

Deborah Loots, 9308 Wyoming Ave., Bloomington, MN 55438

Hi Deborah,

At the Lake Association meeting on June 23, 2013 I told you I had your e-mail address. It turns out to be your mailing address.

The enclosed are copies of maps showing what I feel comprises almost all of the Sand Lake drainage that feeds the Lake and thus the creek. It comprises four areas which should release water into culverts and eventually into the lake. The culverts are marked by numbers in red.

1. The Buck Lake culvert drains the area north of Birch Haven Road and south of County Rd. X.
2. The West Hertel culvert drains the area south of Birch Haven Road and north of Highway 70 and west of County Rd. X.
3. The Highway 70 culvert drains the area south of State Hwy. 70 and north of Vesley Road.
4. The Cranberry Marsh Lake Road culvert should drain everything East of Cranberry Marsh Road and South of Highway 70 and N. of Vesley Rd. It doesn't. Flow out of that culvert is zero.

I believe the area north of Highway 70, culvert number one and number two, are flowing normally.

The area south of Highway 70, culvert number three, is no longer part of the drainage. This is because nothing drains out of Warner Lake, under Highway 70, into Sand Lake. I believe this is the result of raising the elevation of the outlet culvert from Warner Lake. This eliminated any drainage out of Warner Lake under Warner Lake Road and into Sand Lake.

Another factor is the drainage into Warner Lake thru culvert number four has been intentionally changed by man, and now flows south under Vesley Rd. and into Pokegama Lake. Culvert number four, feeding Warner Lake, has zero flow. All flow is south to Pokegama Lake.

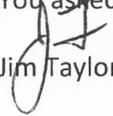
I don't think the reasons are complicated. Consider the fact the last application to place a culvert under Sand Lake Road filed in 1988 listed the drainage area as [Lake area of 1400 acres x 2]. My calculation, taken from the enclosed map is 8400 acres. Total area of 8400 less 2800 stated on the application leaves the 1988 application 5600 acres short in listing the drainage area. Assuming the culvert was sized to fit the drainage area stated on the application should we be surprised the Lake "overtop's" the road frequently? The 1988 culvert was too small for the drainage area.

