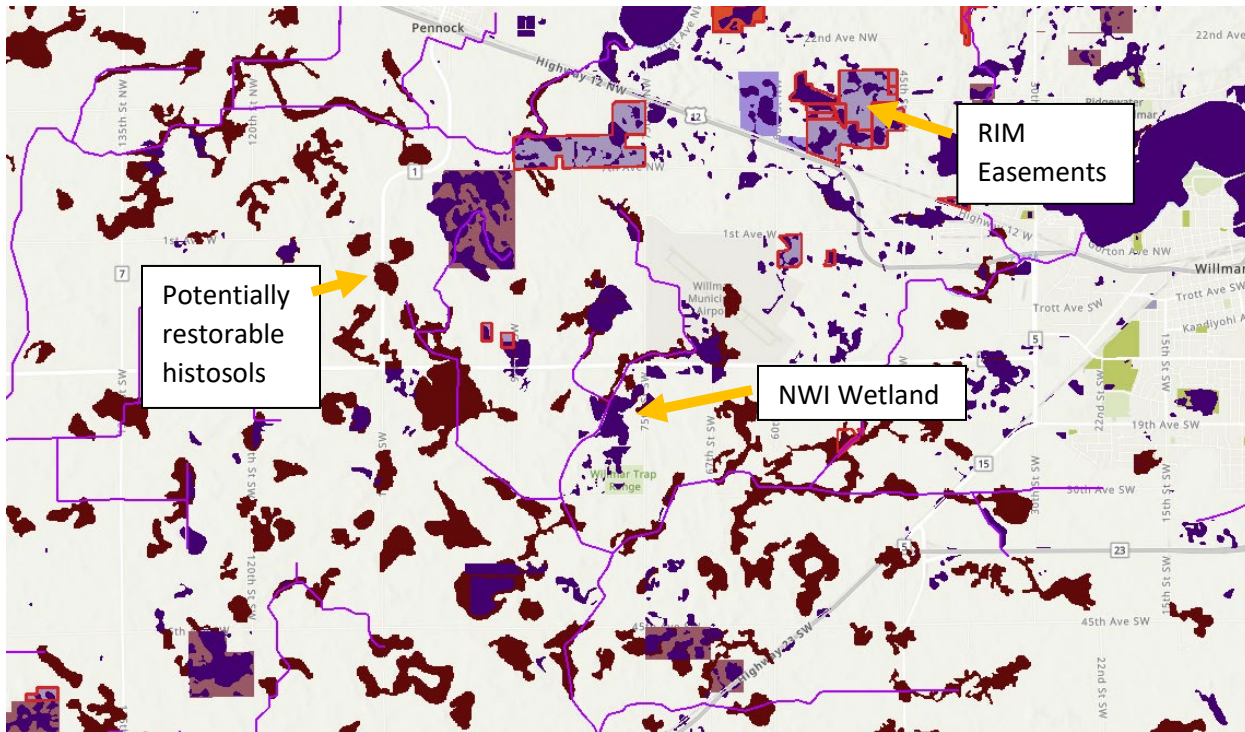


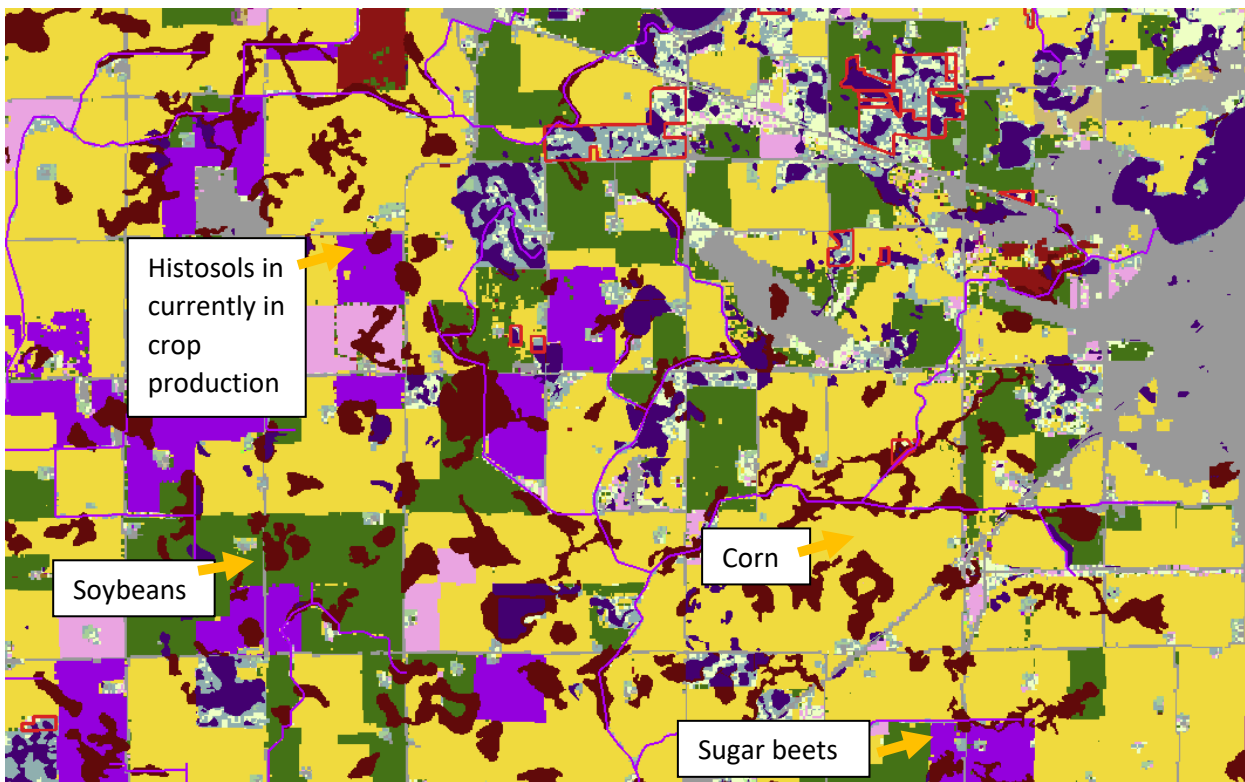
Sample Searches for Restorable Peatlands

