

Population Status Assessment for *Rubus stipulatus*

A population status assessment (by Element Occurrence, or EO) for *Rubus stipulatus* in Minnesota was conducted in Spring 2026. Information was gathered from the MN DNR's Natural Heritage Information System, the *Rubus stipulatus* Rare Species Guide profile (MN DNR, 2026) and local expert opinion. The viability of each *Rubus stipulatus* population was assessed based on population size, habitat condition, and landscape context. These factors were incorporated into the population's current EO Rank through a desktop analysis if an in-field EO Rank was not available. Element Occurrence Rank assignments follow Hammerson et al.'s (2020) standardized guidelines. Table 1 provides the results of that assessment and other important contextual information. See the full *R. stipulatus* recovery plan for more information.

Column Headers

EO # - The Element Occurrence number is the unique identifier given to a known location of rare species in the MN DNR's Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS). An EO is meant to represent a biological population.

Current EO Rank - Element Occurrence quality ranks were either assigned based on population size, habitat condition and landscape context using NHIS survey data and expert knowledge in a desktop analysis or an in-field assessment.

Population Size - Population size was estimated as the number of genetic individuals (genets), which typically consist of 2-5 stems (ramets). Data within the NHIS were typically ramets, resulting in ranges for population size.

Landscape Context - The assessors combined two metrics to estimate landscape context, percent of impervious surface and the level of ditching or channelization, within a 250 m² buffer zone around each EO. A qualitative assessment of the likelihood of negative impacts to that buffer zone was assigned from buffered, meaning no evidence of negative impacts, mostly buffered, likely impacted, to impacted, meaning strong evidence of negative impacts with the buffer zone.

Last Survey - All field survey-based information in the assessment table is current as of the year of the last on-the-ground survey documented within the NHIS. All other information provided was assessed in Spring 2026.

Trend - The prior information available for each EO within the NHIS was summarized as an EO previously surveyed but not ranked, marked no prior rank, or an EO with only one recorded survey in the NHIS, marked no prior survey. No previous surveys included an in-field assigned EO rank from that time.

Ecological Subsection - The Ecological Subsection of each EO follows the [MN DNR's Ecological Classification System](#).

Land Ownership - Ownership was determined using publicly available land parcel resources.

Protection Status - Protected EOs are on land that is permanently protected and designated for conservation or compatible uses. Informally protected EOs are on land that is designated for uses compatible with conservation of the species but not fully protected. EOs not protected are typically under private ownership and do not have any assurances the natural area containing *R. stipulaus* will remain. EOs with patches under different conditions are marked as partial with the highest level of protection on any patch reported.

Habitat Condition Notes - A summary of information and surveyor notes relevant to the condition of the habitat surrounding each EO. This information was also considered when ranking EOs.

Population Status Assessment

Table 1: Result of a population status assessment (by Element Occurrence, or EO) for *Rubus stipulatus* in Minnesota conducted in Spring 2026.

EO #	Current EO Rank	Population Size	Landscape Context	Last Survey	Trend	Ecological Subsection	Land Ownership	Habitat Management	Protection Status	Habitat Condition Notes
32415	B	200+	Buffered	2004	No Prior Survey	Oak Savanna	County	Unknown	Informal Protection	Large contiguous habitat of approx. 850 acres
36769	C	10 to 20	Buffered	2009	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	No Protection	
36770	BC	20 to 100	Mostly Buffered	2009	No Prior Survey	Mille Lacs Uplands	Private	No	No Protection	
37035	CD	30-70+	Likely Impacted	2021	No Prior Rank	Anoka Sand Plain	Mixed; Private & City	Likely Yes	Informal Protection (Partial)	Population occurs in multiple patches

