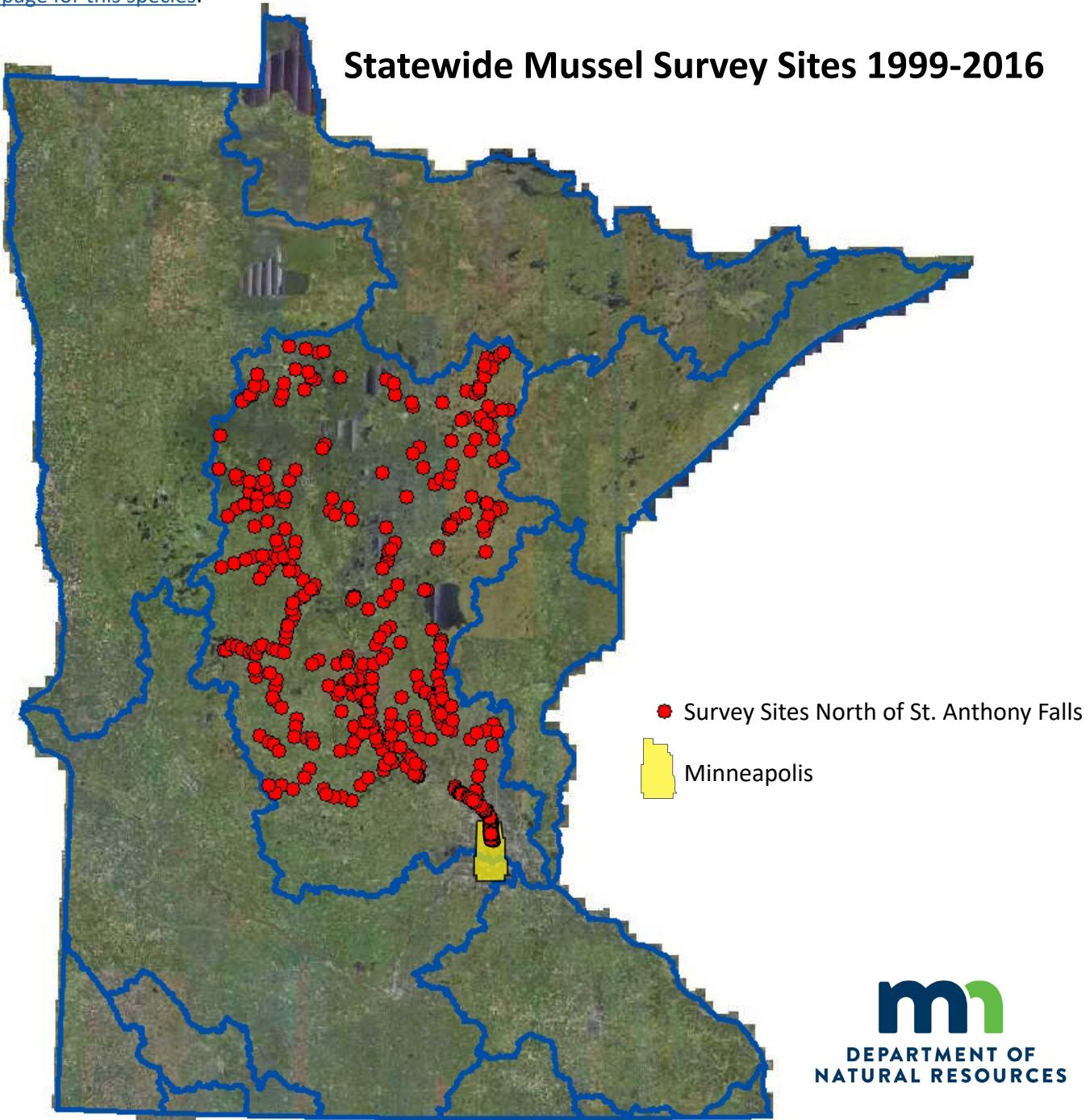


Statement from the DNR about the Higgins eye pearlymussel (8/10/21)

The DNR is aware of some questions and inaccurate information about the Higgins eye pearlymussel (*Lampsilis higginsii*) in relation to Enbridge's Line 3 pipeline replacement project. The Higgins eye is listed as endangered by both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Minnesota DNR. We take our role in protecting, managing and recovering endangered species very seriously. From 1999 to 2016, the DNR conducted a large-scale mussel survey and follow-up surveys which collected data from more than 540 sites in the Mississippi Headwaters watershed. The DNR continues to conduct site surveys and collect information from other scientifically-backed sources to ensure data are up-to-date. Contrary to what is currently being circulated on social media, none of those data indicate the presence of the Higgins eye pearlymussel in the Mississippi River north of St. Anthony Falls, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The DNR has no evidence that the Line 3 replacement project in northern Minnesota will have any impact to the Higgins eye pearlymussel. We are confident that we have fully complied with all aspects of state and federal endangered species laws in regulating the Line 3 replacement project. You can also learn about the Higgins eye mussel, including its existing range and our recovery efforts, on [our webpage for this species](#).



- 543 Mussel Survey Sites above St. Anthony Falls
- No Higgins eye pearlymussel (*Lampsilis higginsii*) found