

St. Louis and Cloquet Regional Plan

This is one of twenty Regional Plans that support implementation of the Lake Superior Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (Strategy). The Strategy, prepared and overseen by the Lake Superior Partnership, contains information and 62 sub-strategies to provide guidance to restoring and protecting biodiversity (www.natureconservancy.ca/superiorbca).

Regional Plans are intended to be adaptive documents which support and respond to local conservation efforts and contribute to lakewide biodiversity goals. To contribute an update to this Regional Plan, please contact superiorplans@glnpa.net.

12. St. Louis and Cloquet



One of the western most units, the St. Louis and Cloquet region encompasses the Duluth-Superior Harbor, Fond du Lac Reservation, and a portion of the St. Louis River Area of Concern (AOC). The St. Louis River is the largest US tributary to Lake Superior and has the

highest amount of developed land and artificial shoreline. The headwaters of the St. Louis River are in the Mesabi Iron Range with extensive ongoing mining operations causing major impacts to wetlands and water quality. The St. Louis River Estuary complex is 12,000 acres and one of the largest in the Lake Superior basin. It contains coastal wetlands deemed ecologically significant, providing habitat for over 200 species of birds and mammals. The region contains many significant wetlands, lakes, natural areas, and cold water tributaries that sustain Brook Trout. In addition, many lakes and tributaries in this region support native Wild Rice, a culturally significant plant species. The Red Clay Plain near Superior, Wisconsin has more than a dozen rare plant species, some not found anywhere else in the state of Minnesota. The region also supports species of concern including Moose and Lynx. At least 168 species and communities of conservation concern have been documented in this regional unit, including Lake Sturgeon and the Wood Turtle.^{1,2}

¹ For the Minnesota portions of this unit, data included here were provided by the Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and were current as of December 3, 2014. These data are not based on an exhaustive inventory of the state. The lack of data for any geographic area should not be construed to mean that no significant features are present. For the Wisconsin portions of this unit, data included here were provided by the Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Although the Natural Heritage Inventory database is the most up-to-date and comprehensive database on the occurrences of rare species and natural communities available, many areas of the state have not been inventoried. Similarly, the presence of one rare species at a location does not imply that all taxonomic groups have been surveyed for at that site. As such, the data should be interpreted with caution and an "absence of evidence is not evidence of absence" philosophy should be followed.

²For a full list of the species and communities documented in the region, please see the corresponding [regional unit chapter](#) in Vol. 2 of the Lake Superior Biodiversity Conservation Assessment.

Report Card ³		Overall Grade: C
Conservation Target	Grade	Conservation Target Notes
Nearshore	D	The high traffic level of lake freighters in the Duluth-Superior Harbor puts this area at high risk for the introduction of aquatic invasive species (AIS) through ballast water discharge. Sedimentation and coastal development affect nearshore habitats.
Embayments & Inshore	D	The St. Louis River estuary is a designated Area of Concern (AOC) with beneficial use impairments that include degradation of fish and wildlife habitat, fish and wildlife populations and benthos. Heavy industrial use has resulted in contaminated sediments and hardened shorelines.
Islands	A	Two islands in this unit, Spirit Island and Clough Island, provide high-quality habitat; however, terrestrial invasive species are present that may degrade biodiversity potential if not managed.
Coastal Wetlands	D	An estimated 3,400 acres of wetland and open water habitat have been lost from the estuary. However, some high-quality wetlands do exist.
Coastal Terrestrial	C	Heavy industrial use in the harbor limits natural habitat for species due to fragmentation and shoreline hardening.
Tributaries & Watersheds	D	The combination of soils, landform and land use result in flashy stream systems and heavy erosion in streams throughout the unit. The dam on the St. Louis limits movement of lake run fish. Potential barriers to fish passage at the nearly 2,500 road stream crossings may limit aquatic populations.

Overview of Conservation Opportunities

The St. Louis River has been identified as one of 17 Lake Superior tributaries where Lake Sturgeon rehabilitation efforts are focused. Current rehabilitation and reintroduction efforts should continue. The lower 39 miles (63 kilometers) of the St. Louis River is designated as an Area of Concern (AOC) due to habitat loss or degradation and contamination caused by industrial pollution. Remediation of habitat loss/degradation and pollution in the watershed will ensure a high level of biodiversity of species, especially migratory birds, and help with the reintroduction of Lake Sturgeon. Soil, groundwater, and sediment remediation at the St. Louis River/Interlake/Duluth Tar and US Steel superfund sites is already occurring and is high priority to prevent toxicity to organisms and protect biodiversity. Prevention of aquatic invasive species (AIS) introductions from ballast water is a high priority; 35% of all known AIS introductions have come from ballast water and the Duluth-Superior Harbor receives the greatest volume of ballast water of any of the ports on the Great Lakes. Continued efforts to effectively control and eradicate established AIS, such as Phragmites and Purple Loosestrife, is beneficial to native species biodiversity and reintroduction.

