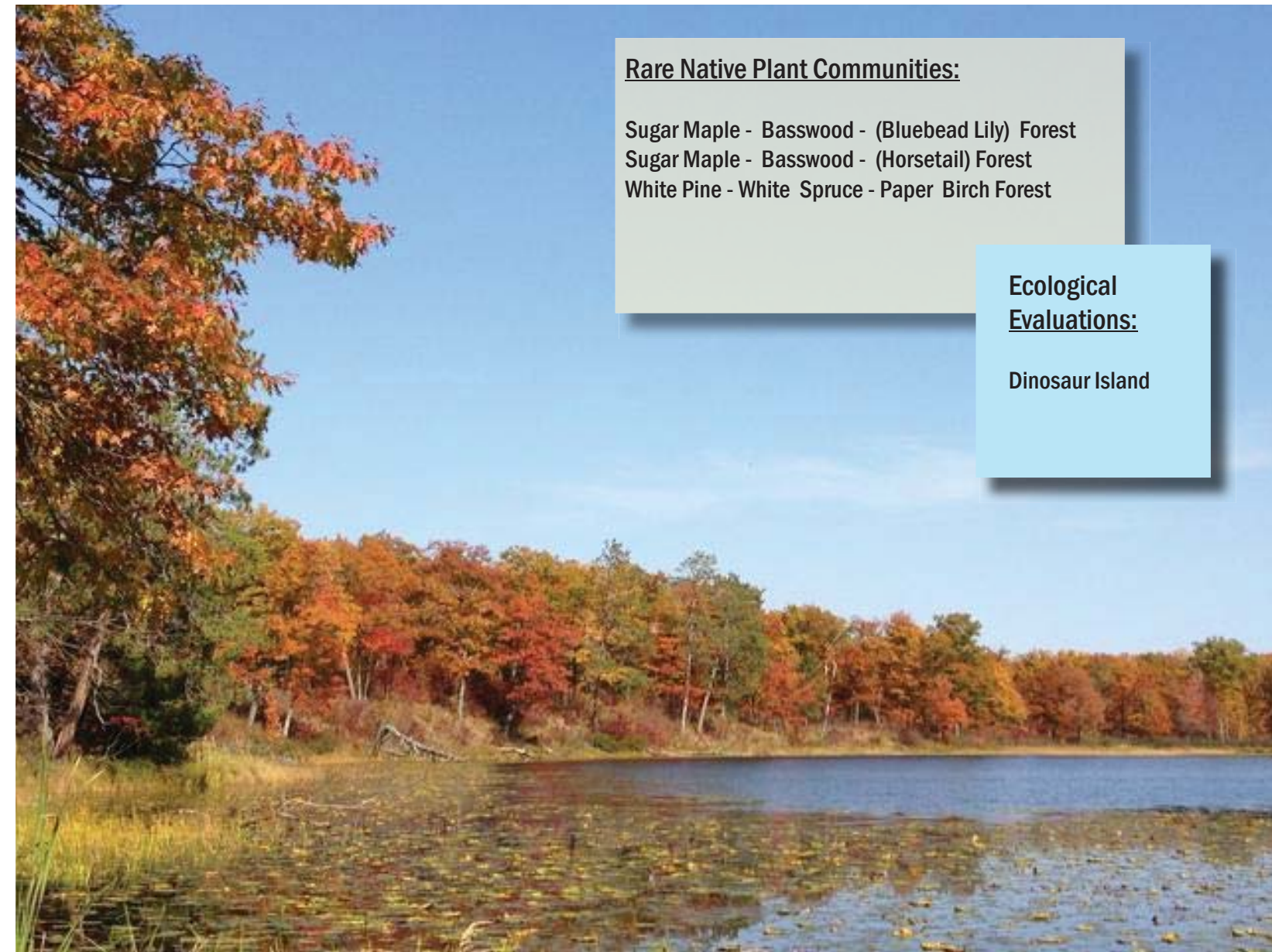
- Kanabec
- Mille Lacs

**Rare Native Plant Communities:**

- Sugar Maple - Basswood - (Bluebead Lily) Forest
- Sugar Maple - Basswood - (Horsetail) Forest
- White Pine - White Spruce - Paper Birch Forest

