

The Prairie Enthusiasts

Sparkling Passion for Prairie

Info@ ThePrairieEnthusiasts.org

2026



Photo by Eric Preston

What is a Prairie?

Mounds View Grassland near Madison, WI.
Photo by RS Baller.



Thomas Wet Prairie near Muscoda, WI.
Photo by Kristin Westad.



Gasser Sand Barrens near Baraboo, WI.
Photo by Scott Weber.

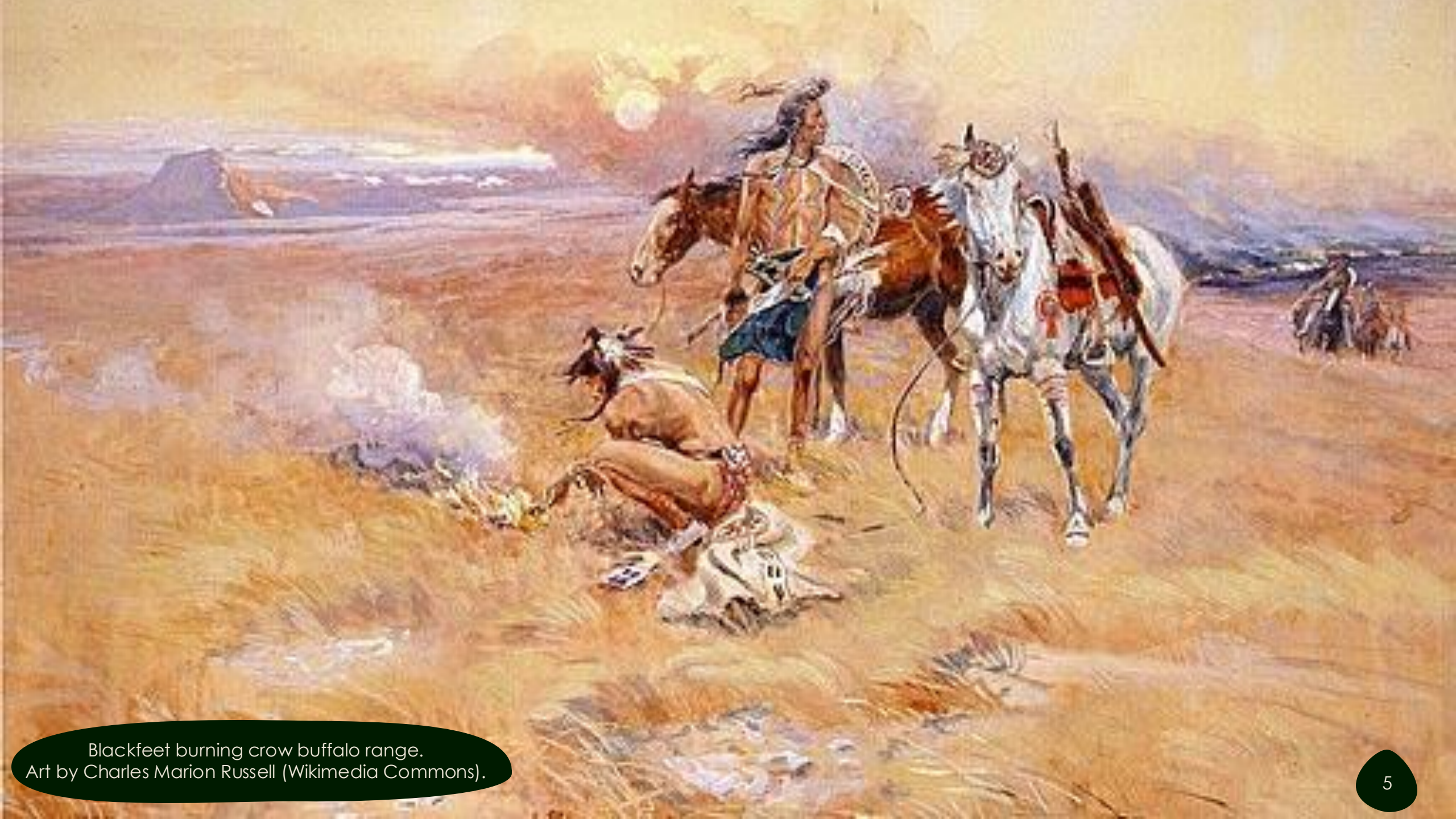


Marowski Bluff near Ferryville, WI.
Photo by Jim Rogala.

