

Summary of Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan Recommendations relevant to the Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council
H = Habitat Recommendation LU = Land Use Recommendation E = Energy Recommendation
(note: The lists of related programs and related plans are not exhaustive)

Statewide Conservation & Preservation Plan Recommendation	LOHC Constitutional/Statutory Framework			
<p>Rec. H1 Protect priority land habitats – pp. 63-67</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority areas identified in integrated mapping assessing critical land habitat and threats to habitat – pp.33-63 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mapping is scalable for use in localized areas • Restore ecoregion-appropriate, landscape scale complexes focused on existing remnant habitats with a goal of developing conservation corridors • Protection through acquisition, conservation easements, and restoration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Highest 1-3% of ranked critical land area - Acquisition of rare land features and areas –(native prairie, savanna, old-growth forests, linkages between large, intact ecosystems.) ○ Next highest 3%-10% of habitat ranking – Protection using conservation easements ○ 10%-25% of critical habitat ranking – Private landowner action through use of BMPs • Public education is very important for habitat protection on private lands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Wetlands ✓ Prairie ✓ Forests ✓ Habitat for Fish, Game & Wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Restore ✓ Protect ✓ Enhance 		
<p>Related Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Legacy easement program • Forest Stewardship Program • DNR Working Lands Initiative • BWSR Reinvest in Minnesota easements • CRP and CREP 				
<p>Related Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy SGCN • DNR County Biological Survey 				

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<p>Rec. H2 Protect critical shorelands of streams & lakes – pp. 67-74</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire high-priority shorelands – AMA plan suggests increasing public shoreland from the current 22,000 miles to 25,000 miles (39% of total SL) • Increase private land protection using a diversity of tools: conservation easements, incentives/conservation tax credits, buffers, BMPs, shoreland regulations, conservation development • Target shallow wildlife lakes, natural environment lakes, shallow bays of deep lakes, cold-water/designated trout streams, shoreline associated with critical habitat of warm-water streams <p>Related Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR AMA and WMA programs • Ducks Unlimited shallow lakes initiative • Minnesota Land Trust • The Nature Conservancy • Local government shoreland regulations <p>Related Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR 2008 Aquatic Management Area acquisition plan • DNR Long-range Duck Recovery Plan • TNC 2008 Minnesota lake conservation portfolio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Wetlands ✓ Prairie ✓ Forests ✓ Habitat for Fish, Game & Wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Restore ✓ Protect ✓ Enhance
<p>Rec. H4 Restore and protect shallow lakes – pp. 78-79</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shallow lakes and shallow bays of deep lakes • Purchase conservation easements around shallow lakes to restore their watershed and prevent development • Funding to install fish barriers to keep out invasive species • Funding for water control structures to conduct temporary drawdowns to consolidate and aerate sediments, induce natural winterkill, and rejuvenate aquatic plants • Restoration of shallow-lake watersheds will help prairie wetlands and upland habitat 		

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Related Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Shallow Lakes Program • Ducks Unlimited shallow lake initiative • USFWS Partners for Wildlife program 		
Related Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Long-range Duck Recovery Plan 		
Rec. H5 Restore land, wetlands, and wetland-associated watersheds – pp. 80-81 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target degraded and rare land features, drained and converted wetlands, and watersheds associated with these wetlands • Work with private land owners on restoration through education, incentives, and conservation easements • Fund conservation easements to pay landowners to restore drained basins and upland buffers • In forested areas target shallow lakes with history of wild rice production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Wetlands ✓ Prairie ✓ Forests ✓ Habitat for Fish, Game & Wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Restore ✓ Protect ✓ Enhance
Related Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Shallow Lakes Program • Ducks Unlimited shallow lake initiative • USFWS Partners for Wildlife program • RIM, WRP 		
Related Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy SGCN • DNR Long-range Duck Recovery Plan • DNR Minnesota Pheasant Plan 		

