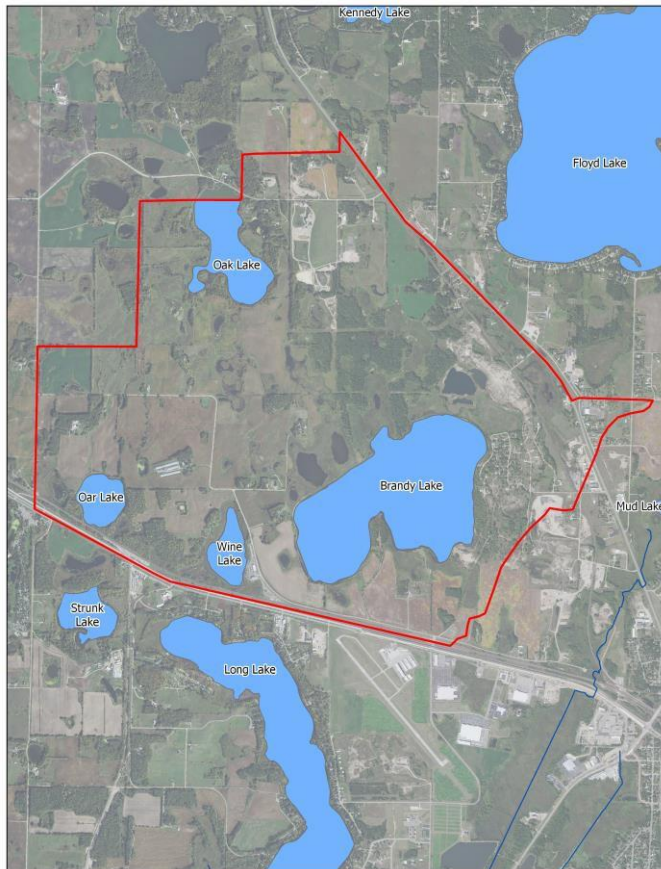


## Brandy LWQMA



**Figure 5-7. Brandy LWQMA.**

The Brandy LWQMA contains about 3,000 acres (**Figure 5-7**). Four named exist within this area, Brandy, Wine, Oak and Oar, although several very small unnamed lakes and wetlands also dot the LWQMA. Brandy Lake is the largest lake, at 323 acres. The other lakes are smaller and have small watersheds.

Land in the Brandy LWQMA is mostly used for cultivated crops or pasture. Shoreline along the lakes is mostly undeveloped. This is partly because the shallow nature of these lakes makes them ill-suited for recreation. Approximately 10 percent of the LWQMA is owned by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Water quality of Brandy Lake has improved in recent years and has gone from eutrophic to meeting water quality standards. Brandy has a small inlet with surface drainage that originates near a former Becker County landfill. Water quality improvements may have to do with remediation of this former landfill, where groundwater is currently

extracted, aerated, and then discharged to Brandy Lake as part of remediation procedures. Wine Lake is a shallow lake and is listed as impaired due to excess nutrients. It has average annual phosphorus concentrations of 87 ug/L, which is well above the shallow lake standard of 60 ug/L. A TMDL study will be completed by the MPCA and the District. At present, no data has been collected for the other lakes in this LWQMA. However, it seems the health of all the lakes in this LWQMA is impacted by the shallowness of the lakes and past and present land-use practices. The District's main goals for the Brandy LWQMA are to improve Wine Lake's water quality so that it is removed from the MPCA's impaired waters list and to monitor and maintain the good water quality on Brandy Lake.