EO #	Current EO Rank	Population Size	Landscape Context	Last Survey	Trend	Ecological Subsection	Land Ownership	Habitat Management	Protection Status	Habitat Condition Notes
										separated by development
39046	C	60-150	Likely Impacted	2024	No Prior Rank	Anoka Sand Plain	State	Yes - Site Level	Protected	Contiguous habitat is small and heavily encroached by invasive shrubs; enacting management is difficult due to the small area and proximity to development on all sides
41422	E	Unknown	Buffered	2017	No Prior Survey	Mille Lacs Uplands	County	Likely No	No Protection	
41451	E	10+	Buffered	2016	No Prior Survey	St. Louis Moraines	County	Likely No	Informal Protection	
41734	B	260-650	Buffered	2024	No Prior Rank	Chippewa Plains	Federal	Unknown	Protected	Large contiguous habitat
41735	B	300-750	Buffered	2020	No Prior Survey	Chippewa Plains	Federal	Unknown	Protected	Large contiguous habitat
41736	CD	60-150	Likely Impacted	2013	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	Unknown	No Protection	
41821	E	Unknown	Likely Impacted	2020	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	No Protection	Most individuals within transportation right-of-way
41882	E	Unknown	Mostly Buffered	2021	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	County	Yes - Species Specific	Informal Protection	
41883	C	<10	Buffered	2025	No Prior Rank	Anoka Sand Plain	Mixed; State & County	No	Protected	Population used to be multiple patches; most recent survey only found one small patch, despite an exhaustive search
41887	BC	1,000-2,500	Likely Impacted	2024	No Prior Rank	Anoka Sand Plain	Mixed; Private & County	Yes - Species Specific	No Protection	Population occurs in multiple patches separated by development

EO #	Current EO Rank	Population Size	Landscape Context	Last Survey	Trend	Ecological Subsection	Land Ownership	Habitat Management	Protection Status	Habitat Condition Notes
41919	X	0	N/A	2024	N/A	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	N/A	N/A	
41978	C	150-375	Mostly Buffered	2021	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	Unknown	No Protection	
41981	B	1,300-3,250	Mostly Buffered	2021	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	No Protection	
41990	B	2,600-6,500	Mostly Buffered	2024	No Prior Rank	St. Paul-Baldwin Plains	City	Unknown	Informal Protection	
42161	C	<10	Buffered	2024	No Prior Rank	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	Protected (Partial)	
42176	CD	10 to 25	Impacted	2024	No Prior Rank	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	No Protection	
42184	E	Unknown	Buffered	2021	No Prior Survey	Mille Lacs Uplands	Private	No	No Protection	
42560	CD	2 to 25	Mostly Buffered	2024	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	County	Unknown	Informal Protection	
42642	C	24 to 60	Mostly Buffered	2024	No Prior Survey	Mille Lacs Uplands	State	Unknown	Protected	
42720	D	20 to 50	Impacted	2024	No Prior Survey	St. Paul-Baldwin Plains	Private	No	No Protection	
42721	D	6 to 20	Buffered	2024	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	County	No	Informal Protection	
42723	C	20 to 50	Mostly Buffered	2023	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	No Protection	
42747	CD	4 to 10	Buffered	2024	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	No Protection	
42754	D	26 to 81	Mostly Buffered	2024	No Prior Survey	Chippewa Plains	Private	No	No Protection	Most individuals in transportation right-of-way
42778	E	Unknown	Mostly Buffered	2020	No Prior Rank	Anoka Sand Plain	City	Unknown	No Protection	
42804	E	Unknown	Buffered	2024	No Prior Survey	St. Louis Moraines	State	No	Informal Protection	

EO #	Current EO Rank	Population Size	Landscape Context	Last Survey	Trend	Ecological Subsection	Land Ownership	Habitat Management	Protection Status	Habitat Condition Notes
42847	E	16-40	Likely Impacted	2022	No Prior Survey	North Shore Highlands	Private	No	No Protection	
42853	C	30 to 75	Mostly Buffered	2022	No Prior Survey	Pine Moraines & Outwash Plains	State	No	No Protection	Most individuals in transportation right-of-way
42865	BC	500 to 1,875	Impacted	2014	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Mixed; Private & City	No	No Protection	Population occurs in multiple patches separated by development
42957	D	<10	Likely Impacted	2024	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	State	Yes - Site Level	Protected	
42958	D	6 to 15	Impacted	2024	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	No Protection	
42959	E	Unknown	Likely Impacted	2024	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Mixed; Private & City	No	No Protection	
43002	CD	<10	Impacted	2024	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	County	No	No Protection	
43030	E	6 to 15	Likely Impacted	2025	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	No Protection	Development planned in immediate vicinity of population.
43142	C	<10	Mostly Buffered	2025	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	State	Yes - Site Level	Protected	
43192	C	20 to 110	Impacted	2025	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	No Protection	
43194	CD	30-70+	Impacted	2025	No Prior Survey	Anoka Sand Plain	Private	No	No Protection	

References

Hammerson, G., Schweitzer, D., Master, L., Cordeiro, J., Tomaino, A., Oliver, L., & Nichols, J. 2020. *Ranking Species*

Occurrences: Generic Guidelines and Decision Key. NatureServe, Arlington, VA.

MN DNR. *Rubus stipulatus*. 2026. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Rare Species

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