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<p>Rec. H6 Protect and restore critical in-water habitat of lakes and streams – pp. 81-84</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand efforts to restore critical habitats for aquatic communities in near-shore areas of lakes, in-stream areas of rivers and streams, and deep-water lakes with exceptional water quality • Restore natural features of lakeshore habitats – woody habitat, emergent and floating vegetation • Address negative effects of docks and surface water use on sensitive shoreline habitats • Reverse negative effects of stream channelization on in-stream habitats • Work with private shoreland owners on protection and restoration 	<p>Wetlands Prairie Forests ✓ Habitat for Fish, Game & Wildlife</p>	<p>✓ Restore Protect ✓ Enhance</p>
<p>Related Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Shallow Lakes Program • DNR Shoreland Habitat Program • DNR Fisheries watershed coordination projects • RIM, CRP, CSP, CREP 		
<p>Related Plans – non identified</p>		
<p>Rec. H7 Keep water on the landscape – pp.84-87</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat benefits include improved water quality, maintaining habitat for wildlife and game species, and enhancing biological diversity • Need is particularly acute in agricultural and urban landscapes • Increase riparian buffers along shorelines of rivers, lakes, and sinkholes • Maintain and restore headwater wetlands, riparian areas, and floodplains • Enhance and expand the use of perennial vegetation • Maximize stormwater infiltration by preserving land areas with best infiltration characteristics • Discourage new surface drainage or subsurface tiling in shoreland areas 	<p>✓ Wetlands ✓ Prairie Forests ✓ Habitat for Fish, Game & Wildlife</p>	<p>✓ Restore Protect ✓ Enhance</p>

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Related Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local government shoreland regulations • CRP, CREP, RIM, WRP • Forest Stewardship Program 				
Related Plans – not identified				
Rec. H13 Habitat and landscape conservation and training programs for all citizens – pp. 94-96 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in education to improve public understanding of the need for better conservation, protection, and restoration of Minnesota’s habitats and landscapes • Education is a key to leveraging public money with private action • Direct to all levels - K-12, higher education, the general public • Materials are available, delivery needs funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Wetlands ✓ Prairie ✓ Forests ✓ Habitat for Fish, Game & Wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Restore Protect ✓ Enhance 		