³ Report Card grades are intended to denote relative (within Lake Superior basin) condition/health and stresses for each biodiversity target in the region based on available condition and stress indices. A more detailed explanation and expert comments on grades are available in the Lake Superior Biodiversity Conservation Assessment - Volume 2: Regional Unit Summaries.

The headwaters of many streams have been impacted by mining and other human activities. Protection of these headwaters is important for maintaining high functioning ecosystems. Conservation of wetlands is critical for maintaining high-quality habitat, water quality and Wild Rice. To provide habitat for self-sustaining populations of a wide variety of species that are resilient to change, large block wilderness areas such as the Red River Breaks are important and considered a high priority.

Over 60% of land in the St. Louis and Cloquet regional unit is privately owned. Therefore, any actions to conserve and promote biodiversity must invest and engage the citizenry about the importance of biodiversity and how their actions influence future conditions.

Area Map



Conservation Actions

The Lake Superior community has a strong and ongoing history of taking action to restore and protect the lake's extraordinary biodiversity. Actions are occurring at all scales – from national, state, provincial, tribal, First Nations, Métis, and municipal programs, to lakewide initiatives and local projects by communities, businesses, and households. Some important habitats currently have a conservation designation with a corresponding management strategy. Active supervision of these areas is essential to sustaining biodiversity. The table below presents next steps for conserving and protecting biodiversity in this regional unit. Other existing plans relevant to conserving habitats and species in this region

should continue to be implemented. A list of existing plans relevant to the next steps presented below is presented at the end of this document.

Regional Plan Next Steps

There is some variation among Regional Plans in how future actions from existing plans were incorporated into this document, based on advice from the implementers of those plans in the region. Similarly, implementation approaches vary greatly among regional units. The Lake Superior Partnership serves an important role in facilitating cooperation among agencies to support on-the-ground action. Priority implementation actions developed through the Partnership are identified in the Lake Superior LAMP, Lake Partnership committee work plans, and agency specific action plans.

Regional Objective	Next Step	Conservation Target	Primary Lakewide Strategy ⁱ
Lakewide Strategy 1: Restore and protect a system of representative, high quality habitats.			
<i>Common Actions For All Region Plans</i> Maintain or enhance areas where large blocks of land with natural cover exist or could be expanded. Preserve sites that have high species diversity and/or critical habitat for fish or wildlife.		Multiple	1.1
Protect habitats of biological significance by designating them as Scientific and Natural Areas.	Use Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS) Ecological Evaluations recommendations to prompt legislative action to establish firm targets for Scientific and Natural Area designations.	Multiple	1.6
Protect the habitats of biological significance with special consideration of ephemeral and headwater wetlands of the St. Louis River.	Implement management to protect and prevent further degradation of wetlands. Increase the size of protected areas around the St. Louis River headwaters to match watershed boundaries and include the large patches of old upland forest.	Multiple	1.1
	Assess impacts that have occurred/are occurring in the headwaters.	Multiple	1.10
Protect habitats of biological significance with special consideration of headwaters of streams impacted by mining.	Conduct research on headwaters of streams currently or proposed to be impacted by mining to establish thresholds of impact that should not be exceeded (for aquatic species) and have regulatory agencies incorporate into decision making, permitting, and mitigation.	Tributaries & Watersheds	1.1

