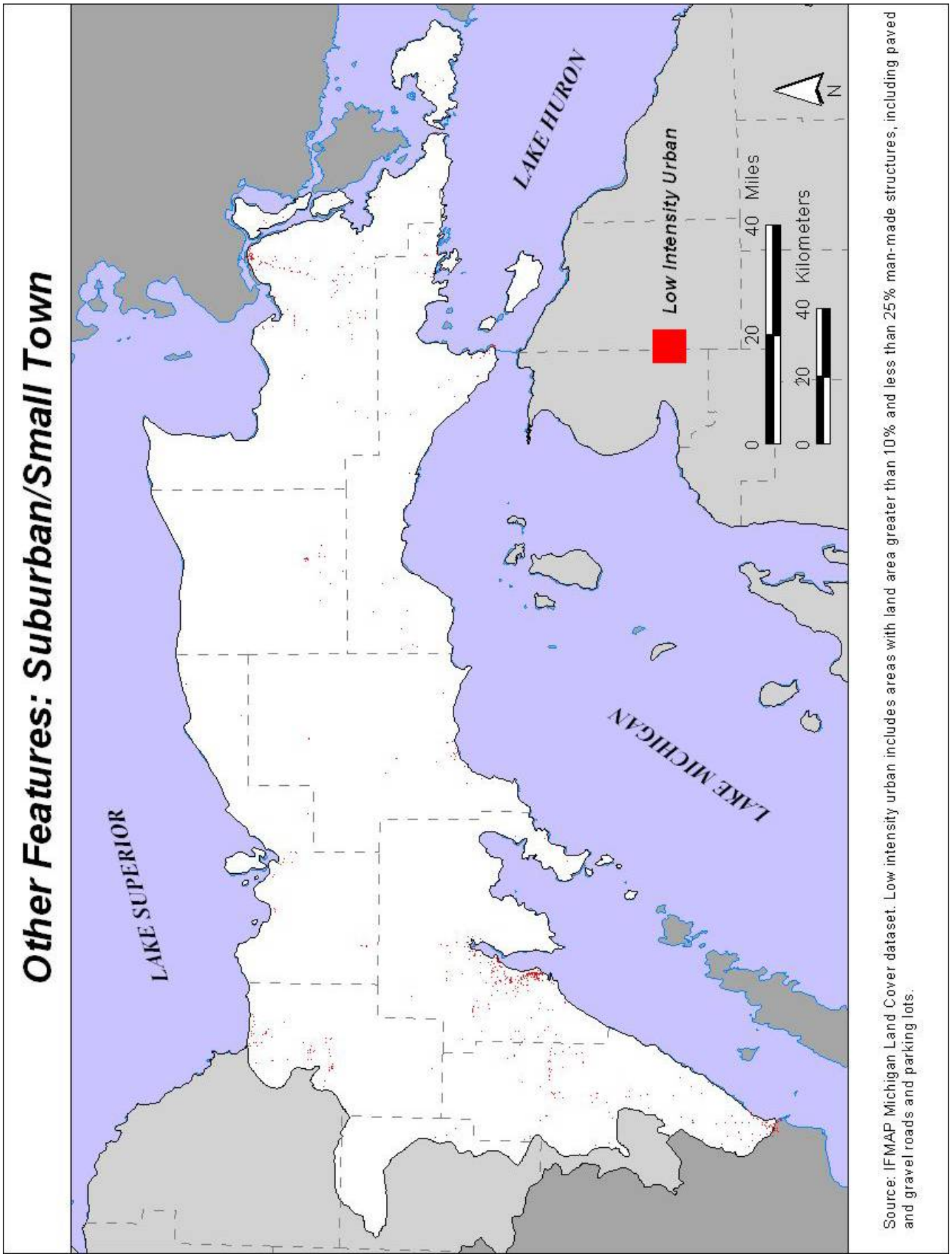
Other Features: Suburban/Small Town
LAKE SUPERIOR
LAKE MICHIGAN
LAKE HURON
Low Intensity Urban
N
0
20
40 Miles
0
20
40 Kilometers
Source: IFMAP Michigan Land Cover dataset. Low intensity urban includes areas with land area greater than 10% and less than 25% man-made structures, including paved and gravel roads and parking lots.