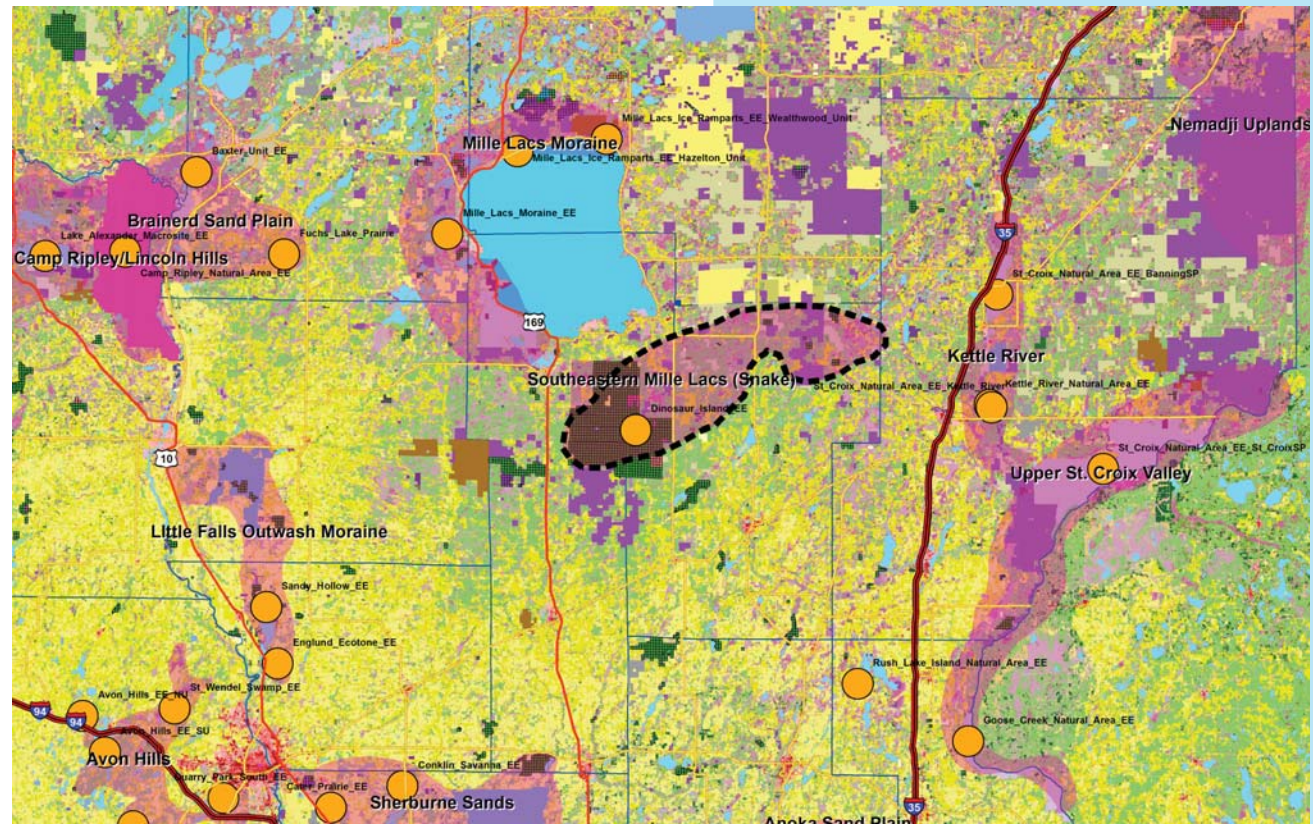
**Ecological Evaluations:**

Dinosaur Island



# Southeastern Mille Lacs

## Ecological Evaluations, Land Cover, Public Ownership



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

# Southeastern Mille Lacs

## Marxan Prioritization, Element Occurrences

