

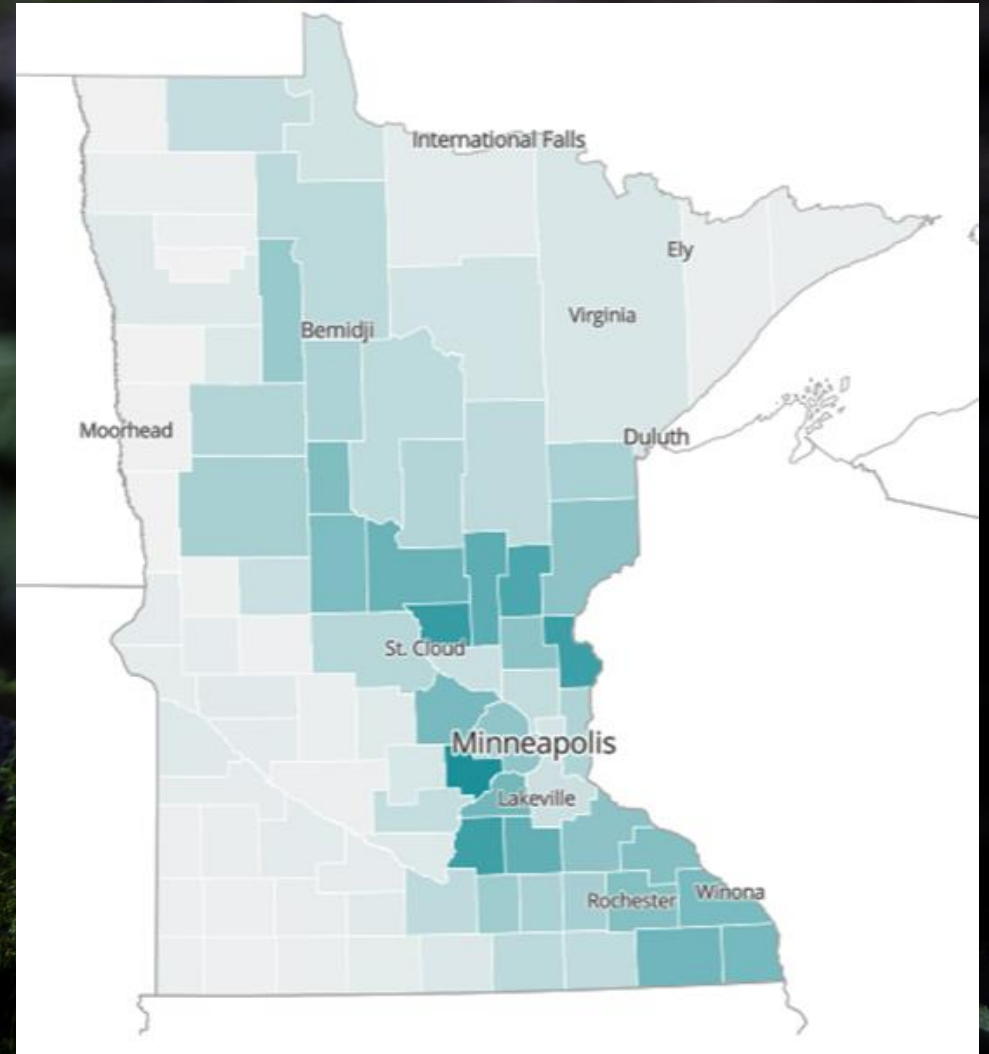




Minnesota Million: A Shared Vision for Reforestation

An Opportunity

