TOWN OF LAFOLLETTE

LAND USE PLAN

JUNE 2003

PREPARED BY:
NORTHWEST REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

CONTACT WITH DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & NWRPC

In October of 1999, the Town of LaFollette received a grant from the Department of Natural Resource's Lake Protection Program to complete a Land Use Plan for the town. LaFollette contracted with Northwest Regional Planning Commission to assist in the development of the plan. A Land Use Planning Committee was formed to assist in the creation of the plan and to provide valuable input about the community's character and vision.

PLAN CONTENTS

This land use plan contains six chapters: Chapter 1: Introduction, describes the planning process and history of the area; Chapter 2: Population & Housing, provides general information on the latest census data, and trends; Chapter 3: Natural & Cultural Resources, contains general background data on various environmental features and water resources in the town; Chapter 4: Land Use, describes the current land use in the town, ownership, and tax parcel trends; Chapter 5: Issues & Goal Development, summarizes the survey results and lists the goals and objectives of the plan; and Chapter 6: Recommendations, lists proposed recommendations with a future land use map.

PLANNING PROCESS

In August 1999, the state legislature passed a law stating that all municipalities that make land use decisions must base those decisions on a comprehensive plan adopted by the town board by January 1, 2010. This land use plan will not be a "Smart Growth" comprehensive plan but will form a basis for completing a future plan compliant with the state statues 66.1001. This will be LaFollette's first land use plan.

The general planning process consists of four main steps. Initially, public input is gathered by completing a survey, doing a nominal group process, or a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis. This info is used to put together a series of goals and objectives for the town, which provides a basis for the development of the plan.

The second stage, inventory and interpretation, starts with the collection of background data for the various elements of the plan. Existing demographic, environmental, economic, and public service information is analyzed to identify trends and potential threats.

The third stage is the development of a future plan. Using the public input and background data, a long-range plan is developed that is used to guide future growth. This plan is presented to public officials, as well as citizens for review and comment. These comments are considered for the final recommendations of the plan.

The fourth and final stage is the establishment of tools necessary for the implementation of the plan. These tools can be regulatory or non-regulatory and may include creation or revision of a zoning ordinance, public education, or a sub-division ordinance.

In July of 2002, 609 surveys were sent out to the landowners of the Town of LaFollette. This survey was intended to get a feel for how the town felt on a variety of issues. Two hundred five were returned for a response rate of 34 percent. Some of the key issues of the survey were zoning, restrictions on billboards, commercial and industrial locations, non-licensed cars and junk in yards, night lighting, the adequacy of town services, and the use of all types of recreational vehicles. The full results of the survey can be found in Appendix A.

HISTORY OF BURNETT COUNTY & THE TOWN OF LaFOLLETTE

The area presently comprising the Town of LaFollette, is known to have been inhabited as early as 800 B.C. by Middle Woodland and Late Woodland Native American culture groups. The region later was inhabited by members of the Ojibwe (Chippewa), and Dakota (Sioux) who took advantage of the area's abundant fish and game. The first European presence in the area would have been French explorers and fur traders arriving via the St. Croix River valley down from Lake Superior to the Mississippi River. Early French explorers in the area include Pierre-Esprit Radisson and Medart Chouart, Sieur des Groseillers (1658-1661), and Daniel Greysolon and Sieur du Luht (1679-1680). French control of the area lasted from the mid-1600's to 1763 when the British assumed dominance in North America. Much like the French, the English maintained close ties to the native people for the fur trade and established a series of forts and trading posts. The most prominent of these sites in proximity to the planning area was constructed in 1804-05 by the Northwest Company and XY Company near the confluence of the Yellow and St. Croix Rivers and is today the site of Fort Folle Avoine Historic Site.

The early 1800's saw the decline of the fur trade and the first few settlers arriving in the areas; but it was not until the Ojibwe title to the land was extinguished in 1842 that the number of settlers began to increase. Although Wisconsin attained statehood in 1848, it was not until the late 1870's and early 1880's that vital rail links made their way into the northern part of the state that full-scale immigrant settlement, the growth of the lumbering industry, and development of agriculture began to take place.

On June 18, 2001, an F3 tornado ripped through the town. The tornado traveled from Grantsburg to three miles west of Spooner. The path went through the northern part of LaFollette near Hertel; however, no damage was done there. In total, the tornado destroyed 140,000 acres of forest. The average width of the path was ¼ mile and the average ground speed was 40 miles per hour.

County and Town Formation

Burnett County was created on January 1, 1865 from portions of northern Polk and southern Douglas Counties. When the county was created, one single town, Grantsburg encompassed the entire county. In 1875, the first split was made and three towns were developed. Over the next 40 years, 18 more towns were created to bring the total to the present 21 towns and 3 villages.

The Town of LaFollette was created in 1901 from the Town of Wood Lake. It originally started out bigger than the present, covering approximately 72 square miles. In 1915, when the Town of Sand Lake was created, LaFollette was at its present size and location. In 1918, the town stopped dividing to look like it does today.

CHAPTER 2: POPULATION & HOUSING

INTRODUCTION

Population is a primary method to track a town's past growth as well as predict future trends. Population characteristics directly influence a town's housing, educational, recreational, and community facilities and services. This chapter is intended to look at past growth and predict future population trends in both population and housing characteristics.

HISTORICAL POPULATION & POPULATION PROJECTIONS

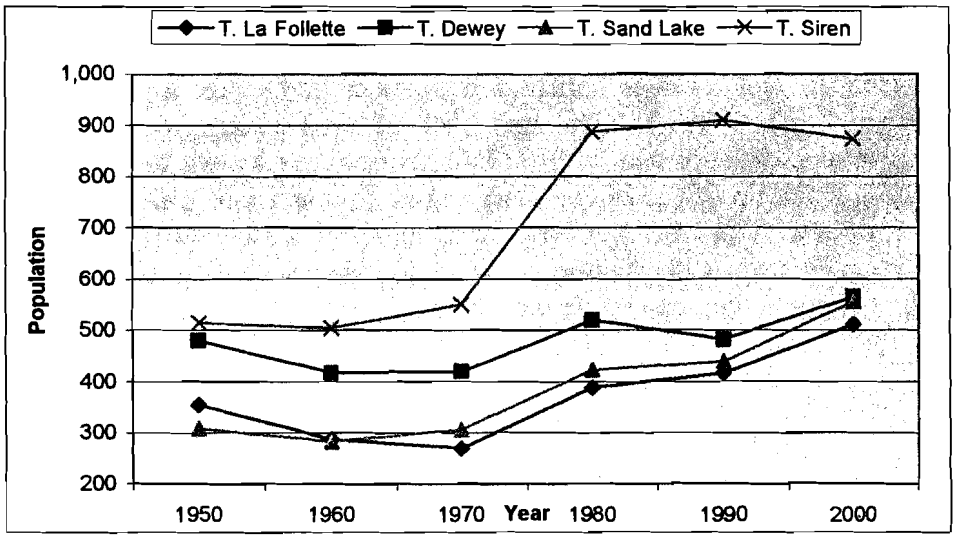
The population of LaFollette has seen steady growth over the last 50 years. The only population decrease was between 1950 through 1970, which was a general trend throughout the county (Table and Figure 2.1). The town experienced a rather large increase in population between 1990 and 2000, 95 people, which is an increase of 23 percent. Of the adjacent towns, only Sand Lake had a higher population increase. This is also higher than the County (20 percent), and over double the state (10 percent) increase.

Table 2.1: Historic Population and Percent Change – Town of LaFollette and Selected Areas

							Percent Change	
	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	1980-1990	1990-2000
T. LaFollette	354	287	269	388	416	511	7.2	22.8
T. Dewey	480	417	419	520	482	565	-7.3	17.2
T. Sand Lake	308	283	306	422	439	556	4.0	26.7
T. Siren	515	504	550	887	910	873	2.6	-4.1
Burnett County	10,236	9,214	9,276	12,340	13,084	15,674	6.0	19.8
State of Wisconsin	3,434,575	3,951,777	4,417,731	4,705,767	4,891,769	5,363,675	4.0	9.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 2.1: Historic Population – Town of LaFollette and Adjacent Areas



Source: US Census Bureau

In Figure 2.2, population projections for the Town of LaFollette, generated by the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC), are displayed using three different projection methods through 2020. All three methods used to project LaFollette's population over the next 20 years show an increasing population. While differing in absolute numbers, the projections of all three formulas reveal a similar pattern: a modest, continued growth through the year 2020. For clarification on how these projections were generated see footnote.[1]

Population projections represent **estimates** of future population change based on historical information. Actual future population growth will be based on many social and economic factors, and unforeseen events may cause dramatic deviations from the projected future values. Three methods are used to depict different mathematical models and are represented in Figure 2.2. The methods used are:

- **Linear regression**
- **Historical population growth rate**
- **20-year growth rate**

Linear regression projections tend to be the most conservative estimates due to the negative population spike occurring between 1960 and 1970. The historical growth rate is typically a mid-range estimate based on the average growth rate from 1950 through 2000. The 20-year growth rate tends to produce the highest estimates due to the high population growth rates experienced in the town during this period. Barring unforeseen changes, population growth in LaFollette and Burnett County will occur and likely at a rate at least equivalent to or exceeding the 20-year growth rate. It is expected that net in-migration will continue to drive population growth as more retirees relocate to places within the county, especially the lake areas. The 20-year grow rate model is likely to be the most realistic future growth model for the town.

POPULATION BY AGE CATEGORY

Figure 2.3 shows the breakdown of population by age category over the past 20 years. Between 1980 and 2000, there was a dramatic shift in the age of the population in LaFollette. The years of 1990 to 2000 did not show any significant difference in the breakdown of the age when compared to the total population. The two lines mirror each other, with the only difference being that 2000 had a higher number in each age category with the exception of the 75-84 bracket. In 1980, the age bracket between 35 and 54 was constituted a lower percentage of the total population (19%) when compared to both 1990 (23%) and 2000 (26%). The age group of 5-14 dropped from 1980 (18% of total population) to 2000 (13%). This figure shows that a large percentage of the community is made up of (as in the past) an older population. This could be due to a number of factors. People with summer homes moving to the area after retirement, the average number of children couples have is decreasing, and people generally living longer than in the past are all reasons why the population can be skewed to older people.

