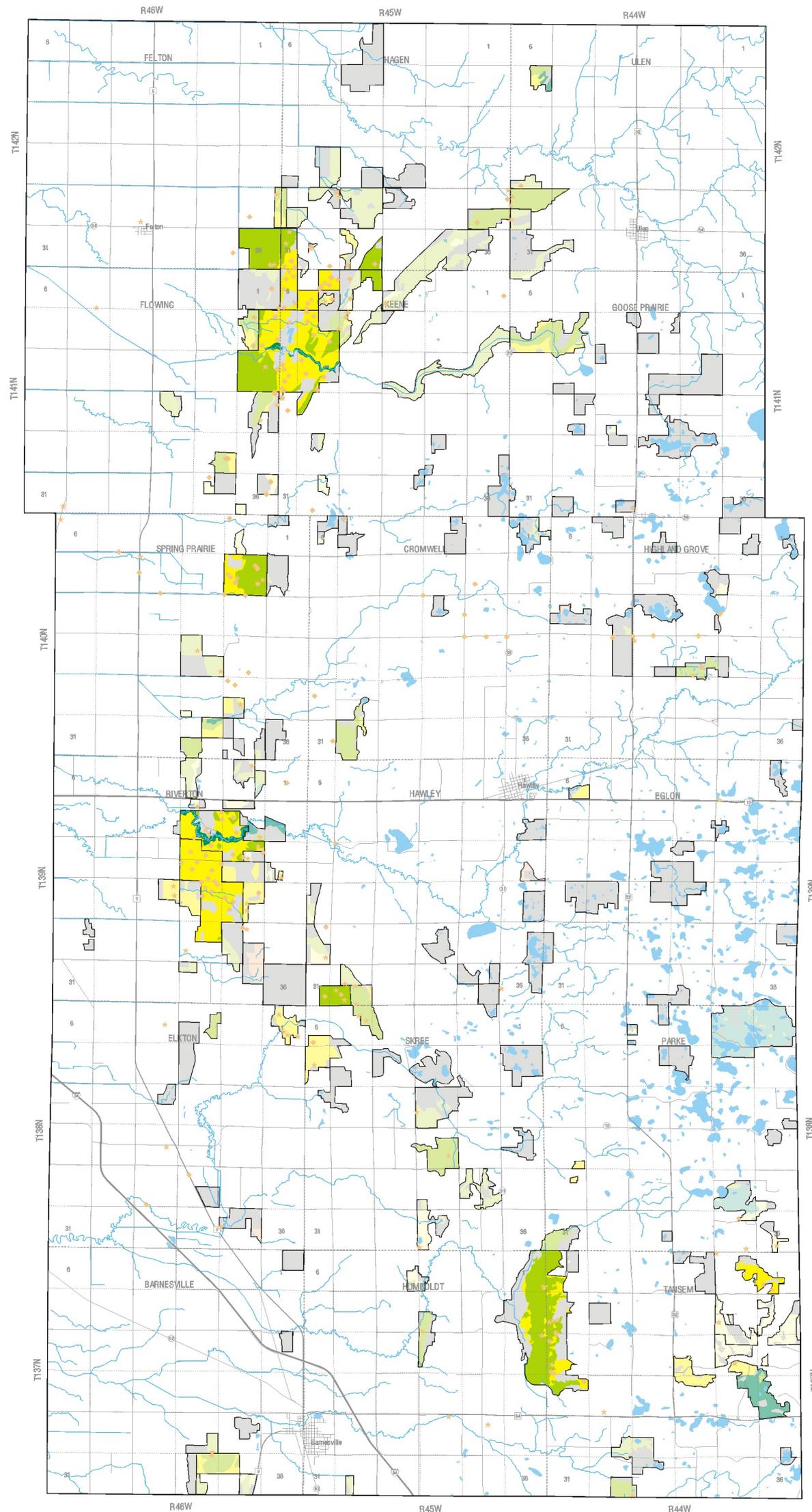


# Figure 2-9 NATURAL COMMUNITIES AND BIODIVERSITY SIGNIFICANCE EASTERN CLAY COUNTY, MINNESOTA



MCBS site boundary<sup>1</sup>

Biodiversity significance <sup>2</sup>			Natural community groups <sup>2</sup>
high	medium	modest	
Yellow	Light yellow	Lightest yellow	Upland prairie
Green	Light green	Lightest green	Wet prairie and marsh
Dark green	Medium green	Lightest green	Forest

Natural community groups below the biodiversity significance threshold

Disturbed land in surveyed sites

Special plant<sup>4</sup>

Special animal<sup>4</sup>

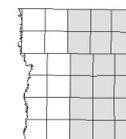
<sup>1</sup>The Minnesota County Biological Survey (MCBS) is a systematic survey of rare biological features funded by the Minnesota Legislature with substantial funding from the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources. State Wildlife Management Areas, Federal Waterfowl Production Areas, State Parks, State Scientific and Natural Areas, and Nature Conservancy preserves were automatically designated as survey sites. Otherwise, site boundaries encompass areas photointerpreted as possible natural vegetation from 1982 color-infrared aerial photography. Field survey work in Clay County was conducted in 1987-1988, with some followup in 1994.

<sup>2</sup>Biodiversity significance is evaluated on the basis of the rarity of the species and natural communities present and the quality of these occurrences within individual MCBS sites.

<sup>3</sup>Natural communities are functional units of the landscape, classified and described by considering vegetation, hydrology, landform, soils, and natural disturbance regimes. Areas outside of MCBS sites are primarily cropland or other lands where the natural vegetation has been destroyed by human activity. Natural community groups depicted here are reclassified from the natural community types in the original Natural Heritage Information System data.

<sup>4</sup>The special plant and animal data are not based on an exhaustive inventory of the state. The lack of data for any geographic area shall not be construed to mean that no significant features are present. In addition, there may be inaccuracies in the data, of which the DNR is not aware and shall not be held responsible for.

0 1 2 3 Miles  
0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers



#### Sources:

- (1) Natural Heritage Information System - biodiversity significance, natural communities, and special plants and animals. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, Section of Ecological Services, Division of Fish and Wildlife. Data current as of January 1997.
- (2) Public Land Survey - PLS Project, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Minerals.
- (3) State of Minnesota BaseMap, CD-ROM produced by Minnesota Department of Transportation, Surveying and Mapping BaseMap Development Group.

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