Regional Objective	Next Step	Conservation Target	Primary Lakewide Strategy ⁱ
Restore the habitats of biological significance in headwater streams that have been impacted/degraded by mining.	Assess headwaters of streams that have been impacted by mining in the region to help inform regulatory agencies of where stream restoration/mitigation is most needed and what the restoration needs are.	Tributaries & Watersheds	1.1
Restore the habitats of biological significance in the St. Louis River Estuary that will lead to delisting as an Area of Concern.	Seek additional funding and implement projects identified in the delisting framework.	Multiple	1.3
Prevent the net loss of wetlands and wetland function in the St. Louis/Cloquet region and protect remaining intact wetlands.	Ensure wetland mitigation is in-basin and in-kind where impacts are not avoidable and investigate alternative mitigation opportunities in watershed when criteria for current in watershed mitigation can't be met. The central St. Louis River watershed should be a priority/focus of wetland mitigation banking development.	Multiple	1.2
Protect the habitats of biological significance for Wood Turtle protection.	Prompt legislative action to try and establish targets for Scientific and Natural Area designation along the Cloquet River centered on Wood Turtles (MN Threatened status) and upland forest.	Multiple	1.6
Protect and restore habitats of biological significance with special consideration of islands and softened shorelines on the St. Louis River.	Conduct habitat remediation/restoration on Spirit Island and in Spirit Lake, control terrestrial invasive species, and educate people about the ecological and cultural significance of Spirit Island.	Islands	1.1
	Explore ways to protect Interstate Island from erosion and extend the island's habitat.	Islands	1.3
Increase people's awareness of and challenges to conserving critical aspects of Lake Superior's biodiversity, including the importance of biodiversity, threats, on-going restoration projects, and opportunities for improving biodiversity in their region.	Engage in novel approaches to increase awareness and protect biodiversity such as crowd source data collection, a people's charter to protect the Great Lakes, and grass roots programs to support healthy landscapes.	Multiple	1.8

Regional Objective	Next Step	Conservation Target	Primary Lakewide Strategy ⁱ
Protect the habitats of biological significance through implementation of ecological silviculture.	Restore missing species, increase patch sizes, improve stand diversity using silviculture, and account for amount of young forests per watershed in timber harvest plans.	Multiple	1.3
Reduce methyl mercury releases from wetlands.	Restore hydrologically-altered (ditched) wetlands. The central St. Louis River watershed has extensive ditching and would be a good place to start.	Multiple	1.1
Land management agencies develop a common forestry inventory for the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Standardize forestry inventory data amongst agencies in the region and have a central database to store data for public access.	Coastal Terrestrial	1.12
Protect the habitats of biological significance by working with the cities of Duluth and Superior along with St. Louis and Douglas counties to protect the tax forfeit lands.	Prioritize natural areas, such as Brewer Park, and enter them into protective status.	Coastal Terrestrial	1.6
Gain a greater understanding of biodiversity as it relates to cultural tradition and identity.	Educate the public, legislators, and regulatory agencies about treaty rights in the 1854 Ceded Territory and reservations to ensure management decisions consider treaty rights and that natural resources are cultural resources.	Multiple	1.8
Restore habitats of biological significance with special consideration for wetland restoration in the St. Louis/Cloquet region.	Develop tools that identify and prioritize wetland restoration and remediation.	Multiple	1.11
	Utilize the Lake Superior Framework for Assessment of Wetland Services report to focus restoration efforts in identified restorable wetland locations.	Tributaries & Watersheds	1.11
Increase people's awareness of environmentally sound best management practices in land use change and development throughout the basin.	Engage residents seeking development especially near-shore and on/close to water features.	Coastal Terrestrial	1.8
Foster a greater understanding of the connections between terrestrial land management and Lake Superior health.	Target outreach to the timber industry, loggers, and forest management agencies and explore opportunities for public engagement with forest management plan review.	Coastal Terrestrial	1.8
Identify sources and impacts of erosion in tributaries to the St. Louis River Estuary.	Assess the effect of motorized vehicle trails on erosion in the St Louis River Estuary.	Tributaries & Watersheds	1.10

Regional Objective	Next Step	Conservation Target	Primary Lakewide Strategy ⁱ
	Investigate changes in flow and flood stage in tributaries to the St. Louis River Estuary and how it may relate to climate change.	Tributaries & Watersheds	1.10
Maintain or enhance large blocks of protected land with natural cover at the St. Louis River and Red River Streambank Protection Area.	Create a management plan for the 6,692 acre property.	Tributaries & Watersheds	1.1
	Create a long term restoration plan for Clough Island that will build on existing restoration efforts and outline management/ protection objectives.	Islands	1.5
Lakewide Strategy 2: Manage plants and animals in a manner that ensures diverse, healthy and self-sustaining populations.			
<i>Common Actions For All Region Plans</i> Review lists of regional species of conservation concern and identify gaps in monitoring, planning, and related conservation actions.		Multiple	2.7
Achieve and maintain genetically diverse self-sustaining populations of Lake Trout that are similar to those found in the lake prior to 1940.	Conduct annual survey(s) to determine Lake Trout population status and trends.	Multiple	2.3
Maintain self-sustaining populations of Lake Whitefish within the range of abundance observed during 1990-99.	Conduct surveys to determine Lake Whitefish population status and trends.	Multiple	2.3
	Protect embayments and the nearshore areas which provide habitat for developing larvae and juveniles.	Multiple	2.3
	Protect nearshore areas used by adult Lake Whitefish for foraging and spawning.	Nearshore Zones and Reefs	2.3
	Restore where feasible documented river-spawning populations.	Tributaries & Watersheds	2.3
Restore and protect self-sustaining Lake Sturgeon populations in each tributary they historically used to spawn (i.e. minimum 1500 adults).	Continue stocking upper St. Louis Rivr with Sturgeon River strain Lake Sturgeon.	Tributaries & Watersheds	2.3
	Continue monitoring for natural reproduction. Lake Sturgeon fry were documented in 2011 and 2013. Use adaptive management when progress/needs change.	Tributaries & Watersheds	2.3