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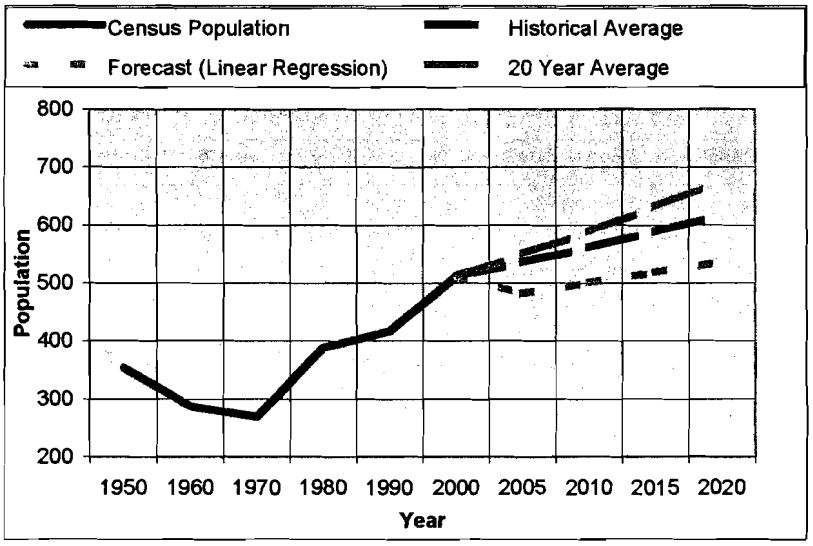
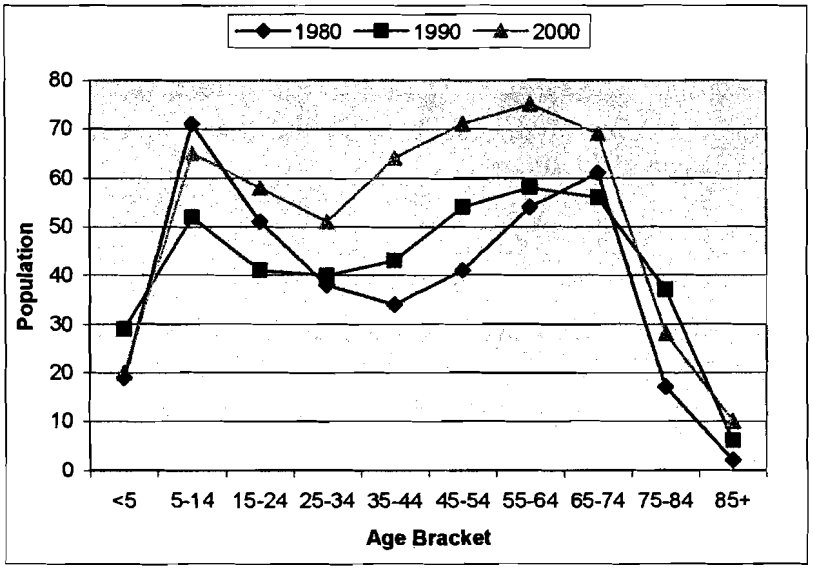
[1] **Historical Average:**
Model based on the historical average 10-year growth rate for the period 1950-2000. Derived historical growth rate (x) is applied to year 2000 population in order to generate 2010 figure.
Linear Regression Model:
Prediction of future population based on historic values. Regression fits a line through a set of observations using the "least squares" method
20-Year Historical Average
Population model which uses the historical average for the period 1980-2000.

Figure 2.2: Historic Population & Population Projections 1950 – 2020: Town of LaFollette



Source: US Census Bureau; Northwest Regional Planning Commission.

Figure 2.3: Population by Age Category 1980-2000: Town of LaFollette



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

POPULATION DENSITY

Population density is a way of showing how a population is distributed throughout an area. The resulting density is usually expressed in people per square mile. The U.S. Census Bureau divides counties, towns, cities, and villages into a variety of geographical units. Map 2.1 shows the population density of the town by census block. The Census Bureau defines a block as "the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates 100-percent data. Many blocks correspond to individual city blocks bounded by streets, but blocks – especially in rural areas – may include many square miles and may have some boundaries that are not streets".

Within the town, the largest population concentration is in the northern part of the town. This area includes the Chippewa Housing Authority, which has the largest population density in the town. Other higher populated areas include the northern lakes, such as Pokegama, Warner, Viola, Big Sand, and Bass Lake. Also, the southwest corner has a larger population concentration. The overall population density of the town is approximately 13 people per square mile. It should be noted that this map only depicts the permanent population of the town and does not include seasonal residents.

SEASONAL POPULATION

The seasonal use of an area can affect many factors: environmental, economic, and public service related. The town has a large seasonal population. The most effective way to calculate a seasonal population is to take the total number of seasonal housing units (260) and multiple it by the average household size for the town (2.32). This population equals 603 extra people for a maximum 1,114 people in the town at any given time, which is over double the permanent population (511).

This extra population can impact a town in many ways. Traffic increases dramatically as people drive to their summer homes and around the town for recreational and service related trips. The increase use of lakes and trails has an impact on the surrounding environment. In the summer time, this population may put strain on electric services as people are powering up their air conditioners and other appliances. However, the seasonal population also can have a favorable impact on the economy. This group is a large part of the tax base in the town, and many businesses rely on the seasonal population to keep them afloat.

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

The housing characteristics of an area are important for many reasons. Location of housing has an impact on the environment, cost and availability of services, and the social and economic condition of the town. The following information discusses the housing characteristics of LaFollette over the past 20 years.

Housing Units & Occupancy

Over the last 20 years, the number of total housing units has steadily increased. Total housing units jumped from 370 in 1980 to 490 in 2000. This represents a change of 32.4 percent. This is higher when compared to the county increase (21.5%) and the state (24.5%).

Table 2.2 shows the past total housing units and projections for the future. A linear regression analysis was used to project the number of new housing units in the next 20 years. According to this estimate, the town will gain 113 housing units (6 units a year) for a total of 603. This represents a growth of 23 percent in the next 20 years.

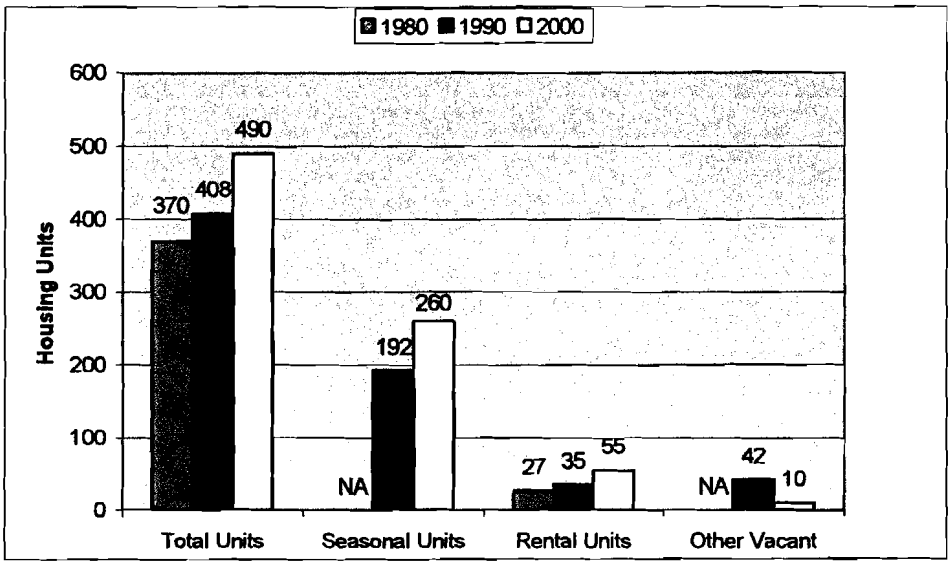
Table 2.2 Total Housing Units & Housing Unit Projections – Town of LaFollette

	1980	1990	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
U.S. Census[1]	370	408	490	-	-	-	-
NWRPC Projections[2]	-	-	-	513	543	573	603

Source: [1]US Census Bureau
[2]NWRPC Linear Regression Analysis Projections

Housing occupancy and vacancy characterizes seasonal population, as well as rental and other vacant units. A large portion of the vacant housing units in the town is classified as seasonal units. In 2000, the seasonal housing units numbered 260 or 53 percent of the housing units in the town. This was up from 192 (47% percent of town) in 1990. The number of seasonal housing units may continue to increase, but it will eventually level off and may even start to decrease as these seasonal housing units revert to permanent units as the owners retire. Map 2.2 shows the percent of seasonal housing units per census block. This map shows that the largest percent of seasonal housing units are located adjacent to the water features in the town.

Figure 2.4: Housing Characteristics – Town of LaFollette



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

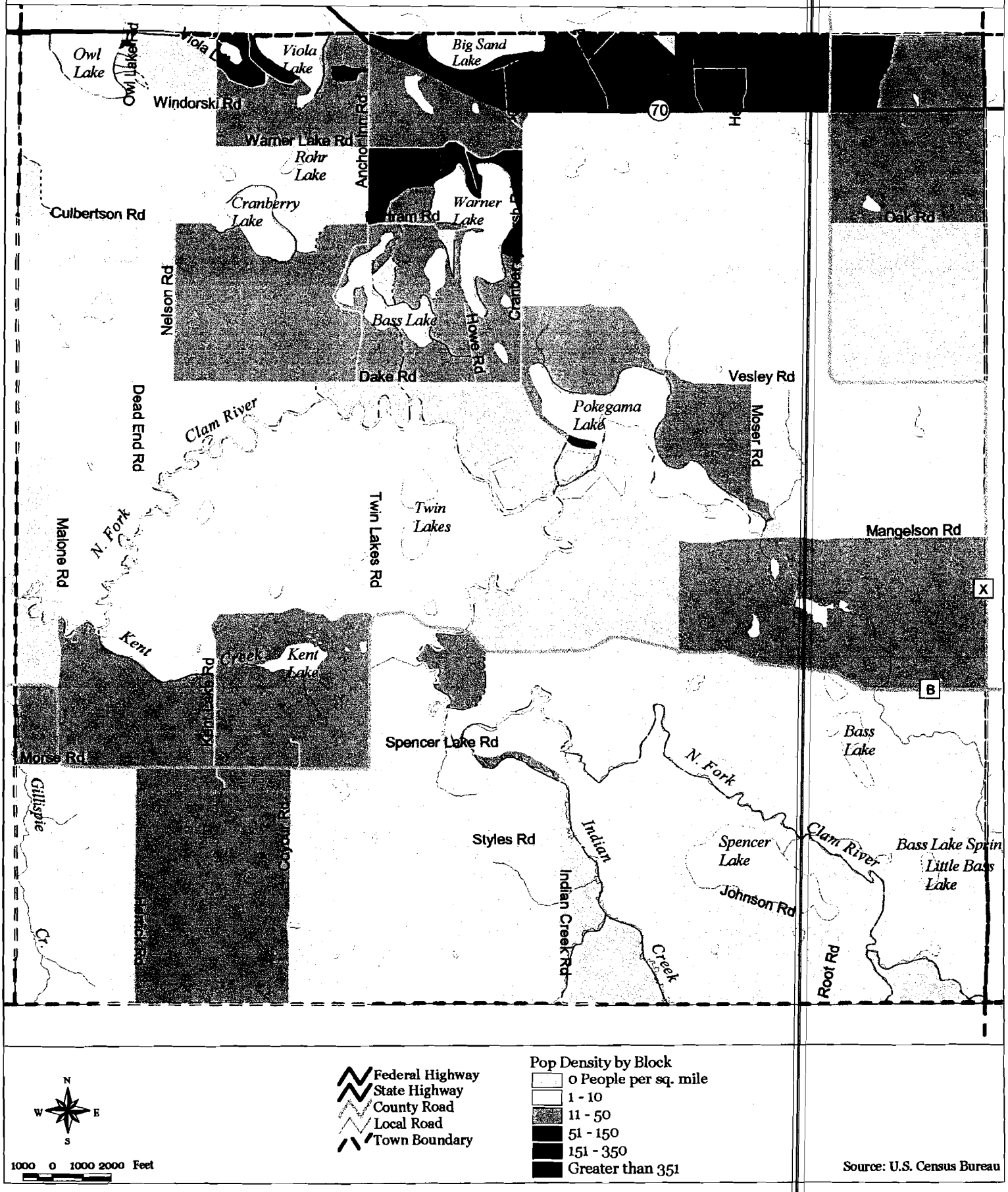
Rental units in the town are very low, as are other vacant units when compared to the housing unit total. In 2000, rental units accounted for 11 percent of the total housing units whereas other vacant units were only two percent of the total. Figure 2.4 shows the housing characteristics in the town. Please note that the 1980 census did not divide total vacant units into categories (seasonal and other vacant), so those totals were not included.

