With a service area spanning 11 counties in northeast Michigan, how should HWLC focus our land protection efforts? In 2016, HWLC decided to do a Priority Parcel Analysis for each of our counties, beginning with Otsego and Crawford. Over the past year, superstar volunteer Jim Kurbel prepared the analysis for Ogemaw County. Using ArcGIS mapping software, each privately owned parcel in the county was assigned a score based on parcel size, wetlands, riparian frontage, proximity to protected land, and likelihood of rare species. Our goal is to contact the landowners of the most ecologically significant parcels, introduce them to HWLC, and encourage them to consider a Conservation Easement donation.

On the map to the right, light green parcels are protected land (state and federal forestland and HWLC conservation easements). The white parcels are agricultural and were ranked separately.

**2019 Schedule of Events**

May 18-Bird & Wildlife @ Wakeley Lake-Grayling

September-Mushroom Hike @ Sturgeon River Preserve

October 12-Fall Color Hike @ Groen Preserve-Johannesburg

Call 989-731-0573 or visit our website at:

www.headwatersconservancy.org