Regional Objective	Next Step	Conservation Target	Primary Lakewide Strategy ⁱ
Restore and protect self-sustaining Brook Trout populations in as many of the original, native habitats as is practical.	Identify priority Brook Trout habitats using FishVis (a regional decision support tool for identifying vulnerabilities of riverine habitat and fishes to climate change) and Ecological Limits of Hydrologic Alteration (ELOHA) tools.	Multiple	2.3
	Establish forested riparian areas for shade and long term wood recruitment.	Tributaries & Watersheds	2.3
Identify and protect Species at Risk within the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Explore opportunity to improve Tiger Beetle habitat at a former dredge deposition site near the end of Minnesota Point, where habitat seems to have declined in quantity since deposition ceased 5 years ago, and limit foot-traffic or route it away from terminal beach sand to protect larval habitat. Identify other potential Tiger Beetle sites in the estuary.	Coastal Terrestrial	2.3
	Protect green space/undeveloped land on MN and WI Points in Duluth, MN and Superior, WI for Piping Plover nesting habitat.	Coastal Terrestrial	2.3
	Investigate forestry management practices in the region and look for how current pine management may be affecting the Northern Blue Butterfly population.	Coastal Terrestrial	2.3
	Conduct biodiversity studies and develop species of local conservation interest (SLCI) rankings for all faunal groups.	Multiple	2.7
Gain a greater understanding of aquatic and terrestrial invertebrate groups.	Inventory all major groups of aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates, starting with species of concern, map their distribution, and develop conservation plans for each group.	Multiple	2.7
Prevent net loss of Wild Rice in the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Develop and implement a strategy to protect Wild Rice habitat in the St. Louis and Cloquet watersheds from industrial impacts.	Multiple	2.3
	Have a standardized method for monitoring Wild Rice in the region. Consider using methods developed by the Region 5 Manoomin project and the 1854 Treaty Authority.	Multiple	2.7

Regional Objective	Next Step	Conservation Target	Primary Lakewide Strategy ⁱ
Gain a greater understanding of Moose and why their populations are declining.	Conduct research on population movement, habitat, abundance, mortality rates, and vulnerability to climate change.	Coastal Terrestrial	2.7
Restore and protect self-sustaining Moose populations.	Ensure critical upland and wetland habitats, browse areas, and travel corridors for Moose are identified in forestry management plans, have consistent management amongst responsible agencies, and are protected.	Coastal Terrestrial	2.3
Increase people’s awareness of land development policy that favors native and rare insect species.	Start planning at the county level in the region with the Planning and Community Development Departments.	Multiple	2.2
Restore and protect long-lived conifers as a component in forest native plant communities as opposed to conifer plantations.	Coordinate with land management agencies within the region (county, state, federal, tribal) and identify potential areas for protection and restoration.	Coastal Terrestrial	2.2
Lakewide Strategy 3: Reduce the impact of existing aquatic invasive species and prevent the introduction of new ones.			
<i>Common Actions For All Region Plans</i> Control high priority infestations of aquatic invasive species, including continued control of Sea Lamprey.		Multiple	3.2
Prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species in the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Educate people about best management practices to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species using Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! TM , Habitattitude TM and other available materials.	Multiple	3.11
	Perform early detections monitoring for aquatic invasive fish species in the St. Louis River Estuary using methods developed by the US FWS and EPA.	Multiple	3.12
	Continue conducting ballast water inspections on at least 25% of all vessels, with emphasis on conducting inspections on vessels previously not inspected.	Multiple	3.8
	Develop a financially feasible and effective ballast water treatment system that utilizes a multi-treatment approach to prevent and reduce transport of viable organisms in ballast water and ballast sediments.	Multiple	3.8