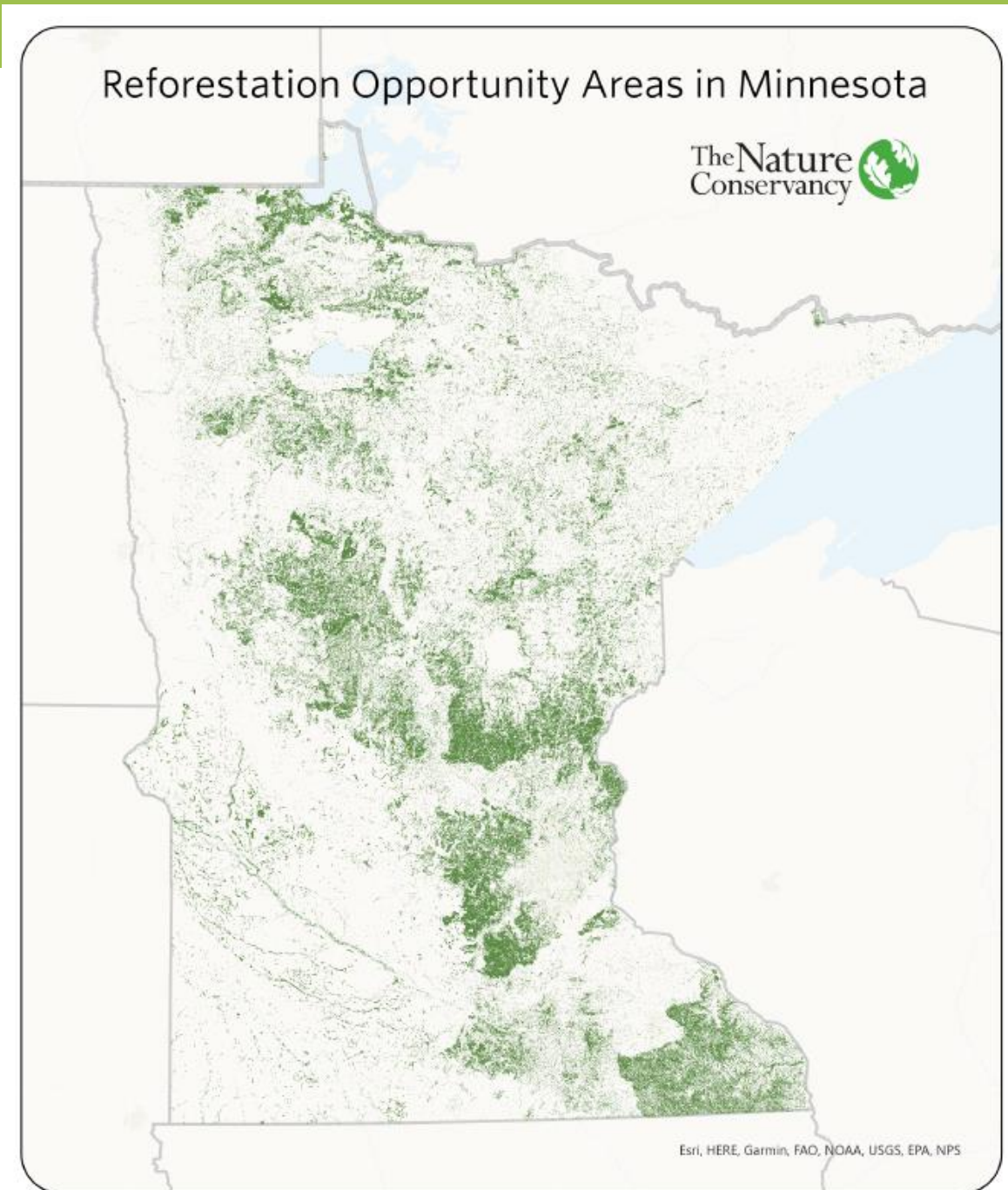
The Nature Conservancy's *Reforestation Hub* provides clarity into the statewide opportunity for Minnesota



