From: Barrett, Molly (She/Her/Hers) (DNR)
To: Joyal, Lisa (DNR); Horton, Becky (DNR); Bump, Samantha (DNR); Drake, James F (DNR)
Subject: RE: Vitis aestivalis
Date: Thursday, March 26, 2026 2:27:15 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png

I'll try to remember this for the powerlines that Melissa mentioned below. I checked MCE, as Melissa stated, neither project has submitted.

There was a fiber project submitted in 2024 and is supposed to happen this summer.

- **Project ID:** 2024-00716
- **Project:** Dairyland Power Cooperative Q-7, N-134, N-53 Fiber Optic Project

No records of Vitis aestivalis : Silverleaf Grape | Rare Species Guide | Minnesota DNR within 1 mile of [redacted].

I'll send the incidental obs link to Welby and maybe the landowners can try again to submit the record.

Molly Barrett
Natural Heritage Review Specialist

From: Joyal, Lisa (DNR) <lisa.joyal@state.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 1:51 PM
To: Horton, Becky (DNR) <becky.horton@state.mn.us>; Bump, Samantha (DNR) <Samantha.Bump@state.mn.us>; Drake, James F (DNR) <James.F.Drake@state.mn.us>; Barrett, Molly (She/Her/Hers) (DNR) <Molly.Barrett@state.mn.us>
Subject: FW: Vitis aestivalis

Amanda is asking for a heads up if we require a survey in [redacted] of Winnebago Township (for a species that is not in the NHIS at this location) for a **765kV transmission line that will go across Houston County.** Not sure how we would track this, but here's a heads up with the hopes that it might spark a memory at the correct time…

From: Weise, Amanda (She/They) (DNR) <Amanda.Weise@state.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 12:39 PM
To: Collins, Melissa (DNR) <Melissa.Collins@state.mn.us>; Joyal, Lisa (DNR) <lisa.joyal@state.mn.us>; Smith, Welby R (DNR) <welby.smith@state.mn.us>; Henning-Randa, Bridget (DNR) <Bridget.Henning-Randa@state.mn.us>
Cc: Horton, Becky (DNR) <becky.horton@state.mn.us>; Bump, Samantha (DNR)

<Samantha.Bump@state.mn.us>
Subject: RE: Vitis aestivalis

Thanks everyone,

I will put this rare plant survey on my schedule for this year but hopefully it will come through MCE and a survey will be required, and a consultant will cover the area. Lisa, please keep me in the loop so I can take this off my workload if that comes about.

Best,
Amanda

Amanda K. Weise
Pronouns She/They
Regional Plant Ecologist (R3) |Division of Ecological and Water Resources
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
1200 Warner Road
St. Paul, MN 55106
Phone: 651-259-5793
Email: amanda.weise@state.mn.us

From: Collins, Melissa (DNR) <Melissa.Collins@state.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 12:33 PM
To: Joyal, Lisa (DNR) <lisa.joyal@state.mn.us>; Weise, Amanda (She/They) (DNR) <Amanda.Weise@state.mn.us>; Smith, Welby R (DNR) <welby.smith@state.mn.us>; Henning-Randa, Bridget (DNR) <Bridget.Henning-Randa@state.mn.us>
Cc: Horton, Becky (DNR) <becky.horton@state.mn.us>; Bump, Samantha (DNR) <Samantha.Bump@state.mn.us>
Subject: Re: Vitis aestivalis

Hi All,
There are two proposed 765 kV HVTL projects in the general area, Power On and Gopher to Badger. GtoB is planning to submit their route permit application late summer/early fall of this year. I don't think Power On will be submitting anything until 2027. Sam Bump and I initiated early coordination with GtoB a few weeks ago and stressed the level of coordination that would be needed with DNR for state-listed species, state-land crossings, and calcareous fens. Once they finalize the route alternatives they will submit to MCE.

Thanks,

Melissa Collins

Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist | Ecological and Water Resources
Pronouns: She/her/hers
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
1200 Warner Road
St. Paul, MN 55106
Phone: 651-259-5755
Email: melissa.collins@state.mn.us
mndnr.gov





From: Joyal, Lisa (DNR) <lisa.joyal@state.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 12:19 PM
To: Weise, Amanda (She/They) (DNR) <Amanda.Weise@state.mn.us>; Smith, Welby R (DNR) <welby.smith@state.mn.us>; Henning-Randa, Bridget (DNR) <Bridget.Henning-Randa@state.mn.us>; Collins, Melissa (DNR) <Melissa.Collins@state.mn.us>
Cc: Horton, Becky (DNR) <becky.horton@state.mn.us>
Subject: RE: Vitis aestivalis

A request for NH Review has not been submitted to MCE.