Housing Density

Housing density shows where the largest concentration or density of housing units occurs in the town. As with population, the housing density map (Map 2.3) shows the number of houses per square mile by census block. The overall housing unit density for the town is 13 housing units per square mile. Not surprisingly, the map shows that the greatest density occurs adjacent to the larger water bodies of the town. Other high-density areas occur in the Chippewa Housing Authority area in the northern part of town.

Population Density
Town of La Follette

Map 2.1



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Seasonal Housing Units
Town of La Follette

Map 2.2

N
W E
S

1000 0 1000 2000 Feet

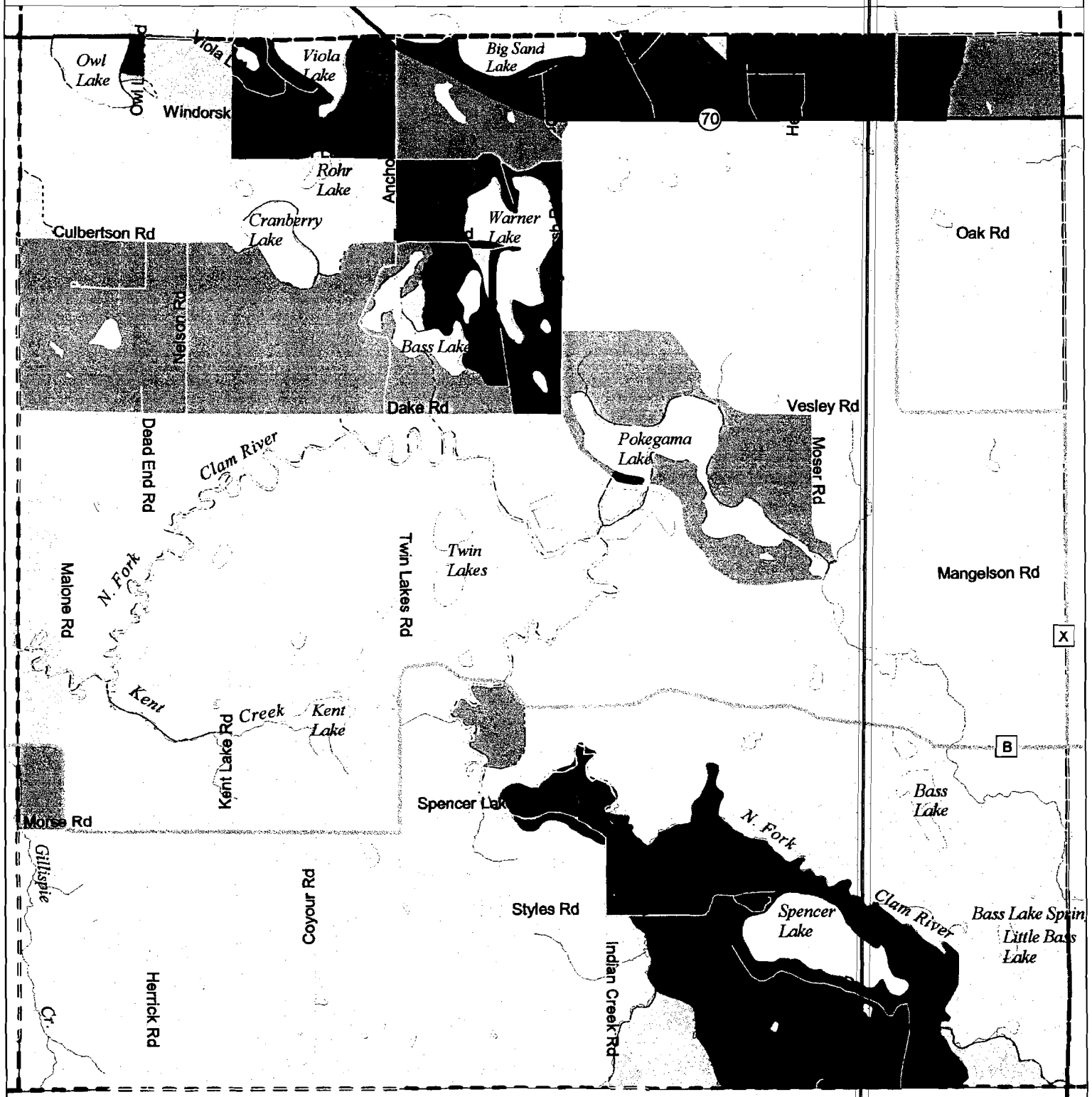
Federal Highway
State Highway
County Road
Local Road
Town Boundary

Percent Seasonal by Block
- 0 - 10
- 10 - 50
- 50 - 85
- 85 - 100
- No Housing Units

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Housing Unit Density
Town of La Follette

Map 2.3



N
W E
S

1000 0 1000 2000 Feet

Federal Highway
State Highway
County Road
Local Road
Town Boundary

Housing Unit Density by Block
- No Housing Units
- 1 - 10 Housing Units per sq. mile
- 10 - 20
- 20 - 50
- 50 - 200
- 200 - 7000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

CHAPTER 3: NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES

This chapter is intended to provide an inventory of the various natural resources and physical environment of the town. These factors should be considered when examining where new development should go to eliminate costly building mistakes and destructive environmental damage. These factors include slope, geology, wetlands, floodplains, and other unique natural areas. Many of these features are located along water features and are important in maintaining an ecological balance and diversity, which preserves the natural beauty of the area.

GENERAL LOCATION & DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING AREA

The Town of LaFollette is located in southeastern portion of Burnett County. The town lies in the congressional township of 38N, range 15W. It encompasses 25,000 acres or approximately 39 square miles. LaFollette is bordered by the Town of Dewey on the east, the Town of Sand Lake on the north, the Town of Siren on the west, and the Town of Lorain in Polk County on the south. The unincorporated community of Hertel is located at the intersection of STH 70 and CTH X. The closest incorporated places are the Village of Siren (8 miles west); the Village of Webster (10 miles northwest); the Village of Frederic (14 miles southwest); the City of Shell Lake (15 miles east-southeast); and the City of Spooner (17 miles east-northeast). The major roads in the town are STH 70, which runs east-west through the northern part of the town. County trunk highway B runs east-west through the center part of town and CTH X runs north-south in the eastern portion of town. Map 3.1 shows the location of LaFollette and adjacent areas, and Map 3.2 shows the planning area.

CLIMATE

The climate of the Town of LaFollette and Burnett County is typical of northern Wisconsin. The climate is classified as continental. The summers are mild and short and winters long, cold, and snowy. Spring and fall are short with a high contrast in temperature. The growing season is about 110 days. The average precipitation is between 30-32 inches, with approximately 50 inches of snowfall per year.

GEOLOGY

A large region of pitted outwash plain characterizes the geology of the area, which is oriented southwest to northeast. These plains consist of two separate landforms, the flat plains and terraces and the hummocky sediments left by glacial melt water rivers. Glacial sediments consist mostly of sand and gravel with some peat. This type of landscape results in the many seepage lakes, large wetland complexes, and a high susceptibility to groundwater contamination.

Between 50 and 150 feet below the surface lies the bedrock of the town and surrounding area. This bedrock consists of igneous, metamorphic, and volcanic rock formed during the Cambrian Period over 70 million years ago. This bedrock is comprised of Cambrian quartzose and glauconitic sandstone and siltstone.

SLOPE & TOPOGRAPHY

The topography of the town is generally flat with not much variation in elevation. The entire town only varies in elevation by approximately 70 feet. The lowest part of the town has an elevation of 290 feet above sea level (derived) in the west central part of town along the North Fork Clam River; and the highest is 360 feet above sea level (derived) in the south central part of town.

Slope is an important aspect when considering different types of development. Steep slopes can create engineering challenges and therefore increasing development costs. Building on steep slopes may also create environmental detriments, especially in the shoreland zone, where runoff can be more excessive. This is not a major issue in the town, due to the low amount of slope. The main areas of slope are located in the southern portion of town. Map 3.3 shows the topography and slope of the town.

SOILS

The Town of LaFollette is in an eco-region called the Northwest Sands area. As the name implies, the soils of the town and surrounding area are generally sandy, with some loam and gravel mixed in. There are four general soil types within the town: Chetek, Markey, Omega, and Sarona. Each soil type has its own set of characteristics.

Chetek Soils

Soils in this series are very deep, somewhat excessively drained soils and are formed mostly in loamy alluvium and in sandy and gravelly outwash. Permeability is moderate to moderately rapid in the loamy outwash and rapid to very rapid in sandy outwash. Slopes range from 0 to 45 percent. Chetek soils are found on outwash plains (smooth and pitted), stream terraces, and valley benches. This is the main soil association in the town, covering approximately 70 percent of the town.