All of these places are fire-dependent



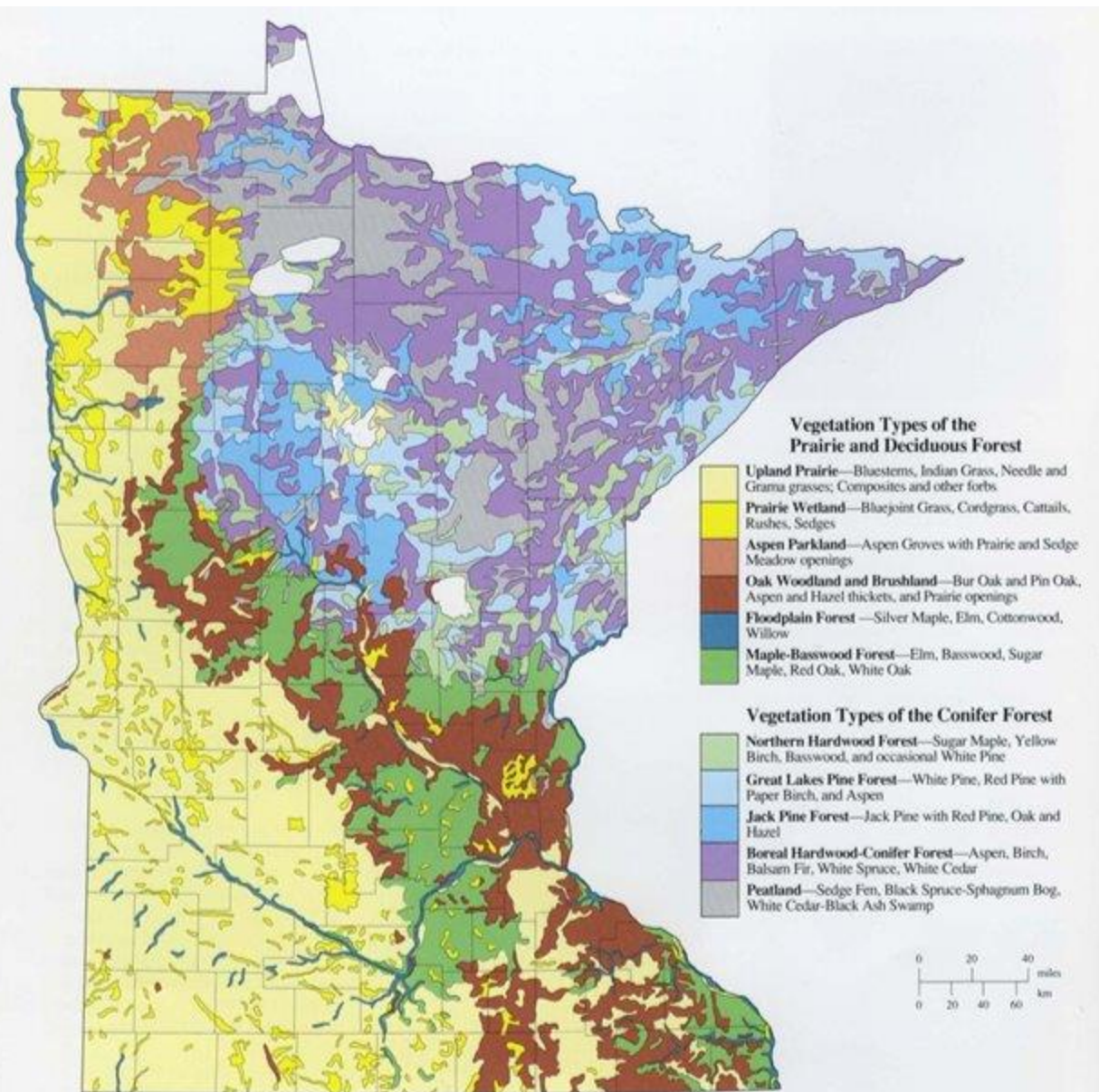
Spring prescribed burn at Pleasant Valley.
Photo by RS Baller.