From: Weise, Amanda (She/They) (DNR) <Amanda.Weise@state.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 9:18 AM
To: Smith, Welby R (DNR) <welby.smith@state.mn.us>; Joyal, Lisa (DNR) <lisa.joyal@state.mn.us>; Henning-Randa, Bridget (DNR) <Bridget.Henning-Randa@state.mn.us>; Collins, Melissa (DNR) <Melissa.Collins@state.mn.us>
Cc: Horton, Becky (DNR) <becky.horton@state.mn.us>
Subject: RE: Vitis aestivalis

Hi Welby,

I might be able to cover this during my field season, but I am wondering if there is an active utility project that needs to be address before we can get out there ourselves. Do you feel like you can confirm the ID from the pictures shared by Deb? The images don't come through in my email unfortunately.

Bridget, Melissa, and Lisa – do we have an active utility project happening that needs to be address now? Has the ROW project been review for survey need?

'765kV transmission line that will go across Houston County if approved. The route will cross

our property following the right of way of a 161kV line. On the edge of the present right of way is a large population of Vitis aestivalis which would be negatively impacted by the increased ROW '

Location is here: "[redacted] of Winnebago Township, Houston Co. If you look on Beacon, you can match the parcel numbers with those on the photo."

I assume somewhere in here [redacted]



Amanda K. Weise
Pronouns She/They
Regional Plant Ecologist (R3) | Division of Ecological and Water Resources
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
1200 Warner Road
St. Paul, MN 55106
Phone: 651-259-5793
Email: amanda.weise@state.mn.us

From: Smith, Welby R (DNR) <welby.smith@state.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 8:53 AM

To: Weise, Amanda (She/They) (DNR) <Amanda.Weise@state.mn.us>
Subject: Fw: Vitis aestivalis

Hi Amanda,

Is this something you might be able to undertake? If not, I will try Mike or Derek.

welby

From: Deb Wray [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 6:24 PM
To: Smith, Welby R (DNR) <welby.smith@state.mn.us>
Subject: Re: Vitis aestivalis

Hi Welby,

What do you think about this powerline situation? Would the DNR advocate to protect listed Threatened Species? Would someone like to come down and document this population?

Charlie Wray
Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 19, 2026, at 7:33 PM, Smith, Welby R (DNR) <welby.smith@state.mn.us> wrote:
>
> Hi Charlie,
>
> The photos came through fine, but I don't seem to find an attachment with a map.
>
> welby
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Charlie & Deb Wray [redacted]
> **Sent:** Thursday, March 19, 2026 5:51 PM
> **To:** Smith, Welby R (DNR) <welby.smith@state.mn.us>
> **Subject:** Re: Vitis aestivalis
>
> You don't often get email from [redacted].
> Learn why this is important

Hi Welby,

Attached is an aerial photo with the vine population location in pink. They are in [redacted] of Winnebago Township, Houston Co. If you look on Beacon, you can match the parcel numbers with those on the photo.

Charlie Wray

<image0.jpeg>
<image1.jpeg>
<image2.jpeg>
<image3.jpeg>

On Fri, Mar 13, 2026 at 9:32 AM Smith, Welby R (DNR) <welby.smith@state.mn.us> wrote:

> Hi Deb,
>
> Is it possible to send us the location of the Vitis aestivalis? If you have a photo of the occurrence that would also help.
>
> Welby Smith
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Deb Wray <[redacted]>
> **Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2026 10:51 AM
> **To:** Smith, Welby R (DNR) <welby.smith@state.mn.us>
> **Subject:** Vitis aestivalis
>
> [You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]
>
> This message may be from an external email source.
> Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.
>
> _____
>
> Hi Mr. Smith,

We are residents and landowners in Houston County whose property was surveyed in the 1990s as part of the MBS. You may or may not be aware of a proposed 765kV transmission line that will go across Houston County if approved. The route will cross our property following the right of way of a 161kV line. On the edge of the present right of way is a large population of Vitis aestivalis which would be negatively impacted by the increased ROW width and possibly by the large amount of energy shed by these massive high power lines. I don't believe these vines were ever documented in the 90s and I don't believe that the Department of Commerce or whatever entity will be tasked with determining negative environmental impacts will believe my identification. This brings me to my question; would the MN DNR send someone down to document the population?

Regards

Charlie and Deb Wray
Caledonia, MN
Sent from my iPhone