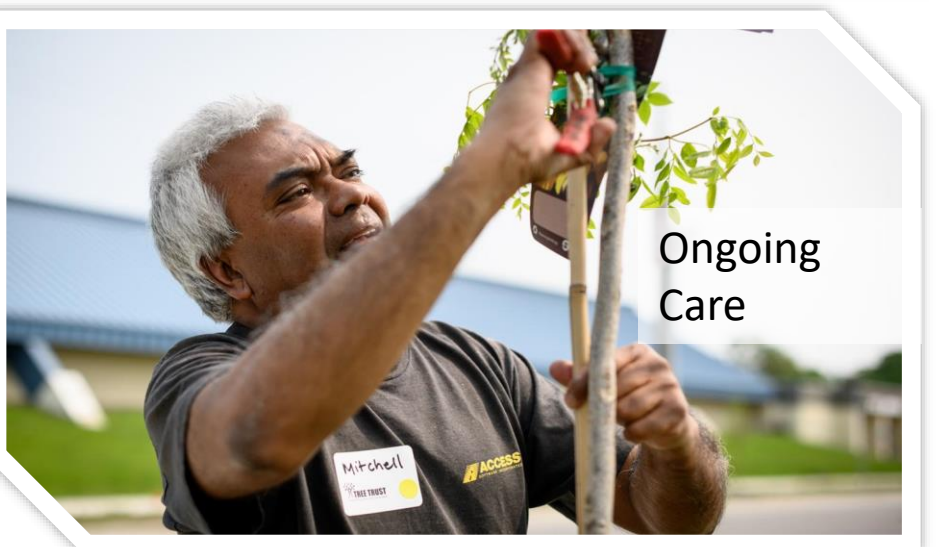
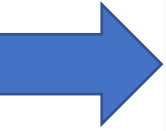
Where To Start?

1.19 Million Pasture- Areas of grasses, legumes, or grass-legume mixtures planted for grazing, seed production or hay crops. Opportunities that fall within pasture with soil types that constrain production.

398,000 Urban Open Space- Opportunities with some human construction (< 20% of cover), but mostly vegetative cover typically in the form of lawn grasses



1 Million Acres: What Will it Take?





Seed Collection

- Balancing getting ENOUGH seed with getting the RIGHT seed
- Support expansion and improvement of DNR collection systems
- Train trainers and recruit new collectors of all ages and experience levels – targeting geographies with the most need
- Connect collectors and collection sites with an app and database
- Map out pathways from seed to planted tree to better understand bottlenecks
- Work to understand market demands – species and genotypes
- Pilot additional resources for cleaning/storage

Seedling Production



- Better storage options for overwintering seedlings
- Support capacity increases for Tribal and private growers
- Technical assistance and mentorship opportunities
- Market research to understand demand dynamics around stock types
- Connect growers to local and appropriate markets

Outplanting

- Incentives for landowners – financial, emotional, intrinsic
- Technical assistance and planting plans
- Tree planting vendors
- Shared planting crews who can go where the needs are (public/private partnership opportunities?)
- Enough funding to promote good prep and maintenance for long term survival (herbivory protection, watering etc.)



Care and Tending

- The right tree for the right place
- Site appropriate herbivory considerations and protections
- Workforce development



\$4.9 Million USDA Award: Minnesota Climate Smart Seed and Seedling Production Network!!

- Training and hands on technical assistance to seed collectors and seedling producers
- Paid opportunities for seed collectors
- Sharing resources and knowledge
- Start up funding for new growers
- Expansion of farmer grower model
- Increased genetic and species diversity
- Marketing assistance



Nationwide USDA Agroforestry Award!