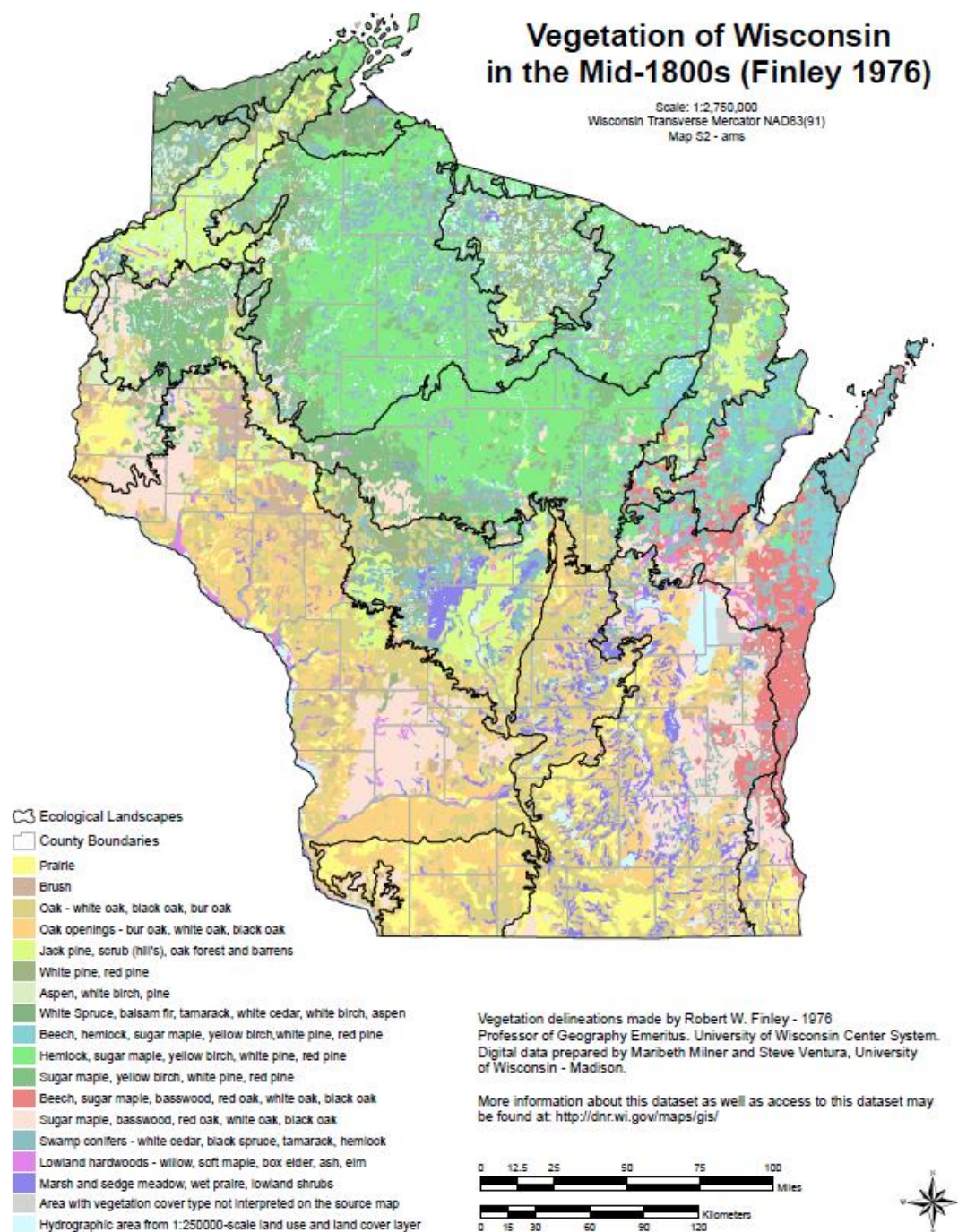
Blackfeet burning crow buffalo range.
Art by Charles Marion Russell (Wikimedia Commons).



