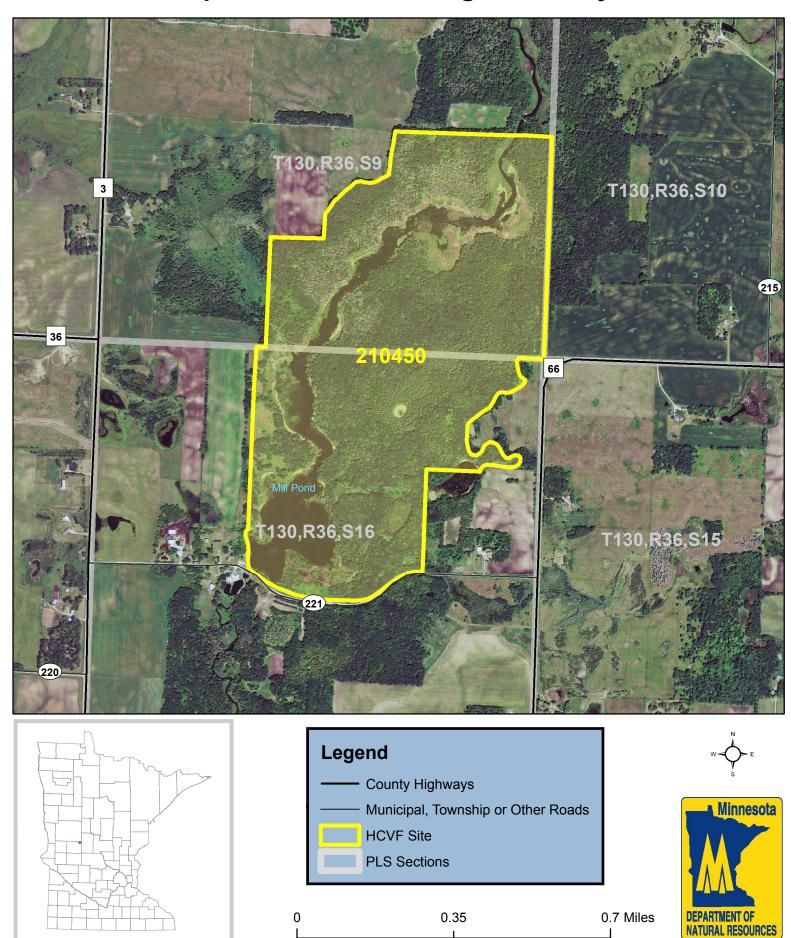
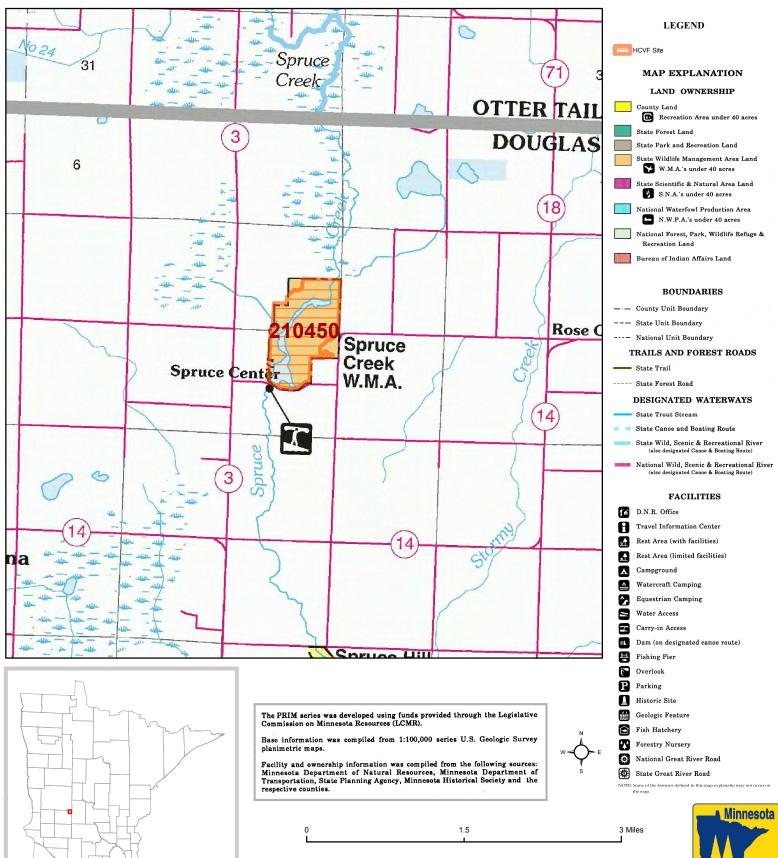
HCVF Site 210450

Spruce Creek 45, Douglas County



HCVF Site 210450 Spruce Creek 45, Douglas County



Land ownership categories on this map are in some cases outdated. HCVF sites are on DNR-managed land only; DNR HCVF sites have not been identified on other ownerships.



