

HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FOREST

MCKINLEY PRAIRIE

Size: 110 Acres

Location: Sec. 9-138-32

- HC Values**
- 1) McKinley Prairie is a southern dry prairie system (rare in Cass County) and is indicated as such on the Natural Resource Heritage Database.
 - 2) McKinley Prairie has known breeding populations of prairie obligate species as indicated on the Natural Resource Heritage Database. Other species associated with prairies have also been spotted on the McKinley Prairie.

Activities: The prairie will be burned every 4-6 years in order to eliminate encroaching vegetation and to maintain the site as a southern dry prairie to provide habitat for the above mentioned species. Other vegetation control measures will be taken if burning is not possible. The county may sell or exchange out of any or all of the 110 acres with the following stipulation:
-A conservation easement protecting or enhancing the High Conservation Value Forest is in place.

Monitoring: If a land sale or exchange takes place involving any or all of the HCVF, monitoring shall ensure that the above stipulation has been met.

Annual monitoring will occur to ensure that no damaging activities have taken place by Cass County or through trespass by any other entity (Example: off-highway vehicle traffic).

Monitoring will take place once every three years to determine that prescribed burning or other vegetation control is taking place.

The Natural Heritage database will be monitored at least once every five years to determine whether the status of any species that occur or potentially occur within the HCVF has changed.

Annual surveying of prairie chicken booming grounds will take place to see if a population remains.