Glacial Prairie Chapter prescribed burn volunteer.
Photo by Brad Wilkins.



The Natural Vegetation of Minnesota at the Time of the Public Land Survey: 1847-1907

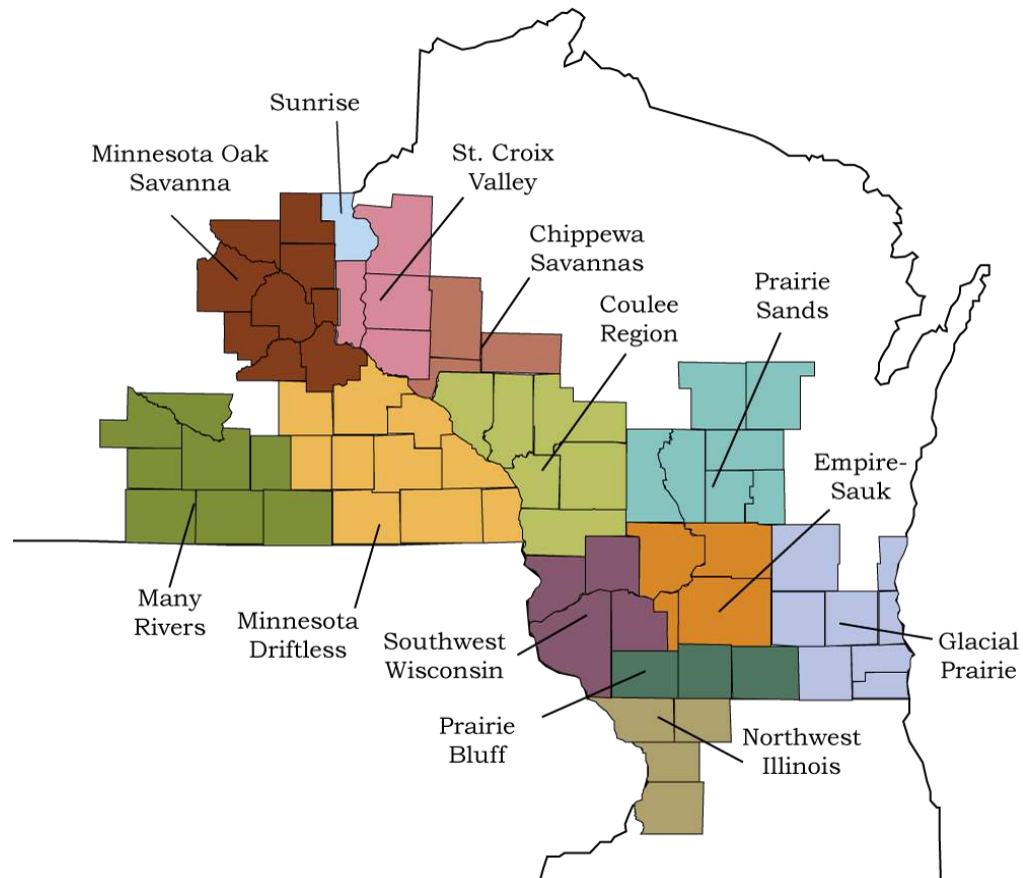


That's where we come in!