HCVF Informational Report

Report Run: September 3, 2013

General Information

HCVF #: 210450

HCVF Name: Spruce Creek 45 **Acres of HCVF site:** 324.33

County: Douglas

Data edited by: Erik Thorson, Becky Marty

Role: NW Reg HCVF Team Wildlife and EWR Representatives

Date edited on: 2013-08-22

Corresponding Land Administrator(s): Wildlife

Management Unit Name(s) (if applicable): Spruce Creek WMA

HCVF Summary

TheMBS Site encompasses Spruce Creek, the lowlands along the creek and the narrow band of uplands above the floodplain. Beyond this, the land is mostly cultivated. The upland areas have oak forest with a canopy of bur oak, pin oak, some sugar maple, balsam fir, aspen, paper birch, occasional red oak and basswood. Generally there is a transition zone of black ash swamp along the margin of the upland and lowland which merges into tamarack swamp or shrub swamp/wet meadow along the creek. The best quality part of the site is in the WMA, which surrounds a 1-½ mile stretch of the creek. Here the tamarack swamp is especially rich and large (94 acres). Part of the lowland area in the WMA has a continuous canopy of balsam fir with only occasional tamaracks. WMA also includes 189 acres of FDs37b and 18 acres of WMn82b. A special concern plant is found in the tamarack swamp. Several records of red-shouldered hawks. Golden-winged warbler and several conifer-associated passerines at extreme SW edge of their range. High-quality, species-rich FPs63a (G2/S2) well-buffered by upland forest; intact riparian corridor, and unique combination of northern species at edge of their ranges. Private land within MBSsite recommended by CAC for acquisition as SNA. A long (6 miles) narrow (generally 1/2 mile wide) site stretching along Spruce Creek.

HCVs known to be present that factored into HCVF designation.

FSC expects DNR to maintain HCVs within designated HCVFs. Because HCVF boundaries are not the same as the larger, multi-ownership MBS Sites, this list will differ from the values identified during the MBS Survey.

EASTERN BROADLEAF FOREST PROVINCE HCVs: 1e (Rare species concentration): 12 birds; 1g (Examples of Outstanding Key Habitats): Forest-Upland Deciduous (Aspen-oak), Forest-Upland Deciduous (Hardwood), Wetland-Nonforest; 2a - EBF (intact forest block): yes, 324 acres of just state lands, aspen, oak, and tamarack; 2c - EBF (forest block in ag. landscape): yes, 324 acres of just state lands; 3a (G1 or G2 plant community): FPs63a (81 acres); 3b (S1 or S2 plant community): FPs63a (81 acres); 3c (Special S3 plant community): FDs37b (142 acres).

Management Considerations

Overall management objectives for the entire HCVF:

Region HCVF Recommendations - Manage this area as an intact forest block. - Avoid any operations that may change the hydrology of this system. - To maintain/enhance FDs37b, consider removing some of the canopy to restore woodland conditions and encourage oak regeneration and/or use mild surface prescribed burns to reduce mesic forest species.

Management direction from the following sources was considered in developing the above recommendations:

2012 Hardwood Hills SFRMP.

Are the HCVs within this HCVF likely to benefit from coordination with adjacent landowner(s)? _Yes_

This HCVF was flagged by the Regional HCVF Team as warranting cross-ownership coordination efforts. The specific HCVs likely to benefit from such coordination with adjacent landowners are identified below.

HCV1e, 1g, 2a, 2c, 3a, 3b, 3c. Multiple rare NPCs, rare species and their habitats extend onto adjacent private land.

General Comments

Verify the rare species of concern; the red-shouldered hawk. As an example of management, Forestry would likely recommend do nothing for management until some natural events forced their hands and will have a private lands forester contact the adjacent landowner, especially to the south to raise awareness and seek cooperative management.

Reference to rare plants and animals, Minnesota Biological Survey Sites of Biological Significance and mapped native plant communities are records maintained in the Minnesota DNR's Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS). A date of information is associated with each record. The NHIS is continually updated as new information becomes available. The lack of data listed for any geographic area should not be construed to mean that no significant features are present.

... Report End ...