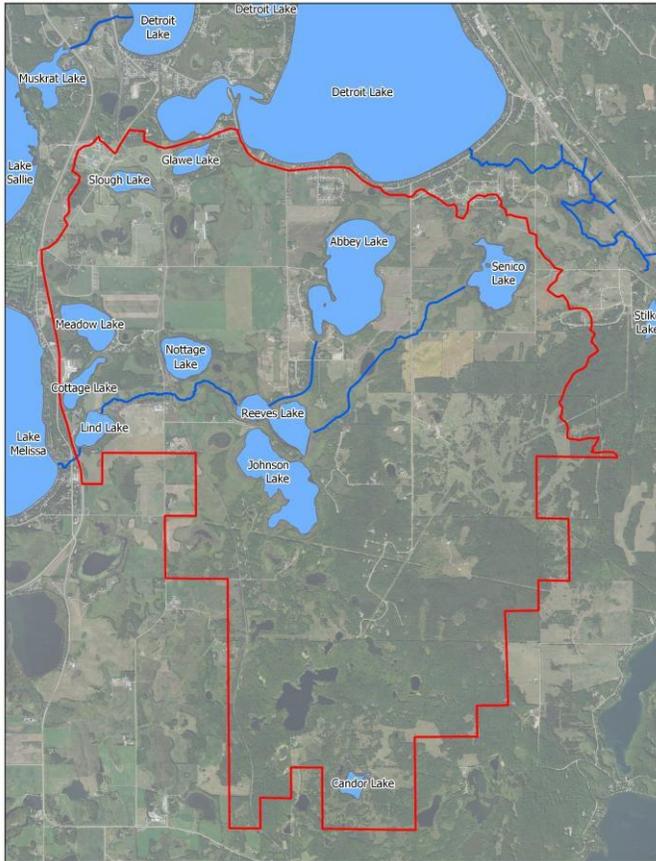


## Small Lakes LWQMA



**Figure 5-9. Small Lakes LWQMA.**

The Small Lakes LWQMA consists of about 11,000 acres in the southeastern corner of the District (**Figure 5-9**). This LWQMA extends into Ottertail County and contains numerous small lakes and wetland areas. Lakes within this area include Johnson, Reeves, Abbey, Meadow, Lind, Nottage, Senico (also known as Senical), Slough, Cottage, and Glawe. Many of the lakes are connected by means of wetlands, and the overall drainage of the area is indistinct.

Land use in this LWQMA can be roughly divided into the northwest half and the southeast half. The northwest half of the LWQMA contains significant agricultural areas, as well as most of the lakes and wetlands in the LWQMA. The southeast half of the LWQMA is mostly forested with steep slopes. Less than 2 percent of the LWQMA is covered by impervious surface, and most lakes have relatively high watershed to lake ratios. The shorelines of the lakes in this LWQMA are sparsely settled but have recently seen more development interest.

Johnson and Reeves Lakes, in particular, have experienced some development

pressures. The north area of Reeves Lake was recently platted for residential development. However, the lot sizes are large and have significant wetland shoreline fringes.

Water quality data has been collected since 1998 for Abbey, Meadow, Johnson and Reeves Lakes. Water quality data was collected for Glawe in 2006 through 2009, 2013 and 2017. These lakes all exhibit good water quality, with Abbey being the exception. Abbey is shallow and has been impacted by agricultural practices in the past. That said, in 2018, Abbey's water quality was substantially improved from past years, although the cause of this change is unknown. Senico and Slough have not been sampled but seem to be in similar condition to the lakes listed above.

Lind Lake was monitored in 2015 and in 2018 and according to the data, does not have good water quality. It is suspected that agricultural land use, cattle grazing and internal sediment loading area all contributing to poor overall water quality conditions. Lind drains into Melissa Lake in the Sallie-Melissa LWQMA. Meadow Lake is of special interest because of it is very deep, possessing a maximum depth of 72 feet. Meadow Lake has very good water quality and is a designated trout lake. There is some development on the lake, including a resort.

The District's main goal for this LWQMA is to monitor and maintain water quality on monitored lakes and acquire information about currently unmonitored lakes.