Regional Objective	Next Step	Conservation Target	Primary Lakewide Strategy ⁱ
	Support partnerships between public and academic organizations to research ballast treatment systems.	Multiple	3.8
Prevent the introduction and spread of the invasive Phragmites in the St. Louis River Estuary.	Survey the St. Louis River and adjacent land areas for invasive Phragmites, map infested locations and eradicate them with chemical treatment.	Coastal Wetlands	3.2
Lakewide Strategy 4: Adapt to climate change.			
<i>Common Actions For All Region Plans</i> Incorporate climate change model projections and adaptive management measures into natural resource management plans.		Multiple	4.1
Gain a greater understanding of habitat and species vulnerabilities and management options due to climate change in the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Conduct a climate change vulnerability assessment for the region to identify threats to biodiversity and inform adaptive management.	Multiple	4.13
Gain a greater understanding of how climate change will affect native and non-native species in the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Support adaptation research that maintains landscape ecological function.	Multiple	4.13
Gain a greater understanding of habitat and species climate change vulnerabilities and management options in the inshore and nearshore.	Develop fine scale modeling of current and wave action that allow us to predict and better understand potential effects of climate change on water quality.	Multiple	4.12
	Identify areas of the nearshore, coastal zone, and estuary that are vulnerable to eutrophication.	Multiple	4.13
	Utilize existing forest ecosystem climate change vulnerability report recommendations in project planning.	Tributaries & Watersheds	4.1
Gain a greater understanding of herptile habitat, species vulnerabilities, and management options due to climate change.	Conduct a vulnerability assessment for the Mink Frog, Wood Frog, Pickerel Frog, Spotted, Red-backed and Blue-spotted Salamanders, and Northern Ringneck Snake.	Tributaries & Watersheds	4.13
	Identify and determine management options for projected range expansions of herptile species.	Multiple	4.1

Regional Objective	Next Step	Conservation Target	Primary Lakewide Strategy ⁱ
Decrease the number and volume of combined sewer overflows and wastewater treatment facility overflows.	Evaluate the storm water capacity of wastewater treatment facilities with respect to potential increases in flood events associated with climate change.	Coastal Terrestrial	4.2
Mitigate the contribution of greenhouse gases to the environment.	Work with industry to evaluate and identify ways to reduce carbon footprint in everyday operations.	Tributaries & Watersheds	4.7
Implement adaptation actions to account for changes in variability and/or frequency in air and water temperatures, water levels, storm events, droughts, etc.	Replace inadequate road and stream crossings in vulnerable watersheds; ensure they can sustain at least a 100-year flow event.	Tributaries & Watersheds	4.2
	Identify and manage travel corridors to allow for species shifts, with emphasis on connecting large blocks of natural habitat.	Multiple	4.2
Develop and implement a long term climate change monitoring strategy.	Identify and monitor priority stream gauge stations to track how discharge and temperature could be changing with respect to climate change.	Multiple	4.11
	Identify and monitor priority watersheds to measure nutrient and sediment loading.	Multiple	4.11
Lakewide Strategy 5: Reduce the negative impacts of dams and barriers by increasing connectivity and natural hydrology between the lake and tributaries.			
<p><i>Common Actions For All Region Plans</i></p> <p>Address barriers to fish passage created by dams, hydroelectric generation, or misplaced or wrong sized culverts.</p> <p>Maintain flows and water levels on managed streams, rivers and lakes that emulate natural conditions (i.e., magnitude, duration, timing, and pattern).</p>		Tributaries & Watersheds	5.2
Maintain flows on the St. Louis and Cloquet Rivers that emulate natural conditions (i.e., magnitude, duration, timing, and pattern).	Identify where there are adverse effects to connectivity and fish passage/access to spawning areas. Look for opportunities to mitigate in areas adverse effects are identified.	Tributaries & Watersheds	5.1
Lakewide Strategy 6: Address other existing and emerging threats that may impact important habitat or native plant and animal communities.			