Markey Soils

Markey soils are nearly level, very deep, and very poorly drained organic soils. They are found in depressions on outwash plains, lake plains, flood plains, river terrace valley trains, and moraines. These soils are formed in herbaceous organic matter overlying sandy deposits. Permeability is moderately slow to moderately rapid in the organic layers and rapid to very rapid in the sandy material. Slopes range from 0 to 2 percent. Most of these soils are in their native vegetation; such as cattails, marsh, grasses, reeds, and sedges. Other areas consist of forested black ash, quaking aspen, balsam fir, black spruce, tamarack, and birch. Within the town these soils are found in the center of the town.

Omega Soils

These soils consist of very deep, somewhat excessively drained soils that formed in sandy glacial outwash on outwash plains or valley trains. These soils have rapid permeability and slopes ranging from 0 to 25 percent. Most of these areas are forested with few areas cleared for forage crops or special use crops (potatoes). Native vegetation is coniferous forest of jack pine and red pine. This soil association is found in the northwest portion of town.

Sarona Soils

The Sarona series consist of very deep, well-drained soils with moderate to moderately rapid permeability and slopes ranging from 1 to 35 percent. These soils were formed in till which was mostly sandy loam on moraines and drumlins. Surface runoff is slow to rapid. Most of these soils are woodland areas with northern hardwoods such as sugar maple, basswood, red oak, white ash, aspen, and hemlock. Some areas were cleared for cropland with corn, small grains, and hay being the main crops. These soils can be found in the extreme southwest corner of the town.

LAND COVER

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources produced a statewide land cover data set based off of 1993 satellite imagery. This data is useful for showing general trends of land cover within the state. The following information is from this data set.

The dominant land cover type in the town is forest, which covers over 50 percent of the town. Forest types are further divided up into different categories. Mixed broad leaf deciduous and aspen are the primary forest types found in the town. The second most predominant land cover type is wetlands. Wetlands cover approximately 26 percent of the town, being mostly shrub and forested wetlands. The remainder of the town is made up of grasslands, agriculture, open water, barren, and shrub. Table 3.1 shows the various land cover types in the town and Map 3.4 shows the WISCLAND coverage.

Table 3.1: Land Cover Types – Town of LaFollette

Cover Type	Acres	Percent of Type	Percent of Total
AGRICULTURAL - General	131.9	98.4%	0.5%
AGRICULTURAL - Corn	2.1	1.5%	0.0%
AGRICULTURAL - Forage Crops	0.1	0.1%	0.0%
Total Agriculture	*134.1*	*100.0%*	0.5%
GRASSLAND	3,696.9	100.0%	14.8%
FOREST - Jack Pine	123.9	0.9%	0.5%
FOREST - Red Pine	951.3	7.1%	3.8%
FOREST - Mixed/Other Coniferous	21.5	0.2%	0.1%
FOREST - Aspen	3,582.6	26.7%	14.3%
FOREST - Oak	36.0	0.3%	0.1%
FOREST - Northern Pin Oak	98.3	0.7%	0.4%
FOREST - Red Oak	50.4	0.4%	0.2%
FOREST - Mixed/Other Broad Leaf	7,294.4	54.5%	29.2%
FOREST - Mixed/Deciduous/Coniferous	1,236.5	9.2%	4.9%
Total Forest	*13,394.9*	*100.0%*	53.6%
OPEN WATER	1,177.7	100.0%	4.7%
WETLAND - Emergent/Wet Meadow	669.4	10.4%	2.7%
WETLAND - Lowland Shrub	1,433.2	22.2%	5.7%
WETLAND - Shrub - Broad Leaf Deciduous	2,038.0	31.6%	8.2%
WETLAND - Shrub - Broad Leaf Evergreen	16.8	0.3%	0.1%
WETLAND - Forested - Broad Leaf Deciduous	1,111.2	17.3%	4.4%
WETLAND - Forested - Coniferous	921.0	14.3%	3.7%
WETLAND - Forested - Mixed Deciduous/Coniferous	251.8	3.9%	1.0%
Total Wetland	*6,441.3*	*100.0%*	25.8%
BARREN	7.5	100.0%	0.0%
SHRUB	141.3	100.0%	0.6%
GRAND TOTAL	**24,993.7**		**100.0%**

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WISCLAND data coverage)

PRIME FARMLAND & PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURAL AREAS

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) developed a list of Official Prime Farmlands. The official soil survey for Burnett County is expected to be completed in 2003 and at the time of this document being printed was not available. The NRCS has defined prime agricultural lands as *"land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. The land must also be available for these uses (cropland, pastureland, forestland, or other land but not water or urban built-up land)."* These lands have the soil quality, growing season, and moisture content that can maintain high yields of crops when treated and or managed. Appendix B lists the prime soils that are present in Burnett County. The following lists some general characteristics of prime farmland in Wisconsin:

- Has an adequate and dependable water supply from precipitation or irrigation
- Has a favorable temperature and growing season
- Has acceptable acidity or alkalinity
- Has few or no rocks
- Is permeable to air and water
- Is not excessively erodible
- Is not saturated with water for long periods of time
- Does not flood frequently, or is protected from flooding

These soils do not include unique farmland, which is land other than prime farmland that is used for production of specific food crops. These soils have unique conditions, growing season, and moisture content that are specific to one type of crop. In Wisconsin, this could include soils used for cranberry production that are too wet for other crops or soils used for orchards that may be to steep or erodible to qualify as prime farmland.

Another way to examine productive agriculture lands is to look at the land capability class. This breaks up land into eight general classes, labeled I-VIII. Lands classified as I or II are "most productive", classes III and IV are "productive" and classes V-VIII are non-productive lands. The first four classes are suitable for cultivation where the last four are limited to grazing, pasture or woodlands.

OTHER NATURAL AREAS

The Town of LaFollette is part of the Northwest Sands Area. This area is defined as an ecological landscape by the Wisconsin DNR and covers portions of Polk, Burnett, Washburn, Douglas, and Bayfield Counties. Sandy soils, pine and oak barrens, large, open wetlands, seepage lakes, and fire proneness characterize the area. There are many ecological management opportunities including large-scale restoration of oak-pine barrens and wetlands (bogs, sedge meadows, and marshes), as well as white and red pine restoration. This would benefit many different types of species including rare lepidoptera (butterflies, moths), herptiles, plants, and birds.

This landscape type is ecologically important for a number of reasons. Many rare communities occur in this region including pine barrens (which support many prairie type flora and fauna), large sedge meadows, and kettle lakes. Currently many of these areas are being managed with the exclusion of fire, even though in pre-settlement times, this community was extremely fire dependent. Within these unique ecological communities, many species of plants and animals are of concern, including the Karner blue butterfly, smooth green snake, Franklin's ground squirrel, prairie skinks, grouse, trumpeter swan, Blanding's turtle, sedge wren, and Kirtland's warbler.

For more information on the Northwest Sands or other ecological landscapes, please refer to the DNR's publication *Ecological Landscapes of Wisconsin* or the joint publication *Northwest Sands Landscape Level Management Plan*, produced by the DNR and Northwest Regional Planning Commission.

HISTORIC & ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

Community cultural resources are a significant element in defining local character. One way to examine cultural resources in a town is to look at the architecture. Within the town, there are many buildings and structures of historic importance. Table 3.2 shows the historic buildings within the town as defined by the Wisconsin State Historic Society. These buildings are part of the Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory (AHI), which list structures that have a unique, cultural or historic importance to Wisconsin. This is not a comprehensive list, it was developed from a variety of sources and not all buildings may be eligible for listing on the state or national registry. Some properties may have been altered or no longer exist.

Table 3.2: Historic Buildings – Town of LaFollette

PLS Section	Current Name	Historic Name	Type of Building	Style of Building	Construction Date
NENE 2	-	Tony Smith	Log House	Astylistic Utilitarian	1940
NENE 2	-	Fred Larrabee	Log House	Astylistic Utilitarian	1935
SENE 2	Hertel School	1st Buck Lake School	Clapboard Building	Front Gabled	-
SENW 3	-	St. Croix Band of Chippewa	Stone Building	Contemporary	1974
NESW 4	-	White Pine School	Drop Siding House	Front Gabled	-
NENW 4	Woodland Lodge Resort	Otto Hertel Woodland Lodge	Clapboard House	Colonial Revival	1925
NWSW 7	LaFollette Town Hall	May Schoolhouse	Clapboard Building	Front Gabled	1895
SESW 27	-	-	Board House	Contemporary	1970
SENW 29	-	Coomer School	Stucco Building	One Story Cube	-

Source: Wisconsin State Historic Society – AHI Inventory

The large Native American history of the region creates the possibility for numerous archeological sites in the area. Due to their sensitive nature, many archeological sites are not published. The Wisconsin State Historical Society (WSHS) keeps and maintains a database for

all sites in the state called the Archeological Site Inventory Database (ASI). The WSHS states that although only a small portion of the town has been surveyed, 11 archeological sites and cemeteries have been reported. These include Native American campsites/villages, cemeteries and burial mounds, and a post office. Appendix C contains a summary from the WSHS state archeologist describing archeological sites, how they are inventoried, protection measures, and recommendations.

WATER RESOURCES

Wetlands

Wetlands are defined as an area where water is at, near, or above the land surface long enough to support aquatic or hydrophilic vegetation and has soils indicative of wet conditions. Wetlands serve as important areas for groundwater recharge areas, as well as habitat for many unique plant and animal communities. They also provide natural open space and maintain ground and surface water quality. Burnett County has 122,194 acres or 23 percent of the county. Within the town, there are approximately 7,200 acres or 28.8 percent of the town. The wetlands in LaFollette are generally located adjacent to the water features in the town. There is also a large wetland complex in the northeast part of town south of STH 70. Map 3.5 shows the wetlands greater than five acres in the town.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and local zoning codes regulate wetlands. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act established a program to regulate the discharge of dredged and fill material into waters of the state, including wetlands, and is the primary federal regulatory program for wetlands.

The Shoreland/Wetland Zoning Ordinance adopted by Burnett County regulates the use/alterations of wetlands in the county and in the Town of LaFollette. The regulations contained within this document apply to all lands within one thousand (1,000) feet of the ordinary high-water mark of any navigable lake, pond, or flowage and those lands within three hundred (300) feet of the ordinary high-water mark of any navigable river or stream.

Floodplains

Floodplains are important and valuable natural resources. They provide wildlife habitat, storm water retention, and serve as groundwater recharge areas. Development in these areas may lead to high constructive costs, storm damage repairs, and environmental degradation. Additional costs and maintenance can include, flood proofing, increased flood insurance premiums, and water related repairs to roads, water mains, and sewers.

