

Natural Heritage (NH) Screen Checklist

Purpose: To determine if a proposed project needs further review to ensure compliance with state laws and DNR policies regarding rare features.

Information needed to complete the NH Screen: 1) Map, and 2) Shapefile or .KMZ of the Activity Impact Area.

Instructions: Fill out the Activity Information and NH Screen Table. Optional features to screen are included in the table on the second page.

To ensure compliance with federal law, conduct a regulatory review using the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service [online IPaC tool](#).

Activity Information and NH Screen Table

Activity Name: _____ Activity Lead: _____ Permit type/number: _____
 Staff conducting screen: _____ Screen Date: _____ Date sent to Activity Lead (optional): _____
 Lat/Long: _____ Township: _____ Range: _____ Section: _____

Required Screen Layers*	Criteria for Further Review	No Criteria Met	Criteria Met**
Rare Features – NH Screen Layer	Record within 1 mile of the Activity Impact Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
USFWS Regulatory Layers Visit IPaC . For RPBB and NLEB, DNR staff also need to follow DNR policies.	<input type="checkbox"/> Rusty Patched Bumble Bee: High Potential Zone within Activity Impact Area If criteria are met, follow DNR RPBB Policy (contact nongame, if needed, per policy). <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Long-eared Bat: HCP Restrictions within Activity Impact Area Follow DNR Bat HCP Policy . If criteria are met, follow additional restrictions listed in Policy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest Stand Inventory - Old Growth	Within 330 feet of the Activity Impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance	Site rank (biodiv_sig) of Outstanding or High within or adjacent to the Activity Impact Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DNR Native Plant Communities	S-Rank category (s_rank_cat) of S1-S3 or Possible S1-S3 within or adjacent to the Activity Impact Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lakes of Biological Significance	Within or adjacent to the Activity Impact Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Calcareous Fens	<input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater impacts: within 5 miles of the Activity Impact Area No Groundwater impacts: within 1 mile of the Activity Impact Area Unknown groundwater impacts: within 5 miles of the Activity Impact Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Optional NH Screen Layers Table

The following layers and criteria are optional and are not a required component of a Natural Heritage (NH) Screen.

Optional Screen Layers	Criteria for Optional Coordination	Checklist
MBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance	Site rank (biodiv_sig) of Moderate within or adjacent to the Activity Impact Area	<input type="checkbox"/> No criteria met <input type="checkbox"/> Criteria met
DNR Native Plant Communities	S-Rank category (s_rank_cat) of S4 or S5 within or adjacent to the Activity Impact Area	<input type="checkbox"/> No criteria met <input type="checkbox"/> Criteria met

Additional Features or Concerns

Instructions: Use the box below to note the presence of additional features or concerns.

*The data layers can be viewed in the [Minnesota Conservation Explorer \(MCE\)](#). A Conservation Planning Report of these layers (except Rare Features Data) can also be created in MCE. DNR staff can also access the data in ArcGIS by adding the NH Screen Package from Quick Layers. Only external licensees and internal trained staff can access the Rare Features - NH Screen layer.

**If criteria are met, the proposed project needs further review:

- External Projects: Request a [Natural Heritage Review](#) within MCE
- DNR Projects: Contacts for Interpretation: EWR [nongame specialists](#), EWR [regional ecologists](#), or other NH Reviewers