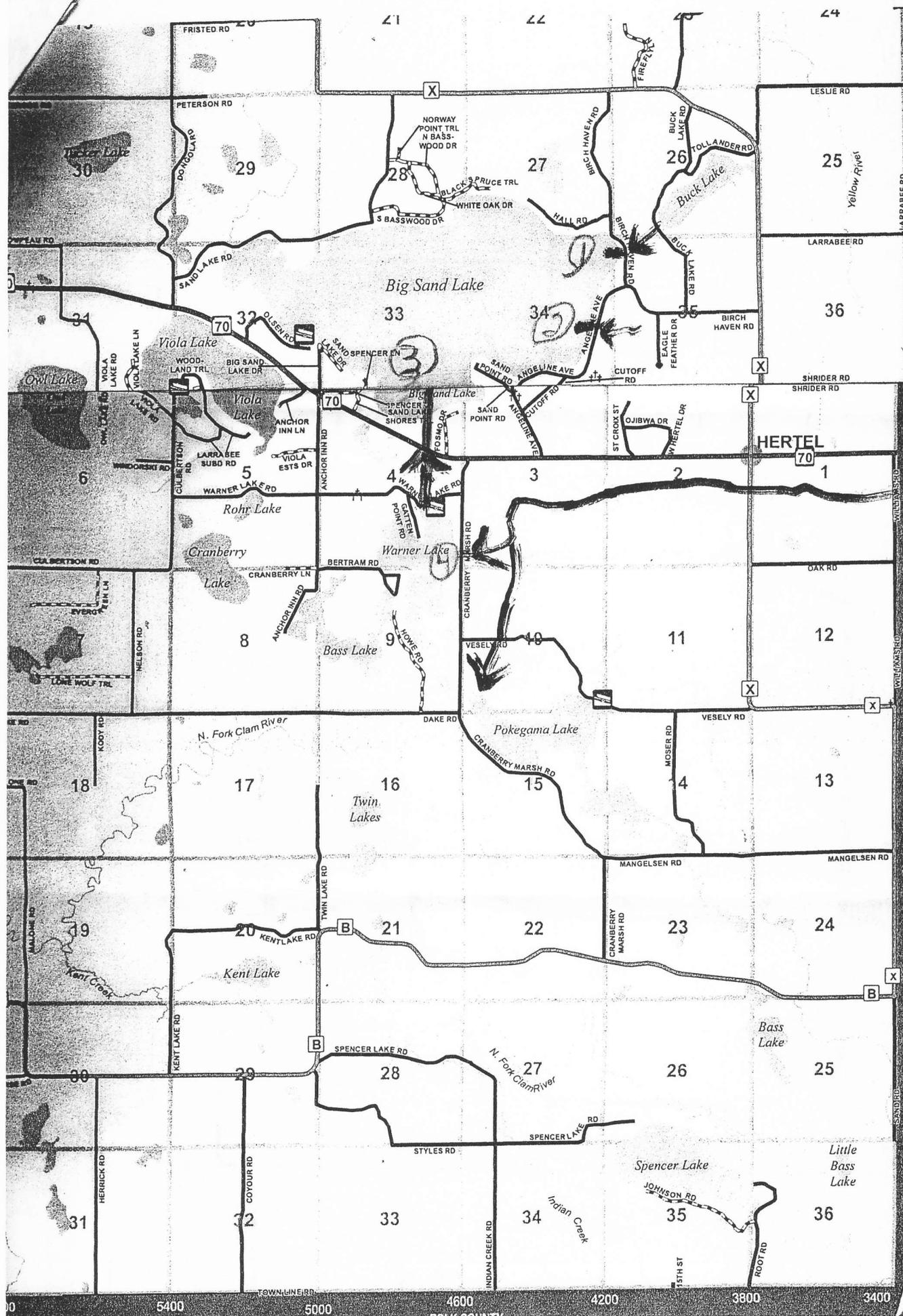
Maybe I am too cynical. Poll the riparian owners on Warner Lake and you will find they are happy with a high and constant Lake level. Poll the riparian owners on Sand Lake and they are happy with a high and constant Lake level. Like the man at the Association meeting stated, he can now get his pontoon in and out without a problem. Maybe the people don't understand that flow is integral to water quality and habitat. Food sources, spawning areas and migration paths of fish and other wildlife are all affected and defined by stream flow and velocity. Velocity and flow together determine the kinds of organisms that can live in the stream. Altered flows can negatively affect an entire echo system by upsetting habitats and organisms dependent on natural flow rates. The tribe is aware the altered flow has destroyed more

than 60 acres of timber but has remained docile about this loss. It occurred in small increments over 20 years until the latest plat book now shows a lake where prime spruce once stood.

And finally this gets us to the basic divide between the Lake Association and the Indian community. The Tribe wants a natural stream flow. They do not want any interference of any kind with the watershed and thus the stream flow out of Sand Lake. This is the basic reason they will contribute to that 8 foot wide box culvert but they will not contribute to something that restricts natural stream flow. They believe the idea that a natural flow will cause the Lake to recede to the extent the riparian owners will lose the use of the Lake, is nonsense. That idea describes a problem that can be cured by reversing policies and restricting stream flow if their worst fear comes true. Restricting stream flow that reduces water quality and changes habitat and the entire echo system is likely to be irreversible. If a longer dock is required they expect the riparian owners to use a longer dock. They recognize that the Lake will fluctuate. They believe evaporation and precipitation are a wash. They expect lake levels to decline during August and September. That is a natural occurrence on almost all free flow lakes. They believe people can adjust to different Lake levels easier than the Lake can adjust to man-made control of water levels.