Related Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minnesota Master Naturalist Program • River Friendly Farmers • DNRs “Healthy Rivers: A Water Course” and “Restore Your Shore” • DNR Gateway Initiative in state parks 				
Related Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “GreenPrint” Minnesota state plan for environmental education 				

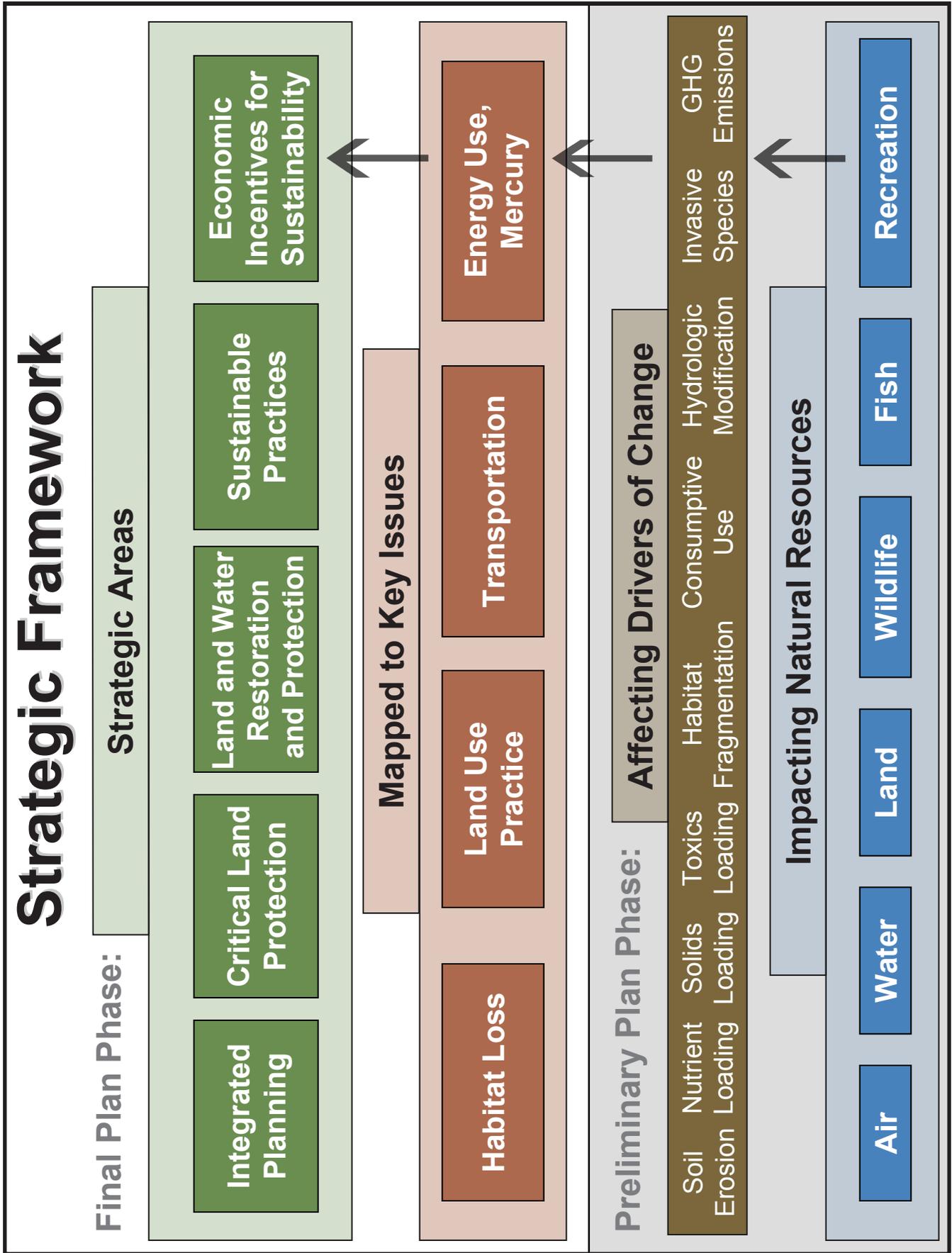
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<p>Rec. LU8 Protect large blocks of forested land – pp. 130-131 Rec. E2 Invest in farm and forest preservation efforts to prevent fragmentation due to development – guided by productivity and environmental vulnerability research – pp. 184-185</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect large blocks of forested lands targeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lands adjacent to large publicly held block, and ○ Lands at risk of parcelization, conversion, and fragmentation • Use fee title acquisition or conservation easements supported by financial incentives, education and technical assistance to landowners • Implement recommendations of MFRC parcelization study currently underway <p>Related Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Legacy easement program • Forest Stewardship Program <p>Related Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minnesota Forests for the Future Program report • Minnesota Forest Resource Council Site-level guidelines • DNR Subsection Forest Resource Management Plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Wetlands ✓ Prairie ✓ Forests ✓ Habitat for Fish, Game & Wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restore ✓ Protect ✓ Enhance
<p>Rec. LU2 Support local & regional conservation-based community planning – pp. 104-108</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote local land use planning that advances the permanent protection and restoration of habitat • Directs the broad power of local governments in determining land use outcomes to achieve state natural resource protection goals • Fund pilot projects demonstrating conservation-based planning • Provide incentives to communities to undertake and implement conservation-based planning • Establish a Minnesota natural resources and development partnership <p>Related Programs – non identified</p> <p>Related Plans – non identified</p>		