Regional Objective	Next Step	Conservation Target	Primary Lakewide Strategy ⁱ
Prevent the spread of the invasive Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Follow USDA and MN Dept. of Agriculture protocols and perform early detection monitoring for EAB in high risk areas throughout the regional unit such as travel corridors and camping areas.	Coastal Terrestrial	6.7
	Conduct research to find a suitable tree species to fill the ecological niche of Ash trees.	Coastal Terrestrial	6.5
Prevent the introduction and spread of the invasive Gypsy Moth in the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Follow USDA and MN Dept. of Agriculture protocols to Survey for new Gypsy Moth infestations in high risk areas (e.g. travel corridors) and monitor current infestations to inform future management decisions (e.g. Gypsy Moth quarantines).	Coastal Terrestrial	6.7
Prevent the introduction and spread of the invasive Common and Glossy Buckthorn in the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Remove Common Buckthorn from Clough Island.	Coastal Terrestrial	6.8
	Conduct surveillance for Common and Glossy Buckthorn in the fall when easiest to identify and remove from the St. Louis River/Red River Stream Bank Protection Area as well as areas nearby that may be serving as a seed source.	Coastal Terrestrial	6.8
Prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species in the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Standardize invasive species inventory and monitoring techniques across agencies and geography so data is compatible and develop a central hub or web page.	Multiple	6.8
	Build concern and understanding of the connections between invasive species management and Lake Superior health and work with private landowners to educate, manage, and restore invasive species sites.	Multiple	6.7
Conduct construction and industrial operations using best practices and with regard to important habitat and species in the St. Louis and Cloquet region.	Identify areas downstream of industrial operations that are not meeting water quality standards and work with regulatory agencies to ensure that contaminated source water is captured and treated before discharging.	Multiple	6.1

Regional Objective	Next Step	Conservation Target	Primary Lakewide Strategy ⁱ
	Ensure Cumulative Impacts Assessments are conducted during regulatory review of proposed projects using methods established under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Assessments need to include impacts to natural and cultural resources from other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects in the St. Louis/Cloquet region.	Multiple	6.1
	Ensure environmental review of existing and proposed mining, gas/oil pipelines, and other industrial projects adequately identify natural and cultural resources in areas of potential effect and identify alternatives that help avoid those impacts.	Multiple	6.1
Identify and evaluate the threat of oil spills on biodiversity.	Apply the Environmental Sensitivity Index Shoreline Atlas to biodiversity.	Multiple	6.2
Protect the habitats of biological significance with special consideration of land use impacts on water quality of lakes and tributaries.	Identify critical/vulnerable water resources and promote the use of environmentally sound best management practices to protect these resources.	Multiple	6.6
	Improve understanding of the potential effects of pharmaceuticals and personal care products (e.g. microplastics) on biodiversity.	Multiple	6.9
Identify, evaluate, and manage threats to biodiversity from agricultural chemical and biological controls.	Assess impacts associated with agricultural chemicals (e.g. phosphorus loading) and biological controls (e.g. non-native ladybugs) and develop strategies to address those impacts.	Multiple	6.6

Regional Plan Development

Regional Plans are informed by a technical assessment, including maps of: 1. Coastal and Watershed Features; 2. Condition, and; 3. Important Habitat Sites. This information is available at: www.natureconservancy.ca/superiorbca .

The public and stakeholders who are connected to these areas provided input to the Next Steps in each Regional Plan. Oversight was provided by a Steering Committee from the Lake Superior Partnership. All input was considered and incorporated whenever possible and when relevant

to a lakewide biodiversity conservation targets and threats. To contribute an update to this Regional Plan, please contact superiorplans@glncpo.net.

Existing Plans

Other existing plans relevant to conserving habitats and species in this region include but are not limited to:

- Fond du Lac Resource Management - Integrated Resource Management Plan
- Great Lakes Fishery Commission - Fish-community objectives and Lake Trout restoration, Brook Trout rehabilitation and Lake Sturgeon rehabilitation plans for Lake Superior
- Lower St. Louis River Habitat Plan
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources state plans - Fisheries Management Plan for the Minnesota Waters of Lake Superior, Management Plan for Invasive Species, Moose Research and Management Plan, Biological Survey Ecological Evaluations, State Wildlife Action Plan, Subsection Forest Resource Management plans, Individual Stream Management plans, Climate Change and Renewable Energy: Management Foundations
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency - Minnesota Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies
- St. Louis River Remedial Action Plan
- Wild Rice Restoration Implementation Plan for the St. Louis River Estuary
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources state plans - Wildlife Action Plan

ⁱTo access the full Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, other Regional Plans and supporting technical information and maps, please visit the project website: www.natureconservancy.ca/superiorbca