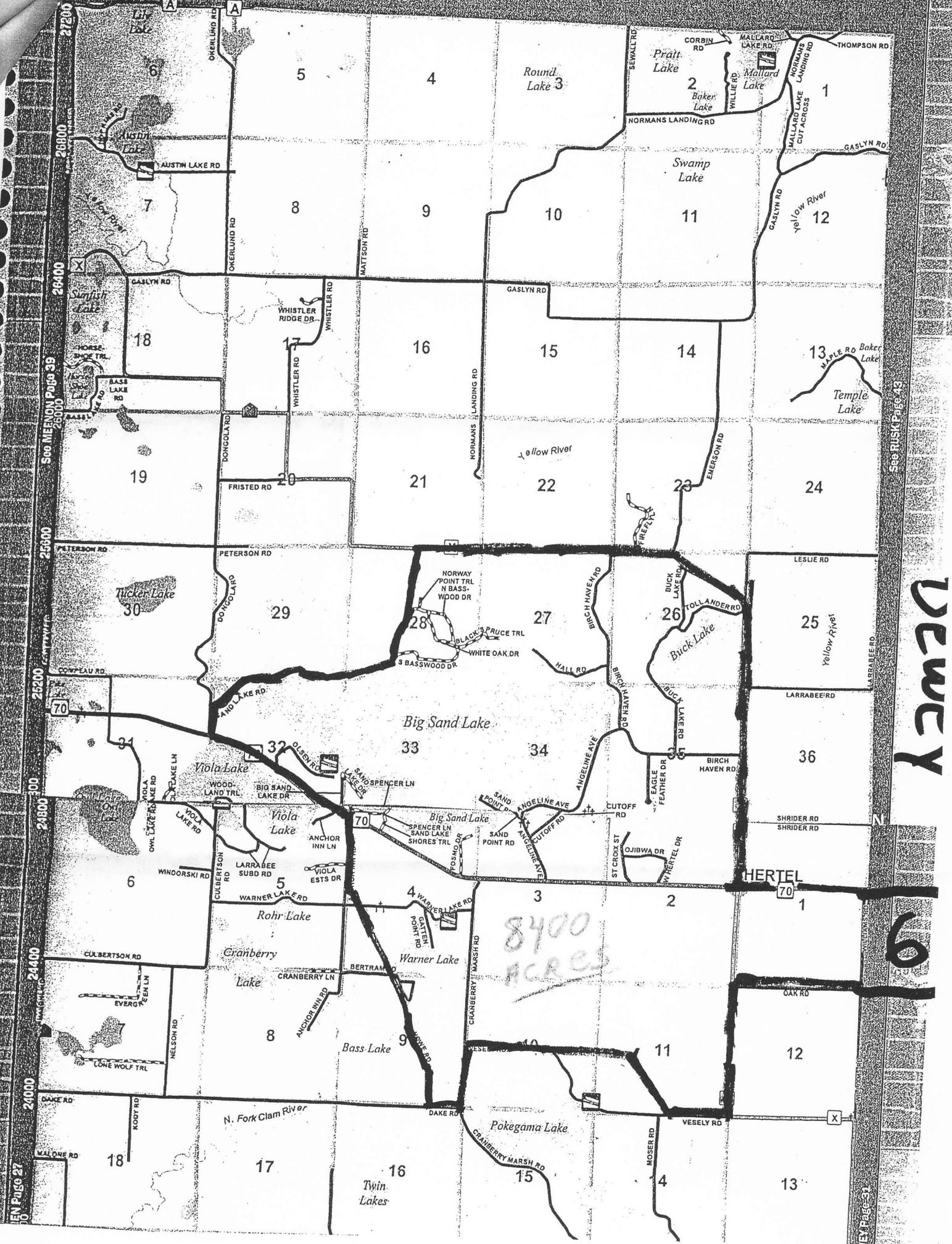
You asked for a description of watershed input. You did not ask for all the gibberish. Sorry.

  
Jim Taylor sandptak@starwire.net



See DEWEY Page 31





Dewey

6

8400 ACRES

EN Page 27

LEV PAGE 31

T 38 N

18 00

Poke game  
Lake

Bass Lake

Warner's  
Lake

Cranberry  
Lake

Viola  
Lake

Big Sand Lake

HERTEL

Wisc 70

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16

992.0