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<p>Rec. LU4 As much as possible, transition renewable fuel feedstock to perennial crops – pp. 119-122 Rec. E4 Develop policies and incentives to encourage perennial crop production projects on a landscape scale – pp. 187-188</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Switching from annual crops to perennial crops will reduce soil erosion and result in benefits to in-stream habitat and water quality • Provide incentives to farmers <p>Related Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm Bill commodity payments <p>Related Plans – non identified</p>	<p>Wetlands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Prairie Forests ✓ Habitat for Fish, Game & Wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Restore Protect ✓ Enhance
<p>Rec. LU6 Reduce upland and gully erosion through soil conservation practices – pp. 124-127</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target areas near unbuffered streams • Invest in education, targeted incentives, and practice-flexible, outcome-based conservation plans <p>Related Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm Bill commodity payments <p>Related Plans – non identified</p>		

Figure 1. Process and outcomes of the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan



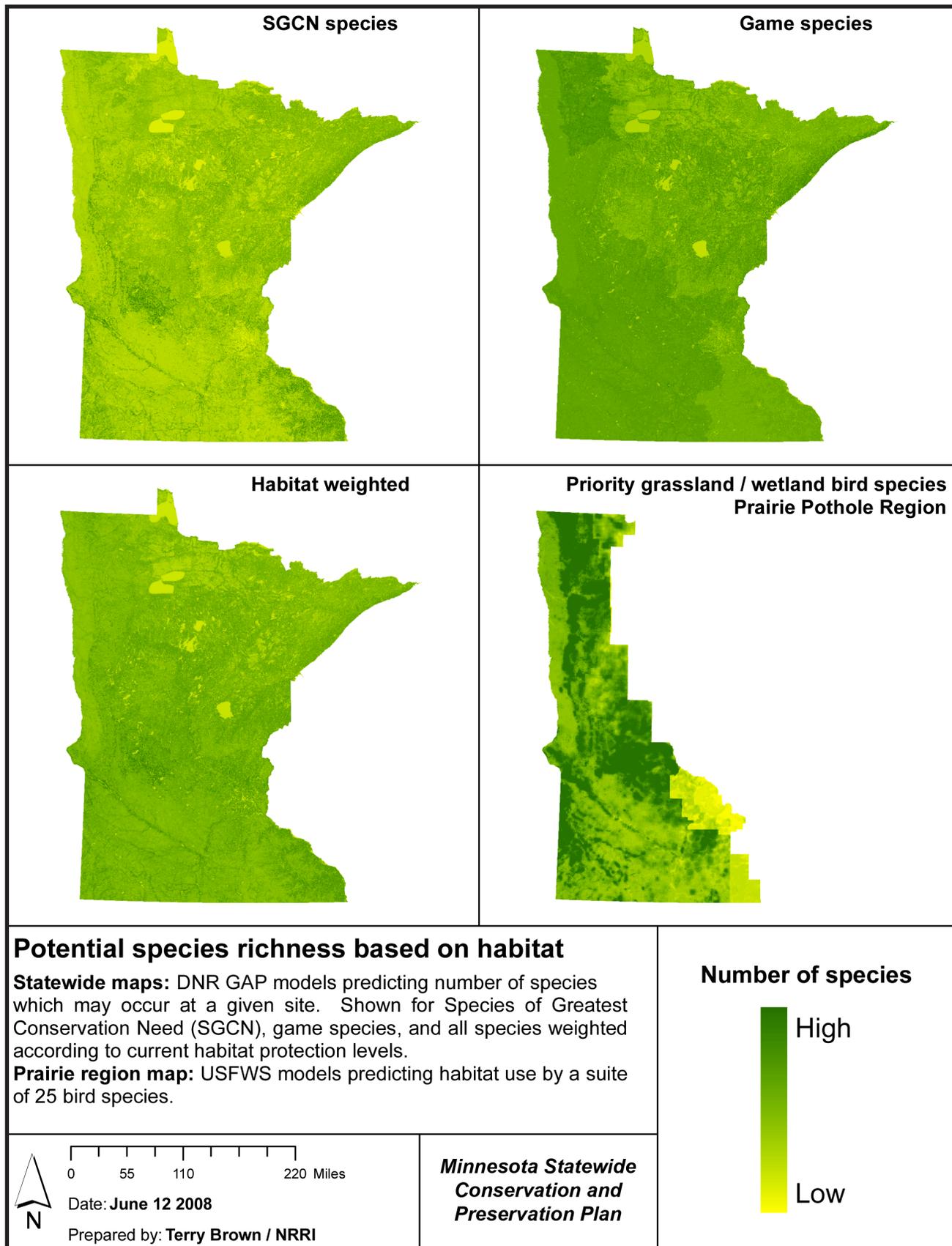


Figure H3. Potential species richness based on habitat. Credit: Terry Brown, NRRI.

Input	Weighting	Description
SOBS	33	A multifaceted assessment of this land for its importance from a regional perspective in terms of biodiversity and ecosystem function. Higher values indicate higher biodiversity significance.
DNR GAP terrestrial vertebrate models—game species	7	The number of game species for which this land may be habitat. Higher values indicate higher numbers of game species potentially using this land.
DNR GAP terrestrial vertebrate SGCN models	10	The number of species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) for which this land may be habitat. Higher values indicate higher numbers of SGCN potentially using this land.
Bird potential habitat models—USFWS	9	Probable number of bird species (from a set of 17) using this land. Higher values indicate more species.
DNR GAP habitat by protection level	8	Number of terrestrial vertebrate species potentially using this land weighted by the current level of habitat protection statewide for each species. Higher values indicate more species potentially using this land.
Wildland- urban interface	6	Wildland-urban interface maps' initial encroachment of development into areas of largely intact natural cover. Decisions made here determine whether natural areas are preserved or pressured. Higher values indicate land classified as wildland urban interface (yes/no).
Wildland- urban intermix	5	Wildland-urban intermix maps' intermixing of development and significant natural cover. Connectivity can be maintained or lost by decisions made in these areas. Higher values indicate land classified as wildland urban intermix (yes/no).
CRP lands	5	Lands enrolled in the CRP (yes/no).
Road density	5	A measure of the density of roads within the township. Major roads receive a higher weighting. Higher values indicate higher density of roads in the township.
Housing density 2000	4	Housing density from census data (census blocks) for 2000 for this land. Higher values indicate higher housing density.
Projected housing density 2030	4	Projected housing density by census blocks for 2030 for this land. Higher values indicate higher projected housing density.
Housing density change 2000 to 2030	5	Projected change in housing density by census blocks for 2000 to 2030 for this land. Higher values indicate an increase in housing density.