Due to these limitations, the state requires that cities, villages, and towns develop a floodplain/shoreland zoning ordinance to address the issues above. Development in these areas is usually allowed, but certain design standards and increased setbacks may be required. The floodplain is normally defined as those areas that are subject to inundation by the 100-year recurrence interval flood event. This means that in any year there is a one percent chance that the area will flood. High-density development in floodplain areas should be discouraged and park and open space encouraged.

Within the town, there are 3,810 acres (15% of the town) of floodplains. These areas generally overlap wetland areas and are located along the various water features. The North Fork Clam River has the main concentration of floodplain within the town. Map 3.6 shows the floodplains in the town.

Watersheds

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources defines watersheds as areas of an interconnected area of land draining from surrounding ridge tops to a common point such as a lake or stream confluence with a neighboring watershed. Wisconsin has restructured its natural resource management approach around the concepts of ecoregions and watersheds, as opposed to strictly political or social boundaries, which may provide more successful results.

There are three main watersheds in the town. The Clam River watershed, the Lower Yellow River watershed, and the North Fork Clam River watershed are all part of the Saint Croix River Basin which goes as far north as Douglas County, as far south as Pierce County and as far west as Bayfield and Sawyer Counties. The North Fork Clam River watershed covers most of the town. The Clam River watershed is located in the western portion of the town and the Lower Yellow River watershed in located in the northern part of the town. Map 3.7 shows the watersheds in the LaFollette.

Surface Waters

Surface waters are important in maintaining ecological integrity and diversity. LaFollette has an abundance of surface waters in lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams. In all, the town has 44 miles of lake shoreline covering approximately 1,500 acres and 37 miles of rivers and streams. There are 15 named lakes and numerous unnamed ponds as well as five named rivers and streams and their tributaries. Map 3.8 shows the surface waters in the town.

The Department of Natural Resources classifies water bodies as outstanding resource waters (ORW) under Chapter NR 102 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. These waters have outstanding recreational, cultural, aesthetic, or scientific resource value and shall have special protection from degradation. Within the town, there are three water bodies that have this classification: the North Fork Clam River, Indian Creek, and Big Sand Lake.

Groundwater

Groundwater is important as it provides the household water source to all of the residents in the town and provides water recharge to many lakes, streams, and wetlands. Primary sources of groundwater pollution in Wisconsin are, agricultural activities, municipal landfills, leaky underground storage tanks, and spills. Other possible contamination sources may be septic tanks and land application of wastewater. If groundwater is contaminated, it can take years and large monetary expense to clean up.

Groundwater contamination susceptibility results from a number of factors. Geologic and soil conditions combine to determine how sensitive groundwater is to contamination. The area in and around the town has a sand and gravel aquifer, which leads to a higher susceptibility to groundwater contamination. The depth to the water table ranges from 0 to 50 feet.

INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT OF LAKE AND STREAM DATA

The following section is intended to give a brief examination on the surface water quality in the Town of LaFollette. Many factors effect water quality of an area, including adjacent land uses (agricultural, residential, and commercial development), recreational use of the water body, and physical characteristics of the lake and surrounding area (steep slopes, small lake or watershed, or type of lake). This section will examine different water quality characteristics and how they relate to the water quality of the Town of LaFollette.

Background & Existing Data

Much research and data have been collected about the resources and quality of the water in Burnett County and the St. Croix River Basin, dating back to 1966 when the Wisconsin Conservation Department published the *Surface Water Resources of Burnett County* report. This was a statewide effort in the 1960's and 70's to inventory and assess the water bodies in the state. More recently, Burnett County developed a classification scheme for the lakes and streams in the county using physical characteristics to determine development vulnerability. The next section goes into more detail about this classification scheme. In 2000, the US Geological Survey (USGS) published the report *Water Resources-Related Information for the St. Croix Reservation and Vicinity, Wisconsin.* The purpose of this report was to gather information and past reports that relate to surface and ground water quality, and where possible, to analyze available data and help identify factors affecting the water resources. In March 2002, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources published the *State of the St. Croix Basin.* This report was developed to provide direction to DNR staff during preparation of biennial work plans. This plan replaces the 1994 report St. Croix River Basin Water Quality Management Plan and focuses on an ecosystem management approach. This report details water quality data for the lakes and streams in the basin and maps watersheds and other physical features of the area.

The previous inventory is by no means an inclusive list of the studies and reports of water quality in the area. Many other regional and state reports are available and list both ground and surface water quality. The scope of this project does not allow going into detail of all reports.

Summary of Burnett County Lake Classification

In 1998, Burnett County assumed the responsibility of formulating a classification scheme for all the water bodies in the county. The county felt this was important because surface waters constitute important environmental and economical (recreational) resources to the area. Also, they wanted a system in place that is more sensitive to local resources compared to the minimum statewide standard and was easy to understand. Burnett County has seen a steady increase in both permanent and seasonal and recreational homes in the last 20 years. In 1980, there were 370 total units compared to 490 in 2000. That is an increase of 32 percent. In the last 10 years, seasonal housing units have increased over 35 percent. A lot of these homes are being built along lakes and streams. This classification plan was developed to identify which lakes are most prone to developmental pressures and to set building standards based on lake sensitivity.

The lake classification scheme uses a variety of physical and developmental factors in determining the lake's vulnerability. These factors include lake surface area, maximum depth, lake type, watershed size, shoreline development factor, and existing density (feet per structure). Each factor is divided into categories and given a score of 0-3. This score is then added up and

put into a lake class with a corresponding protection level. The table below shows the classification scheme.

Table 3.3: Scoring for Lake Classification Scheme

Overall Vulnerability Ranking	Lake Classification	Protection Level
Total score 14 or over	Class 1	Minimum
Total score 10 – 13	Class 2	Moderate
Total score 9 or less	Class 3	Maximum

Source: Burnett County Land Use Plan

Based on this classification, each category has specific building and lot standards. Class 1 lakes (minimum protection) have the smallest lot sizes and side yard setbacks, where as Class 3 lakes (and all rivers and streams) have the largest setbacks and lot sizes. Appendix D shows the water data for the lakes and streams within LaFollette, including this lake classification scheme. Table 3.4 shows the dimensional requirements for each class. Map 3.8 shows the classification level for the water bodies in the town. For more specific information regarding this classification scheme, please refer to *Burnett County Land Use Plan* or *A Guide for Developing & Managing Shoreland in Burnett County.*

Table 3.4: Dimensional Requirements for Lake Classes in Burnett County

Lake Classification	Lot Size	Lot Width - Single Family	Shoreline Setback	Lot Depth	Vegetation Removal	Side Yard Setback
Class 1	30,000 s.f.	150 ft.	75 ft.	200 ft.	30' corridor within 35' of shore	10' min 40 ft. min total
Class 2	40,000 s.f	200 ft.	75 ft.	200 ft.	30' corridor within 35' of shore	20' min 50 ft. min total
Class 3	75,000 s.f.	300 ft.	100 ft.	250 ft.	30' corridor within 50' of shore	30' min 60 ft. min total
Rivers & Streams	75,000 s.f.	300 ft.	100 ft.	250 ft.	30' corridor within 50' of shore	30' min 60 ft. min total

Source: A Guide for Developing & Managing Shoreland in Burnett County.

Physical Characteristics of Lakes

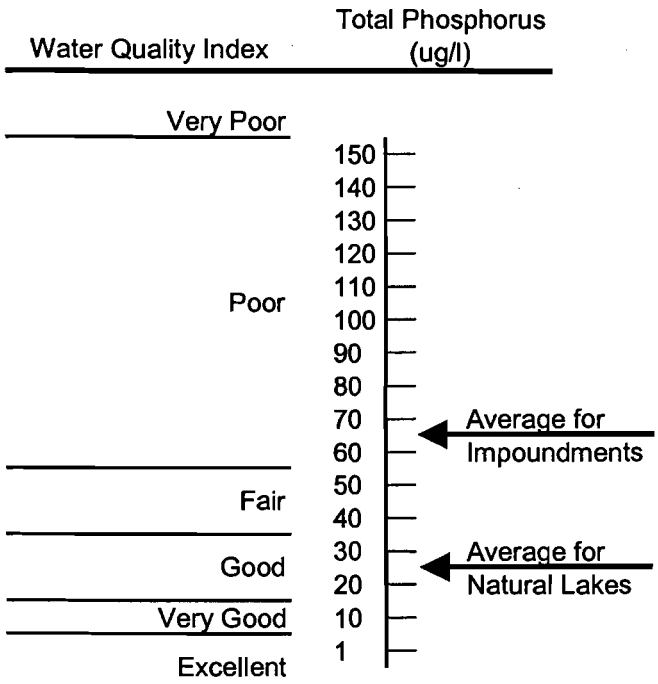
Many different characteristics combine to make up the quality of a lake. This section will describe some of the more common water quality indicators and how they relate to the overall health of the aquatic ecosystem. The following data was taken from the UW Extension publication *Understanding Lake Data* by Byron Shaw, Christine Mechenich and Lowell Klessig.

Phosphorus

Phosphorus in lakes can be measured two ways, dissolved phosphorus and total phosphorus. Dissolved phosphorus readily aids plant growth and varies widely in most lakes in short amounts of time as plants take it up and release it. Total phosphorus is more widely used as an indicator of a lake's nutrient status because its levels remain more stable throughout the year. Total

phosphorus includes both dissolved phosphorus and the phosphorus in plant and animal fragments suspended in lake water. Phosphorus occurs naturally in lakes but can cause problems when excess phosphorus enters water bodies through human activities such as livestock wastes, sewage effluents, and applications of agricultural and lawn fertilizers. Figure 3.1 shows water quality by total phosphorus.

Figure 3.1 Water Quality Based on Total Phosphorus



Nitrogen

Nitrogen is the second most important nutrient for plant and algae growth next to phosphorus. Nitrogen can enter lakes through rainfall, which can contain over 0.5 mg/l and can be the main source of nitrogen for a lake. In more developed areas, nitrogen can enter lakes through local land uses. It can enter lakes through runoff of nearby farms (through agricultural fertilizers and animals wastes), sewage treatment plants, leaky septic systems, and lawn fertilizers used on lakeshore properties.

Nitrogen in lakes is found in several forms. Most common include nitrate (NO3-), nitrite (NO2-), ammonium (NH4+), and organic (biomass nitrogen). Nitrogen is a main component of all organic matter. When these plant and animals decay, they release ammonia, which combines with oxygen (if present) to form nitrate. When the ratio between total nitrogen and total phosphorus is less than 10:1, nitrogen, rather than phosphorus, limits algae growth. This only occurs in about 10 percent of Wisconsin's lakes.