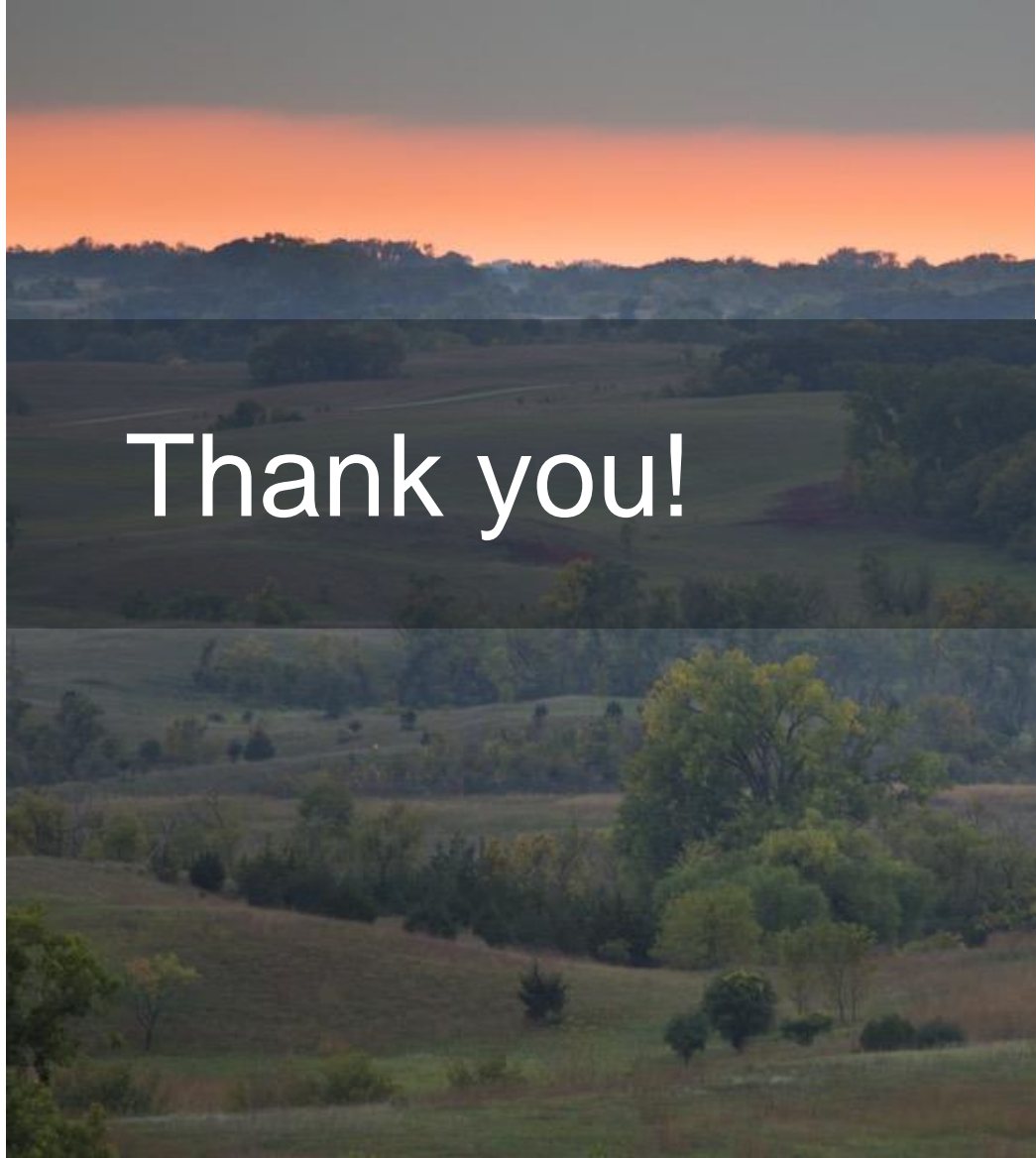
- Connect to demand for products grown as a part of the Climate Smart Seedling Production Network (previous slide)
- Promoting wind breaks, alley cropping, and silvopasture practices to private landowners throughout Southeastern MN



Questions for this group:

- Is ash underplanting or replacement reforestation?
- Can we measure the difference in carbon benefits between seedlings grown from seeds sourced from southern zones and conventionally sourced seeds?
- Are there programs in MN to collect and save ash seeds that we could support?





Thank you!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Mary Hammes

Mary.Hammes@tnc.org