

Syre Prairies

Conservation Challenges:

- *Conversion to agricultural uses
- *Changes in agricultural practices
- *Increased draitiling makes stream flow more flashy, reduces groundwater
- *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
- *gravel mining

Conservation Opportunities:

- * Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan (local technical teams)
- *Close proximity to other OAs

Existing Conservation Network:

State Parks:

State Forests:

SNAs: Frenchman's Bluff
Twin Valley Prairie

Wildlife Management Areas:

Cupido
Faith
Rockwell
Syre
Twin Valley

Aquatic Management Areas:

Rare Features:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Alkali Cord-grass | Oat-grass |
| American Bittern | Pawnee Skipper |
| Bald Eagle | Plains Pocket Mouse |
| Beaked Spike-rush | Plains Reedgrass |
| Black Sandshell | Powesheik Skipper |
| Blanket-flower | Prairie Moonwort |
| Cooper's Milk vetch | Prairie Vole |
| Creek Heelsplitter | Regal Fritillary |
| Creeping Juniper | Sedimentary Structure (Quaternary) |
| Dakota Skipper | Small White Lady's Slipper |
| Few-flowered Spike-rush | Sterile Sedge |
| Frenchman's Bluff Moonwort | Trumpeter Swan |
| Greater Prairie-chicken | Upland Sandpiper |
| Henslow's Sparrow | Whorled Nut-rush |
| Kame (Quaternary) | Wilson's Phalarope |
| Lake and Wetland Composite (Quaternary) | Yellow Rail |
| Least Moonwort | |
| Low Milk-vetch | |
| Marbled Godwit | |
| Marsh Arrowgrass | |
| McCalla's Willow | |
| Mingan Moonwort | |
| Nelson's Sparrow | |
| Northern Grasshopper Mouse | |
| Northern Gentian | |
| Nuttall's Ground-rose | |
| Nuttall's Sunflower | |



Photo from Nature.org

Syre Prairies Opportunity Area

Ecological Significance:

The Syre Prairie is in the upper portion of the Red River Valley with regard to its position in the watershed. Syre Prairie is similar to many of the remnant prairies in the valley as it is located along the larger, and more gravelly, beach ridges that typically harbor remaining prairies due to their poor soils. These soils may accumulate fewer salts in the ridges due to their more porous nature and ability to drain freely. This Opportunity Area contains Frenchman's Bluff, one of the highest points in, or near, the former Agassiz lakebed. This high point is unique in that it has remained prairie, unlike other high spots to the south and east that are located in the ecotone between prairie, hardwood forest, and coniferous forest, and do not typically remain as prairie.



Counties:

Clay
Norman

Rare Native Plant Communities:

- Dry Hill Prairie (Northern)
- Dry Sand - Gravel Prairie (Northern)
- Mesic Oak Savanna (Northern)
- Mesic Prairie (Northern)
- Wet Brush-Prairie (Northern)
- Wet Prairie (Northern)
- Wet Seepage Prairie (Northern)

Ecological Evaluations:

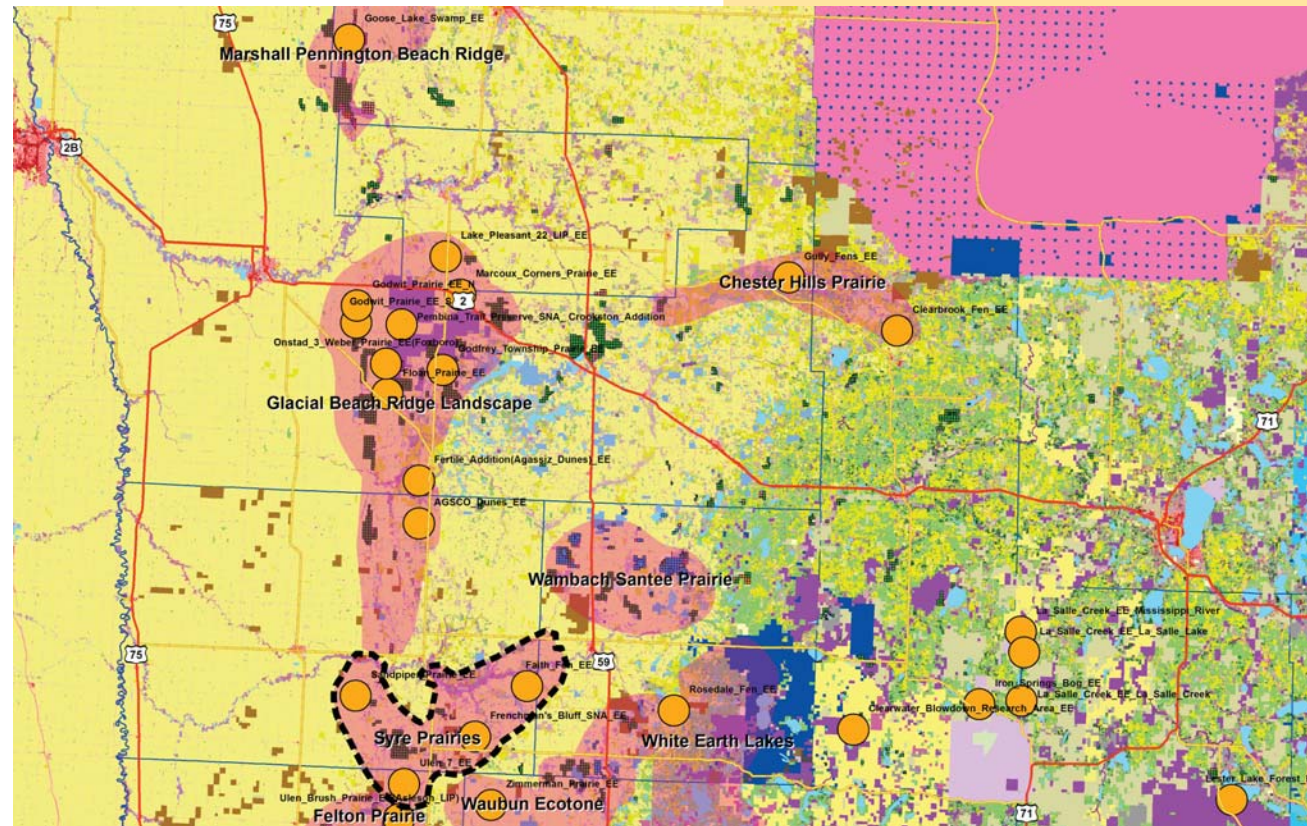
- Faith Fen
- Frenchman's Bluff SNA
- Sandpiper Prairie
- Ulen 7



Photo from minneofaseasons.com

Syre Prairies

Ecological Evaluations, Land Cover, Public Ownership



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

Syre Prairies

Marxan Prioritization, Element Occurrences