Oxygen

Dissolved oxygen is the most important of gases in lake ecosystems, since most species need it to survive. The solubility of oxygen is inversely related to the temperature (Table 3.5). As the temperature increased, oxygen solubility decreases. This means that colder water holds more

gases than warmer water. Oxygen is put into an aquatic ecosystem through photosynthesis of plants. Oxygen is depleted through respiration. These two processes largely determine the amount of oxygen in a lake. Oxygen levels will vary during the day. Levels during late afternoon will be higher than late at night or early morning. Shallow lakes in Wisconsin will experience oxygen depletion in winter (winterkill). This happens when more than four inches of snow cover the ice, allowing no light penetration. Photosynthesis stops and plants begin to die. In LaFollette, Bass Lake (Section 9), Rohr Lake, and Spencer Lake all may experience winterkill along with many of the smaller, unnamed lakes.

Table 3.5: Temperature and Oxygen Solubility

Temperature		Oxygen Solubility
C	F	(mg/l)*
0	32	15
5	41	13
10	50	11
15	59	10
20	68	9
25	77	8

***Note: In lakes that stratify, or mix**

pH – Acidity

pH is a measure of the hydrogen ion concentration in lakes. This parameter has been shown to have important consequences in aquatic ecosystems. Different pH values will support different compositions of both plant and animals species in a lake. Factors that may affect the pH in a lake include bedrock composition and acid rain. A pH less than 7 is considered acidic; a pH of 7 is neutral; and a pH greater than 7 is alkaline. Wisconsin lakes can vary from 4.5 in acidic bogs to 8.4 in hard water, marl lakes.

Low pH values usually do not effect fish; the metals that become soluble under low pH concentrations do. Aluminum, zinc, and mercury concentrations all increase in lower pH concentrations. Table 3.6 shows the effects of acidity on certain fish species.

Table 3.6: Effects of acidity of fish species

Water pH	Effects
6.5	Walleye spawning inhibited
5.8	Lake trout spawning inhibited
5.5	Smallmouth bass disappear
5.2	Walleye, burbot, lake trout disappear
5.0	Spawning inhibitied in many fish
4.7	Northern pike, white sucker, bullhead, sunfish, rock bass disappear
4.5	Perch spawning inhibited
3.5	Perch disappear
3.0	Toxic to all fish

Alkalinity/Hardness

Closely related to pH are alkalinity and hardness. This carbonate system provides acid buffering through two alkaline compounds, bicarbonate (HCO3-) and carbonate (CO32-). These compounds are usually found with two hardness ions: calcium (Ca++) and magnesium (Mg++). The type of minerals in the soil and watershed bedrock affects alkalinity and hardness in lakes, and by how much the lake water is exposed to these minerals.

Hard water lakes tend to produce more fish and aquatic plants than soft water lakes. These lakes are usually located in watersheds with fertile soils that add phosphorus to the lake. Phosphorus precipitates with marl to control algae blooms. Lakes with low amounts of alkalinity are more susceptible to acid rain. Table 3.7 shows the level of hardness compared to the amount of calcium carbonate in the lake.

Table 3.7: Hardness and Calcium Carbonate Amounts

Level of Hardness	Total Hardnes as mg/l CaCO3
Soft	0-60
Moderately Hard	61-120
Hard	121-180
Very Hard	>180

Alkalinity acts as a buffer from the effects of acid rain. The bicarbonate and carbonate ions neutralize the hydrogen ions that cause acidity in lakes. As the hydrogen ions are removed, the result is an increased pH. Alkalinity is commonly expressed in two ways: milligrams per liter (mg/l) or microequivalents per liter (ueq/l). Table 3.8 shows the sensitivity to acid rain based on alkalinity values.

Table 3.8: Sensitivity to Acid Rain and Alkalinity

Sensitivity to Acid Rain	Alkalinity Values	
	Ppm CaCO3	ueq/l CaCO3
High	0-2	0-39
Moderate	2-10	40-199
Low	10-25	200-499
Nonsensitive	>25	>499

Lake Type

Lakes are generally classified into four types, based on their water source and type of outflow.

Seepage lakes are a natural lake fed by precipitation, limited runoff, and groundwater. These lakes do not have a stream outlet. These lakes are generally acidic, low in nutrients, and susceptible to acid rain. All the lakes in the town except Kent Lake are classified as seepage lakes.

Groundwater drainage lakes (spring lakes) are natural lakes fed by groundwater, precipitation, and limited runoff. These lakes have a stream outlet. These lakes are usually well buffered

against acid rain and contain low to moderate amounts of nutrients. In LaFollette, only Kent Lake is classified under this type.

Drainage lakes are lakes fed by streams, precipitation, groundwater, and runoff and are drained by a stream. In these lakes the nutrient content is usually high,\ with water exchange happening quite rapidly. Water quality in these lakes is variable, depending on runoff and human activity in the watershed. None of the lakes in the town are drainage lakes.

Impoundments are manmade lakes created by damming a stream. A stream also drains these lakes. Watershed management is critical in impoundment lakes. The natural movement of the water causes soil and nutrients to collect in the impoundment. There are no impoundments in the town.

Water Clarity

Water clarity can be measured many ways. Clarity is not a chemical property of a lake but more of an aesthetic quality; however; clarity can affect other chemical and physical properties. Two main components comprise water clarity; true color (materials dissolved in the water) and turbidity (materials suspended in the water).

Secchi disk is one way to measure water clarity. This is done by lowering a black and white disk into the water until the disk is no longer visible. These readings vary throughout the summer as algal populations fluctuate. Long-term Secchi disk readings can provide an inexpensive and easy way to document long-term changes in a lake. Table 3.9 shows the Secchi disk depth and how it relates to water clarity.

Table 3.9 Water Clarity and Secchi Disk Depth

Water Clarity	Secchi depth (ft.)
Very poor	3
Poor	5
Fair	7
Good	10
Very good	20
Excellent	32

The color of a lake is dependent upon the type and amount of dissolved organic chemicals it contains. Many lakes contain natural tan colored compounds (humic and tannic acids) that can color the water. Color can reduce light penetration and effect algae growth.

The last measure of water clarity is turbidity. Turbidity is caused by suspended particles rather than dissolved organic compounds, which can affect the depth at which plants can grow. Lakes that receive runoff from silt or clay soils are more likely to have high turbidities. These values can vary widely with seasonal differences.

Trophic State

Trophic state is another indicator of water quality. Lakes are divided into three categories based on their trophic state (Figure 3.2), which looks at the nutrient and productivity of the lake. A

Natural aging process occurs in all lakes, but human activities generally speed up this process by allowing excess nutrients into the water (especially phosphorus and nitrogen) through agricultural activities, lawn fertilizers, and large impervious surfaces such as streets and driveways.

The Trophic Status Index (TSI) numbers provide general indicators of a lake's trophic class. These numbers are calculated through three water quality characteristics:

1) Total phosphorus (important for algae growth)
2) Chlorophyll *a* concentration (a measure of existing algae in a lake)
3) Secchi disc readings (indicates water clarity)

Table 3.10 shows the relationship between these numbers. Low amounts of phosphorus will lead to low amounts of chlorophyll *a* and high clarity or secchi disk readings.

Figure 3.2: Aging Process in Lakes

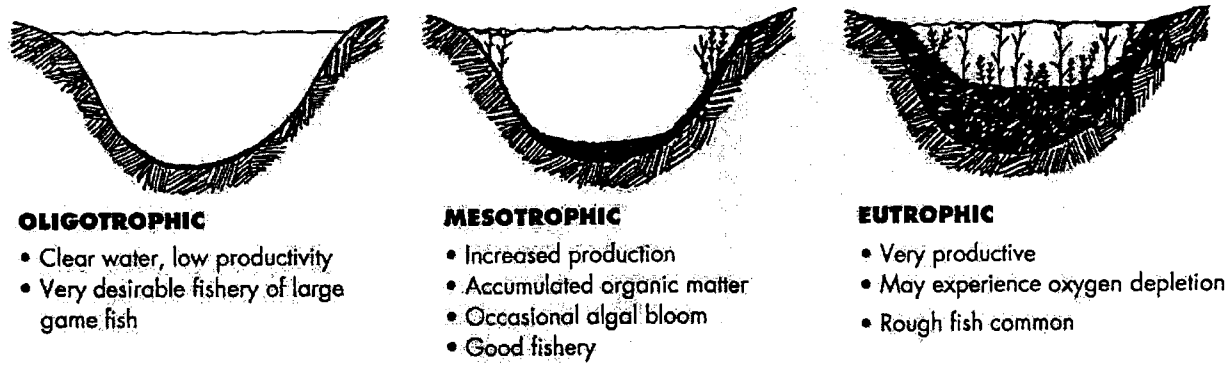


Table 3.10: Trophic Classification Based on Phosphorus, Chlorophyll and Secchi Disc

Trophic Class	Total Phosporus ug/l	Chlorophyll a ug/l	Secchi Disc (ft)
Oligotrophic	3	2	12
	10	5	8
Mesotropic	18	8	6
	27	10	6
Eutrophic	30	11	5
	50	15	4

Nine of the named lakes in the town have been labeled with a trophic class in the *State of the St. Croix Basin* plan. Bass Lake (Section 25) was the only lake in the town that had a TSI indicative of an oligotrophic lake with a TSI of 32. Viola and Warner Lakes all had TSI's between 38 and 39, which is on the border of oligotrophic and mesotrophic. Bass Lake (Section 8), Big Sand Lake, and Pokegema have TSI's corresponding to mesotropic lakes. Cranberry and Owl Lakes both have TSI's of 51 which is on the border between mesotrophic and eutrophic. Spencer Lake's TSI was 57, indicating eutrophic conditions.

Data Needs

The most common need among Wisconsin communities is the presence of up to date, basic water quality data. This is needed to determine current trends in water quality so appropriate measures can be taken to reduce developmental impacts. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has developed a long term monitoring program. At a minimum the DNR recommends testing phosphorus five times a year (one during spring turnover), Secchi disk as much as possible (at least five times a year), and chlorophyll a four times a year. This will create enough information to allow a TSI to be developed and will produce a baseline structure for future monitoring to be compared to. Other data the DNR recommends includes water temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, fish surveys, macrophyte, phytoplankton, zooplankton, and macro invertebrate surveys. Table 3.11 shows the DNR's long-term trends monitoring recommendations.