West Central Minnesota

To identify potentially restorable peatlands, we can begin by looking for areas of histosols (dark brown) that are not part of the National Wetlands Inventory (dark blue), and are not in public ownership, as shown in this area in Kandiyohi County. (Note that the NWI layer will not appear until you zoom in to this scale.)

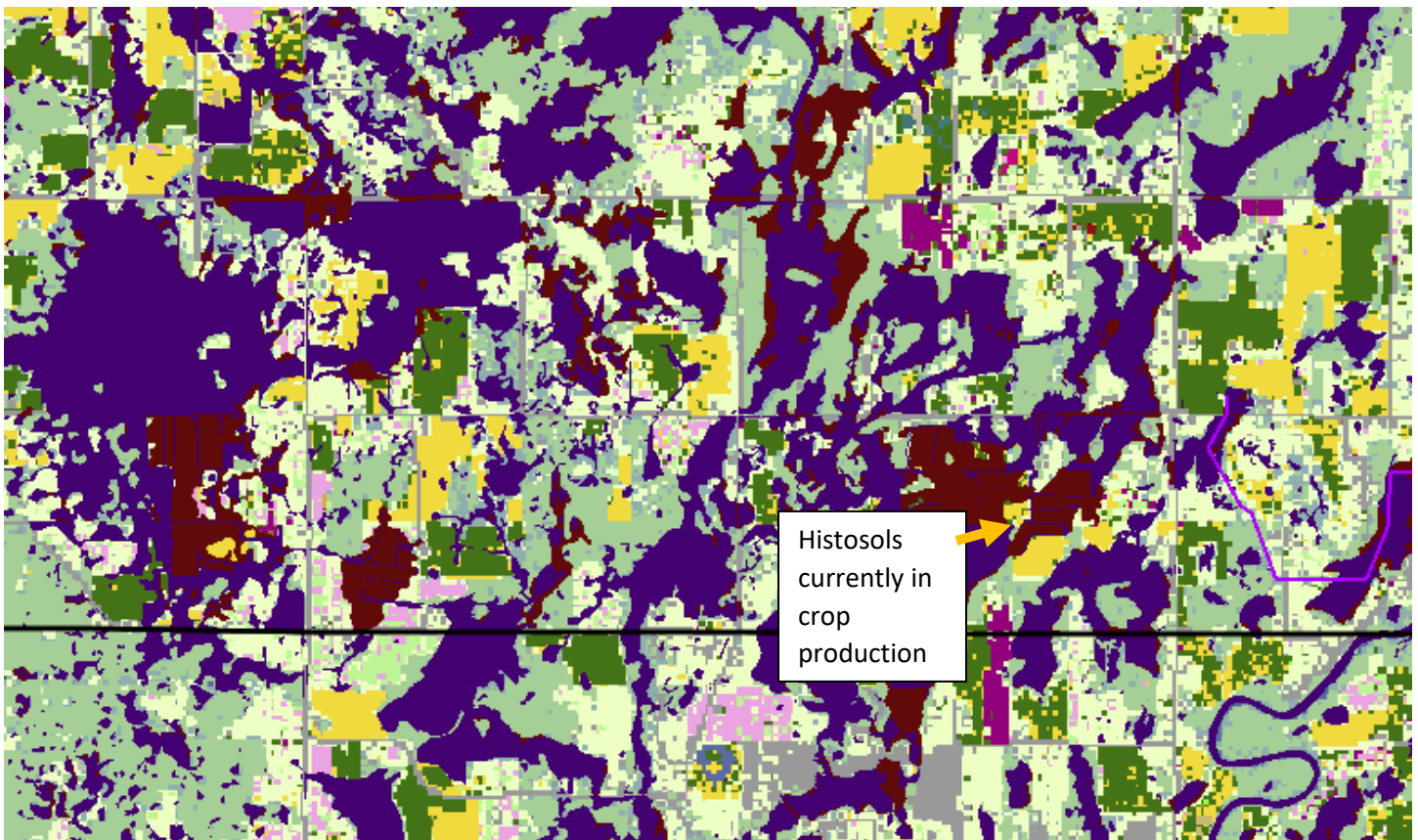
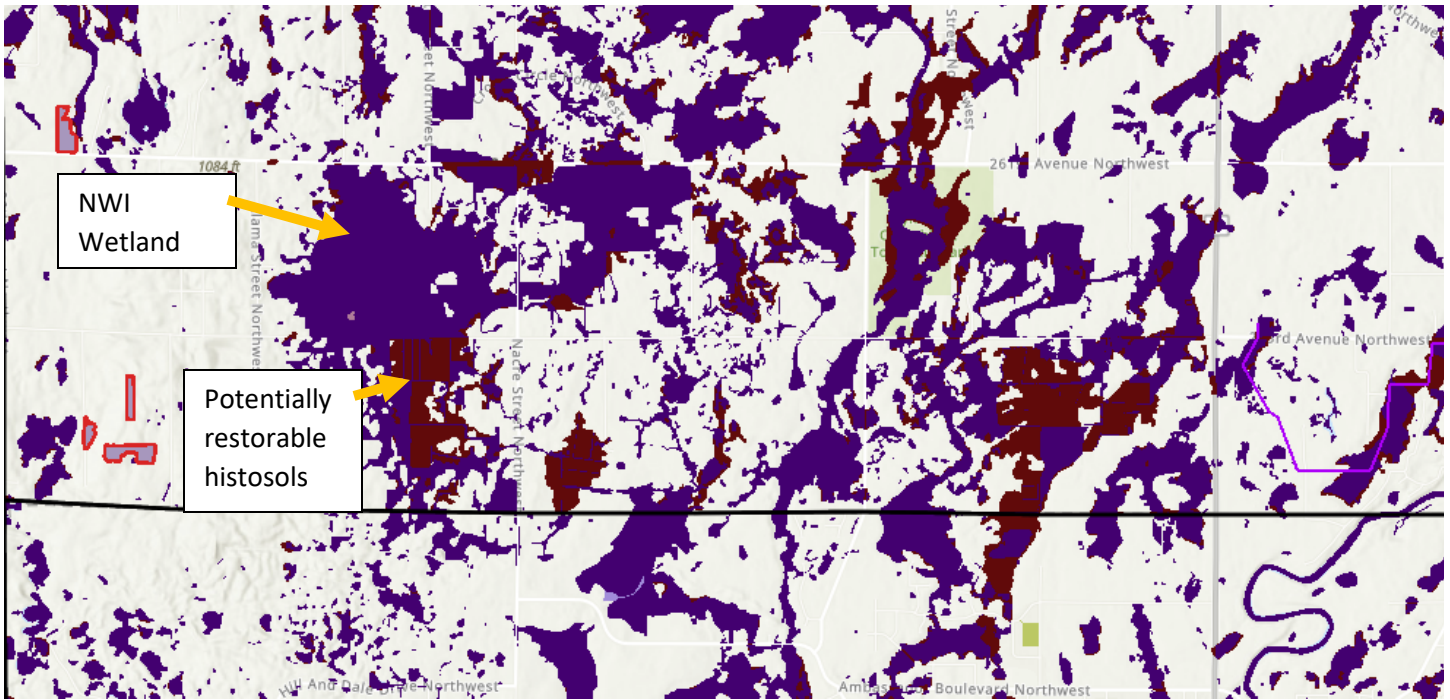


According to the Cropland Data Layer, many of these histosols were under cultivation in 2021, with corn, soybeans and sugar beets the primary crops. RIM easements already protect several large wetland complexes in this area.



Metro Exurbs – Rural Residential

Substantial areas of peatland soils are also found in Anoka and Isanti counties, as shown in this example along the county boundary north of St. Francis and west of the Rum River. Rural residential development is the most common land use in this area, with many protected wetlands and relatively small areas of cropland.



Northern Minnesota

Histosols are the dominant wetland soil type in much of northern Minnesota, as shown in this area around the city of Aitkin on the Upper Mississippi River. Note the wetland banking easements (outlined in yellow) as well as the scattered pattern of state trust lands. Land uses are predominantly forest and pastureland, with scattered areas planted in corn and soybeans. Note the grid-like pattern of drainage ditches, likely dating from the early 20th century.