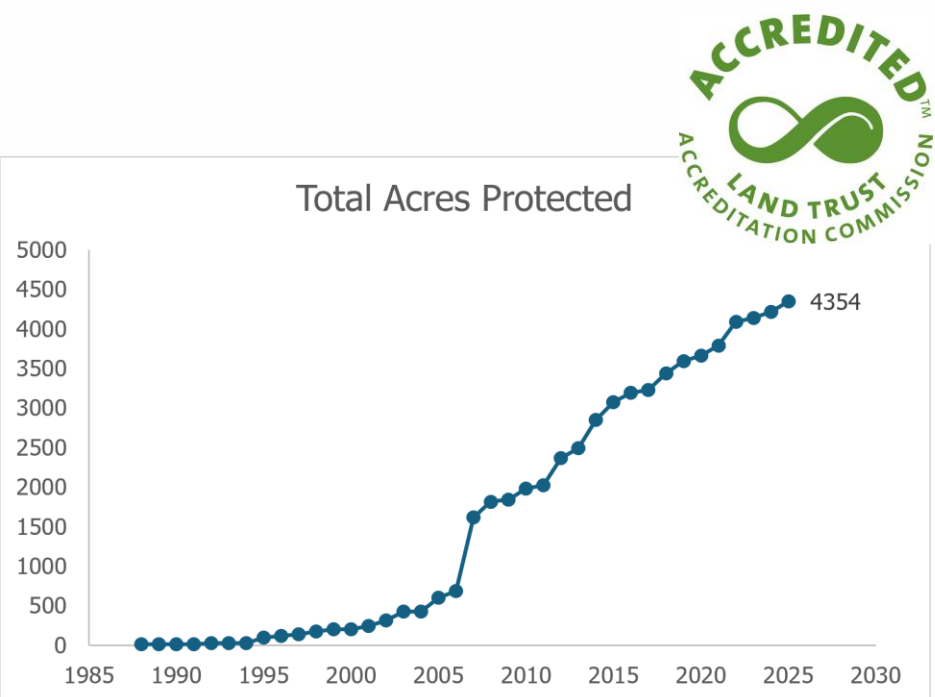
St. Croix Valley Chapter Prescribed Burn Volunteers.
Photo by Ginny Gaynor.

The Prairie Enthusiasts



Volunteers conducting the first burn at Muralt Bluff in 1975. Photo by John Oschner.





These species and more are all listed as endangered in at least one of the states in our region.

Top left: Omate box turtle. Photo by Greg Wahl.
Top right: Pale false foxglove. Photo by Eric Preston
Bottom left: Regal fritillary butterfly. Photo by Eric Preston.
Bottom right: Henslow's sparrow. Photo by Eric Preston.





Top left: Coulee Region Chapter Volunteers. Photo by Connie Weedman.
 Bottom left: Southwest Wisconsin Chapter Volunteer. Photo by Becky Fernette.
 Top Right: Coulee Region Celebration of Prairies in the Driftless. Photo by Sarah Barron.
 Bottom Right: Chippewa Savannas Chapter Burn Volunteers. Photo by Kathy Stahl.



Why We Need to Take Action Now

Remnant prairie on a roadside surrounded by
agriculture.
Photo by Sarah Barron.

Grassland Birds

720
MILLION
GRASSLAND BIRDS
LOST SINCE 1970

-53%
POPULATION LOSS
IN GRASSLAND
BIRDS SINCE 1970

3 IN 4

EASTERN MEADOWLARKS
LOST SINCE 1970



Courtesy of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Source: Science, 2019

The New York Times Magazine

FEATURE

The Insect Apocalypse Is Here

What does it mean for the rest of life on Earth?

B B C

One in five reptiles is threatened with extinction

The Good News



Mounds View Grassland near Madison, WI.
Photo by Eric Preston.

PRAIRIE ENTHUSIASM!



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How You Can Help

- Visit a prairie
- Attend a workshop or field trip
- Join our email lists to stay up-to-date
- Volunteer
 - Seed Collecting & Cleaning
 - Biological Surveys & Citizen Science
 - Making Parsnip Predators or Makutus
 - Office Tasks
 - Outreach & Events
 - Photography
 - Seed Orchard
 - Writing
 - Brush & Tree Cutting
 - Prescribed Burning
 - Site Monitoring
 - Leadership Positions

Volunteers cutting invasive brush at Moely Prairie near Madison, WI. Photo by Amy Chamberlin.

Chapter Opportunities



Photo by Gary Shackelford

Get Involved with Your Local Chapter

[Name] Chapter

- Chapter Contact:
 - [name]
 - [Email]



For More Information



Photo by Gary Shackelford

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Thank you!



Photo by Ginny Gaynor