Other Features: Suburban/small town

Description

Suburban areas are those areas where 10-25% of the structures are man-made (e.g., parking lots, buildings).

General Condition of Feature

While many small towns and suburban areas provide habitat for some wildlife, including some SGCN, many areas are highly modified and provide little wildlife habitat.

Associated Natural Communities

N/A – No defined natural communities

Associated Species of Greatest Conservation Need

AMPHIBIANS
- blue-spotted salamander *(Ambystoma laterale)*
- eastern tiger salamander *(Ambystoma tigrinum tigrinum)*
- northern leopard frog *(Rana pipiens)*

REPTILES
- western fox snake *(Elaphe vulpina)*
- Blanding's turtle *(Emydoidea blandingii)*

BIRDS
- Peregrine Falcon *(Falco peregrinus)*

BIRDS cont.
- Killdeer *(Charadrius vociferus)*
- Upland Sandpiper *(Bartramia longicauda)*
- Common Nighthawk *(Chordeiles minor)*
- Northern Flicker *(Colaptes auratus)*
- Purple Martin *(Progne subis)*
- Northern Mockingbird *(Mimus polyglottos)*

MAMMALS
- red bat *(Lasiurus borealis)*
- hoary bat *(Lasiurus cinereus)*

Associated Threats

MODIFICATION OF NATURAL PROCESSES
- Grazing and mowing patterns

POLLUTION
- Pesticides and herbicides

CONSUMPTIVE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCE USE
- Removal of wildlife: Young boys in rural communities often use wildlife for target practice using BB guns or other recreational firearms.

BIOLOGICAL INTERACTIONS
- Invasive plants and animals: House cats and other pets may pose a threat to local wildlife communities.
- Disease, pathogens, and parasites: Unsanitary feeders may aid in the transmission of disease.

EDUCATION
- Social attitudes: There is a lack of education of private landowners about management options which are available to them.

Conservation Actions Needed [Threats addressed]

LAND, WATER & SPECIES MANAGEMENT
- Manage to approximate natural disturbance regimes using controlled mowing. [Grazing and mowing patterns]
- Institute invasive species monitoring, prevention and control programs. [Invasive plants and animals]
- Institute disease monitoring and control programs. [Disease, pathogens, and parasites]

EDUCATION & AWARENESS
- Create awareness in the general public of wildlife habitat creation and maintenance options available to small landowners. [Removal of wildlife; Social attitudes]
- Encourage the use of greenways and rivers and other significant natural features.

Research and Survey Needs
- Develop models that predict urban growth and its impacts on wildlife.
- Evaluate land management and development practices within suburban settings to determine methods that minimize impacts on wildlife.
- Assess the impact of contaminants on wildlife. Which contaminants are present and in what concentrations? Does the reaction vary by species?
- Evaluate the impact on wildlife populations of collisions, both with stationary and mobile objects.
- Evaluate the impact on wildlife of light pollution. Do different wavelengths have different effects? Do effects vary by species? Are there other characteristics of artificial light which are important to wildlife behavior and the value of urban systems to wildlife?
- Assess the biological and chemical composition of effluent and run-off that is generated in suburban systems. How does this effect the value to wildlife of these systems?

- Examine the status of wildlife corridors in suburban systems. How large do they need to be? How far may isolated patches of greenspace be separated before individuals require connecting habitat to travel between them? Are there characteristics of corridors which increase their value to wildlife?

Monitoring

- Track the intensity and distribution of development in suburban systems.
- Track changes to local zoning and planning ordinances.