Brainerd Lakes

Targets, Conservation Issues, Approaches

Target Habitats (with NPC class/type)**:**

Lakes: Cisco Lakes, Sentinel Lakes, Shallow Lakes, wild rice lakes

River/Stream

Old Growth Forest

Fire-Dependent Forest: FDc23 - Central Dry Pine Woodland, FDc24 - Central Rich Dry Pine Woodland, FDc25b - Oak - Aspen Woodland, FDc34 - Central Dry-Mesic Pine-Hardwood Forest, FDs37b - Pin Oak - Bur Oak Woodland

Floodplain Forest: FFn57 - Northern Terrace Forest, FFn67 - Northern Floodplain Forest, FFs59a - Silver Maple - Green Ash - Cottonwood Terrace Forest, FPn72 - Northern Rich Tamarack Swamp (Eastern Basin), FPn73 - Northern Rich Alder Swamp, FPn82 - Northern Rich Tamarack Swamp (Western Basin), FPs63a - Tamarack Swamp (Southern), PDMW_MF_CX - Poor Dry-Mesic Woodland_Mesic Forest Complex

Mesic Hardwood Forest: MHc26 - Central Dry-Mesic Oak-Aspen Forest, MHc36 - Central Mesic Hardwood Forest (Eastern), MHc47 - Central Wet-Mesic Hardwood Forest, MHn35 - Northern Mesic Hardwood Forest, MHn44a - Aspen - Birch - Red Maple Forest, MHn46 - Northern Wet-Mesic Hardwood Forest, MMS_CX - Meadow - Marsh - Fen -Swamp Complex, MMWF_CX - Mesic Mix/Wet Forest Complex

Wet Forest: WMn82 - Northern Wet Meadow/Carr

Acid Peatland & Open Peatland: APn81 - Northern Poor Conifer Swamp, APn90 - Northern Open Bog, APn91 - Northern Poor Fen

Marsh: MRn83 - Northern Mixed Cattail Marsh, FWMM_CX - Fen/Wet Meadow/Marsh Complex, MSM_CX - Meadow - Shrub Swamp - Marsh - Wet-Mesic Hardwood Complex

Upland Prairie: UPs13 - Southern Dry Prairie, UPs14 - Southern Dry Savanna

Target Species:

Insects/pollinators: yellowbanded bumble bee, golden northern bumble bee, American bumble bee

SGCN fish

SGCN amphibians

Reptiles: Blanding's turtle, smooth softshell turtle, smooth greensnake, eastern hog-nosed snake

Birds: red-headed woodpecker, lark sparrow, golden-winged warbler, hooded warbler, red-shouldered hawk, northern goshawk, black tern, purple martin, red-necked grebe, common loon, and colonial waterbirds

Mammals: northern long-eared bats, big brown bat, little brown bat, white-tailed jackrabbit

Example conservation issues	Example conservation approaches
Loss of connectivity between old growth forests	Work across ownerships to manage for complexes of mature forest around old growth stands.
Cisco lake protection (climate and lakeshore)	Ecosystem approach to management focused on maintaining niches in lakes for a diversity of cisco fish.
Wet forest habitat	Include a 50-foot no-cut buffer zone around forested wetlands to create connectivity corridors
Fire dependent forest management	Seek out opportunities to conduct prescribed burns on both public and private forested lands.
Loss of native prairie and grassland	Conservation easements, restorations and/or enhancements, education
Wild rice Habitat—shallow lakes	Protect wild rice resources

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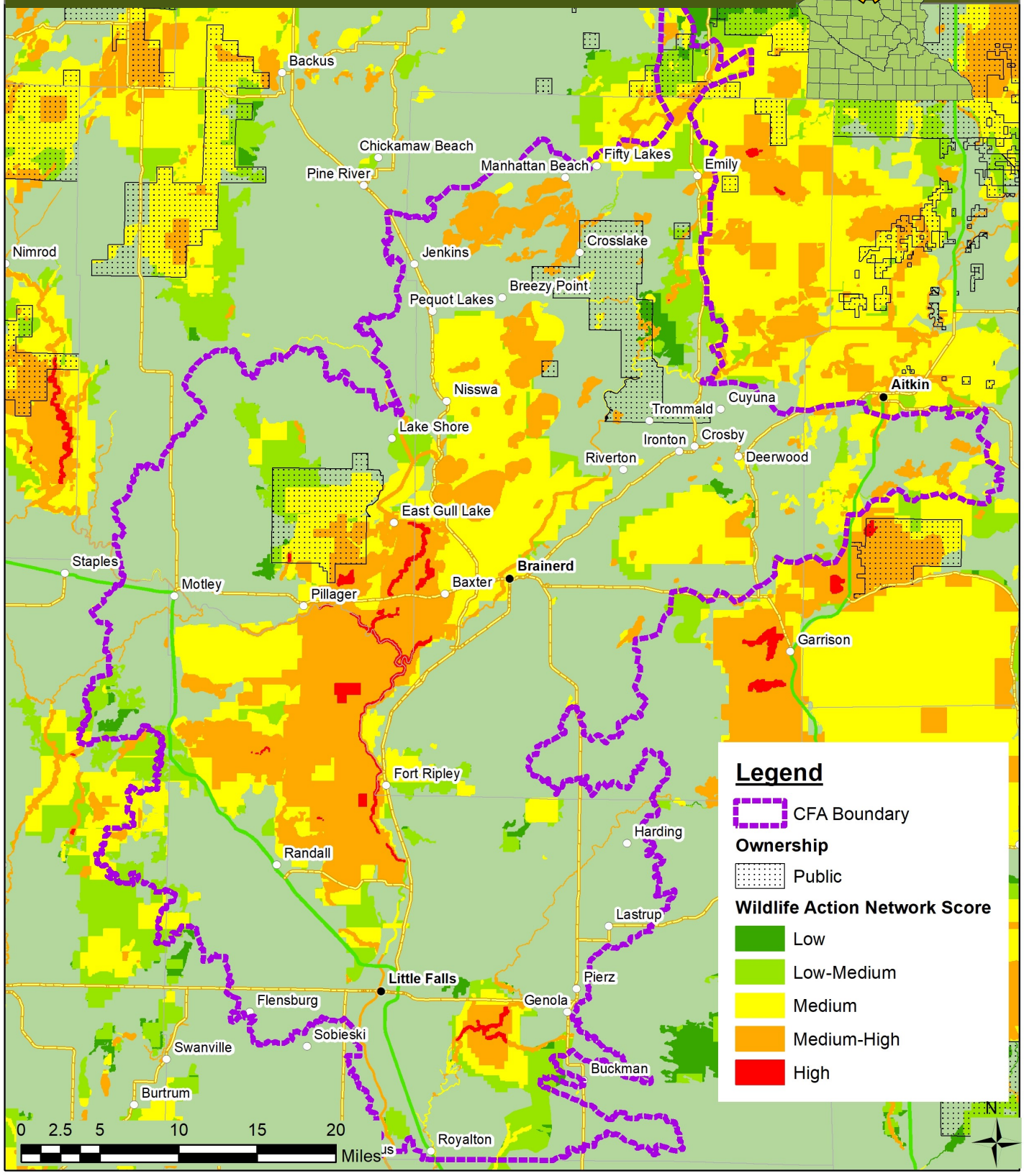
Conservation Focus Area