Table 3.11: Long Term Trends Lake Monitoring Methods Summary

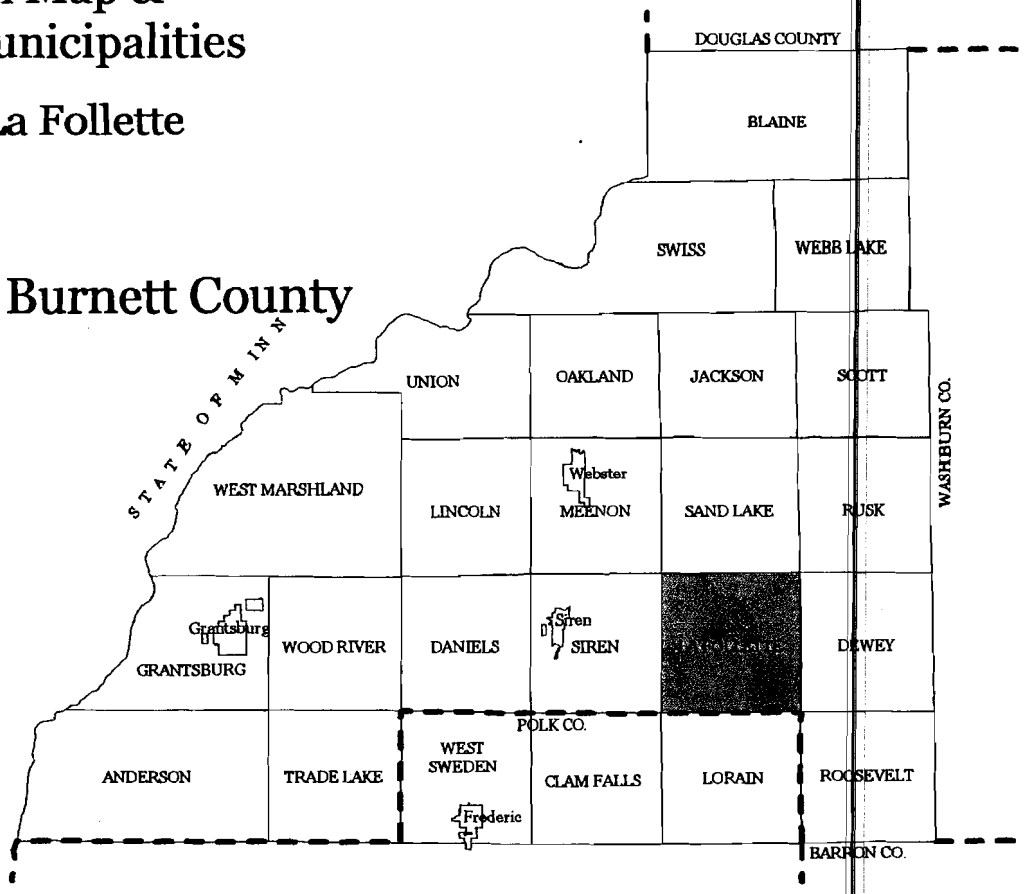
Parameter	Approximate Date of Collection					Remarks
	Spring Turnover	Mid June	Mid July	Mid August	Feb	Sampling site should usually be located at the deepest point for natural lakes and large reservoirs.
Complete water chemistry	X					Two depths: 1 foot from the water surface and 2 feet above the lake bottom. Eighteen constituents:NO2-N + NO3-N, NH3-N, KJN-N, Cl, Org.N, Dissolved P, Ca, Mg, Na, K, pH, SO4, total alkaline, Fe, Mn, color, turbidity, total dissolved solids, volatile solids, and suspended solids.
Total Phosphorous	X**	X***	X***	X***	X**	** = 2 depths: 1 foot below water surface and 2 feet above the lake bottom. *** = Third additional depth at the top of the hypolimnion.
Water Temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH and specific conductance	X	X	X	X	X	Profile - 1 foot below water surface and proceed to lake bottom using 3-6 foot intervals, depending on existing conditions and/or total lake depth. pH and conductance dependent on meter availability.
Chlorophyll a	X	X	X	X	X	One depth - 1 foot below water surface and at depth of observed metalimnion oxygen maxima.
Secchi disk depth	X	X	X	X		Minimum frequency - Weekly by local observer is better.
Lake water level	X	X	X	X		Minimum frequency - Weekly by local observer is better.
Fish survey						Netting during spawning season, boom shocking after September 1. Shocking every other year. Gill netting every sixth year.
Perch (Hg)				X		
Macrophyte			X	X		Survey every third year (general abundance and location by species).
Phytoplankton	X	X	X	X	X	Water collected at 1 foot depth with Kemmerer (identification and general abundance).
Zooplankton	X	X	X	X	X	One vertical tow with a plankton net (identification and general abundance).
Macroinverte-brates					X	Late winter sampling in lake and in stream.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 1998.

Map 3.1

Location Map & Adjacent Municipalities

Town of La Follette



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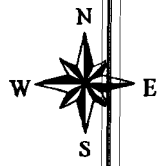
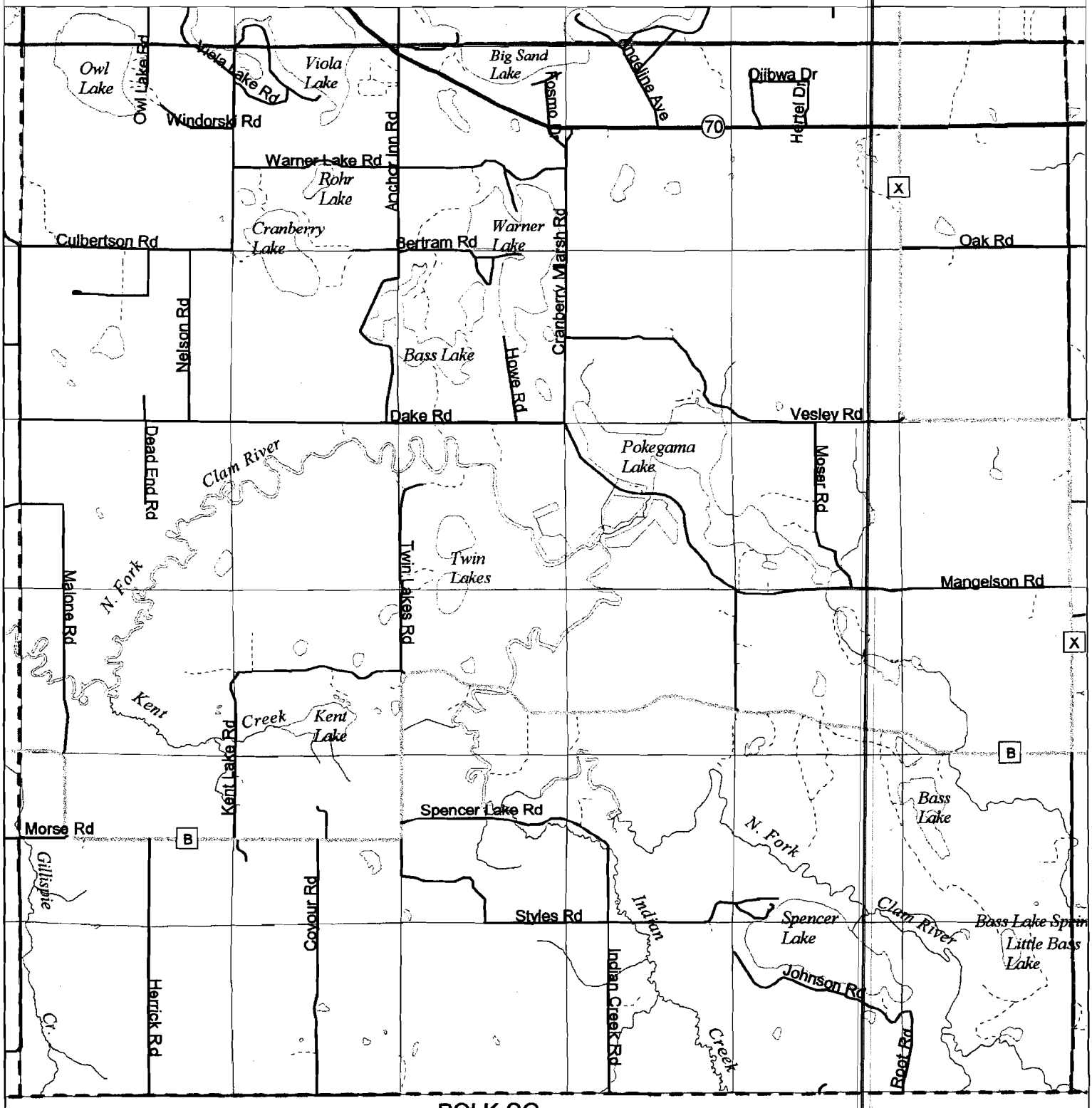


