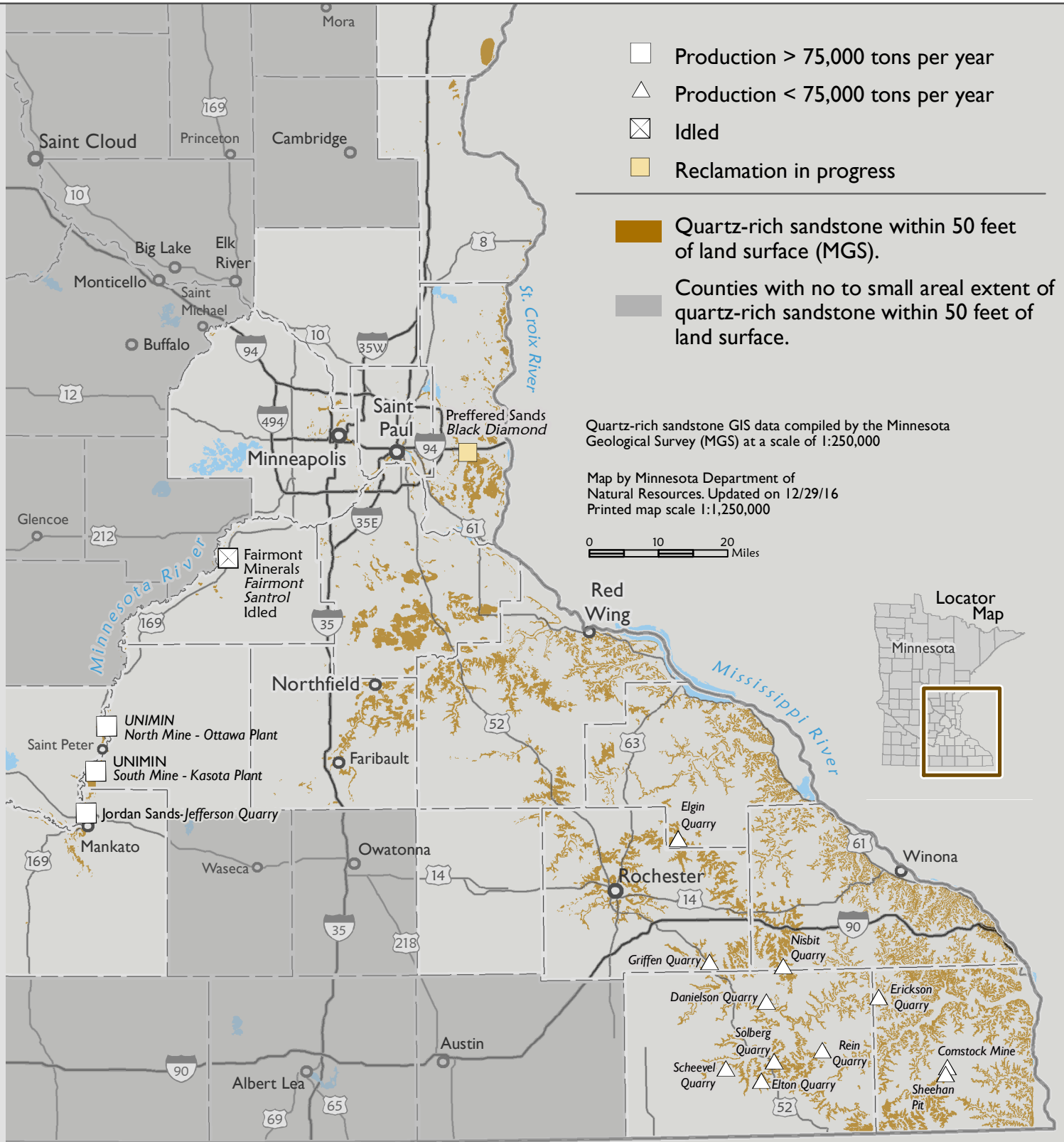


# Silica Sand Mines in Minnesota

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**Explanation for MGS map contribution:**

This map represents some of the geologic conditions relevant to extraction of quartz-rich sandstone. Viability of extraction is also dependent on many other factors, including detailed geologic conditions at individual sites, proximity to bulk transportation, current land ownership and use, market prices, and regulatory requirements. This map should not be used for site-specific decisions.

Depth to bedrock information used to construct this map is currently in draft form for a concurrent regional mapping project. Review and editing of this data for eventual publication may result in changes to content.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this map is to show the distribution of silica sand mines and quartz-rich sandstone, within 50 feet of land surface. There is an over representation of the quartz-rich sandstone displayed on the map due to the printed map scale.

**GIS Sources:**

Silica Sand mines from Minnesota DNR as of December 2016. Quartz-rich sandstone GIS data compiled by the Minnesota Geological Survey (MGS) as of February 2013. Scale of the compiled GIS data is 1:250,000. Regional Trade Centers/Cities and Interstate and U.S. Trunk Highways from Minnesota Department of Transportation. County Boundaries from DNR Division of Lands and Minerals. Water bodies greater than 2,000 acres from MN DNR 100K Hydrography Dataset.