Table H1. Input data sets and weightings for terrestrial habitat analyses. Credit: Terry Brown and Nick Danz, NRRI.

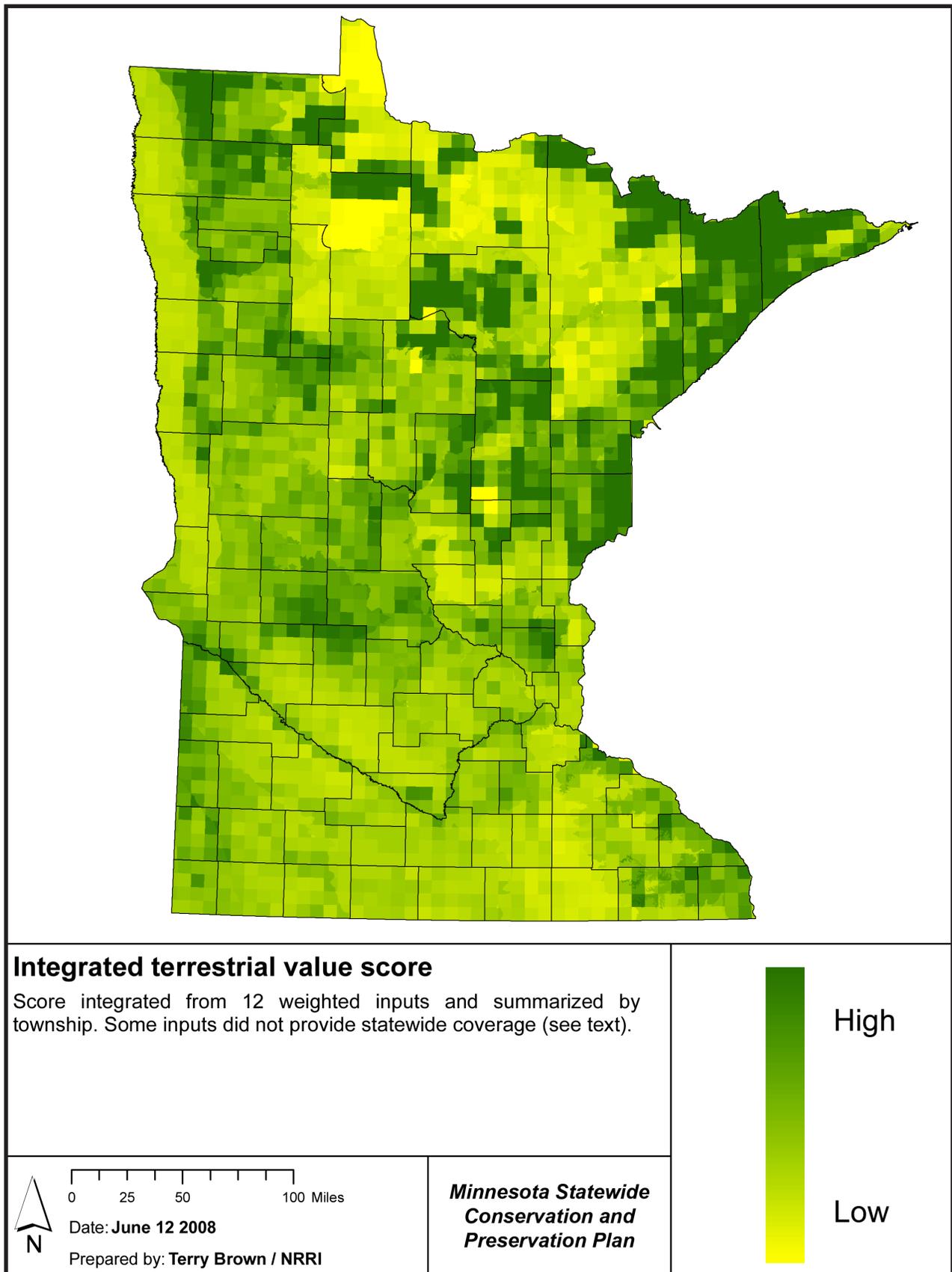


Figure H7. Integrated terrestrial value score. Credit: Terry Brown, NRRI.