Planning Area
Town of La Follette

Map 3.2



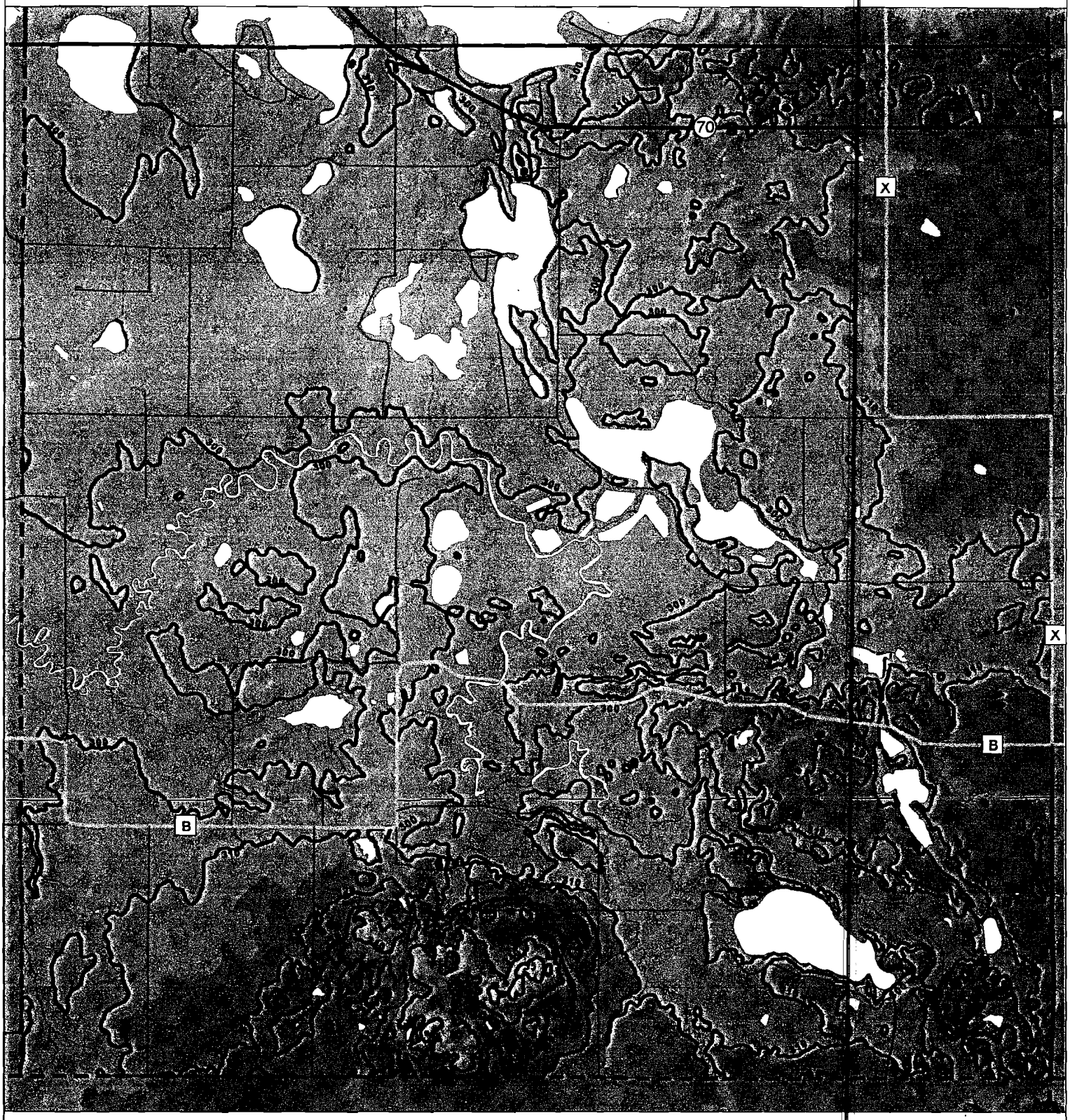
N
W E
S

1000 0 1000 2000 Feet

Federal Highway
State Highway
County Road
Local Road
Town Boundary

Road data derived from TIGER/LINE Files. Hydro from DNR 24K sources.

Elevation & Topography
Town of La Follette



N
W E
S

1000 0 1000 2000 Feet

Federal Highway
State Highway
County Road
Local Road
Town Boundary

10 Foot Contour Interval
Slope Greater Than 5%

Map 3.4

Land Cover
Town of La Follette

N
W E
S

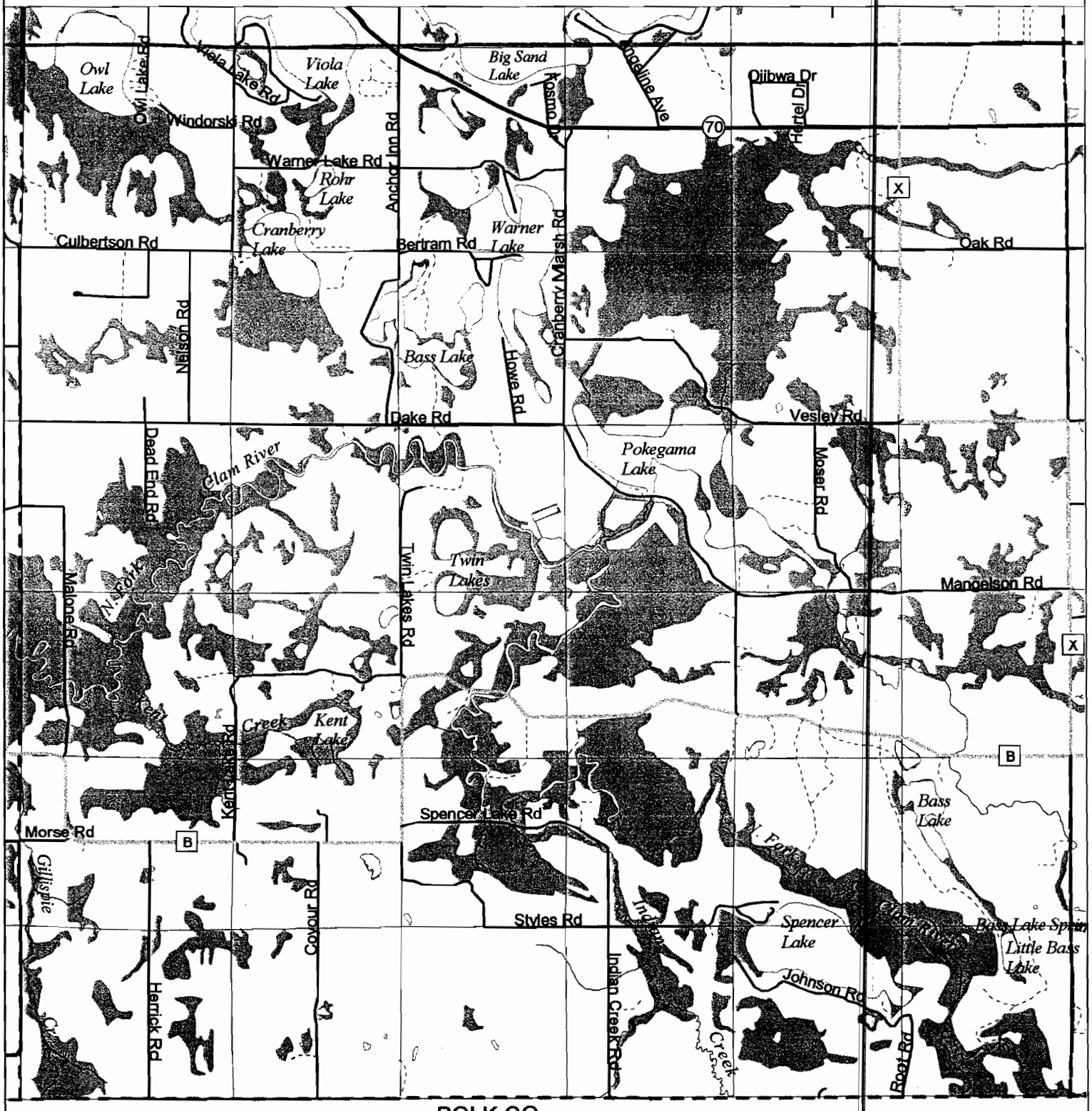
1000 0 1000 2000 Feet

AGRICULTURE
Herbaceous/Field Crops
Other Agriculture
GRASSLAND
FOREST
Coniferous
Broad-leaved Deciduous
Mixed Deciduous/Conferous
OPEN WATER
WETLAND
Emergent/Wet Meadow
Lowland Shrub
Forested
BARREN
SHRUBLAND

Land Cover data from DNR WISCLAND 30 meter data set, 1993.

Map 3.5

Wetlands
Town of La Follette



N
W E
S

1000 0 1000 2000 Feet

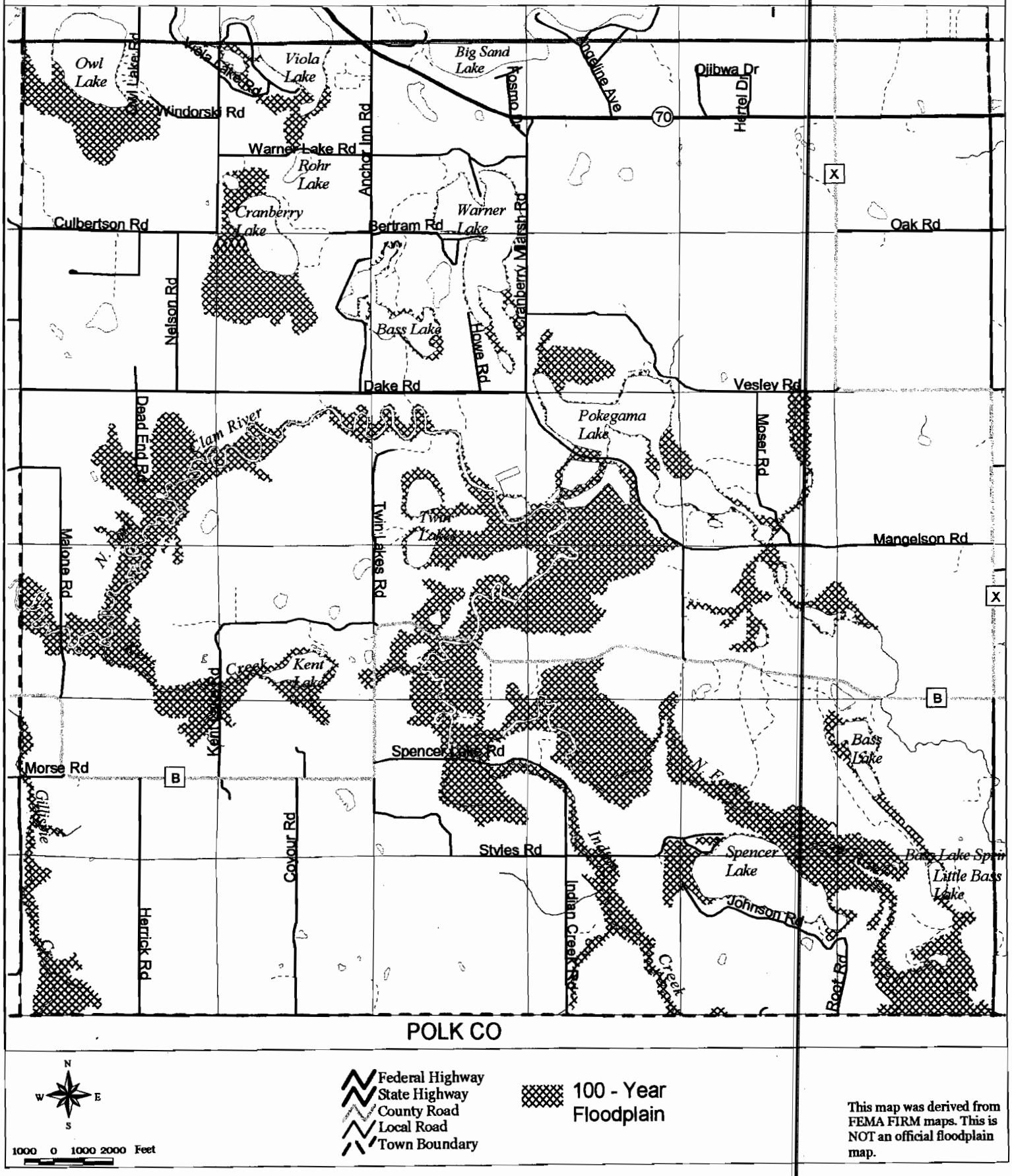
Federal Highway
State Highway
County Road
Local Road
Town Boundary

WDNR Wetlands
(>5 Acres)

Wetland data from DNR's Wetland Inventory

Floodplains
Town of La Follette

Map 3.6



This map was derived from FEMA FIRM maps. This is NOT an official floodplain map.

Watersheds
Town of La Follette

Map 3.7

N
W E
S

1000 0 1000 2000 Feet

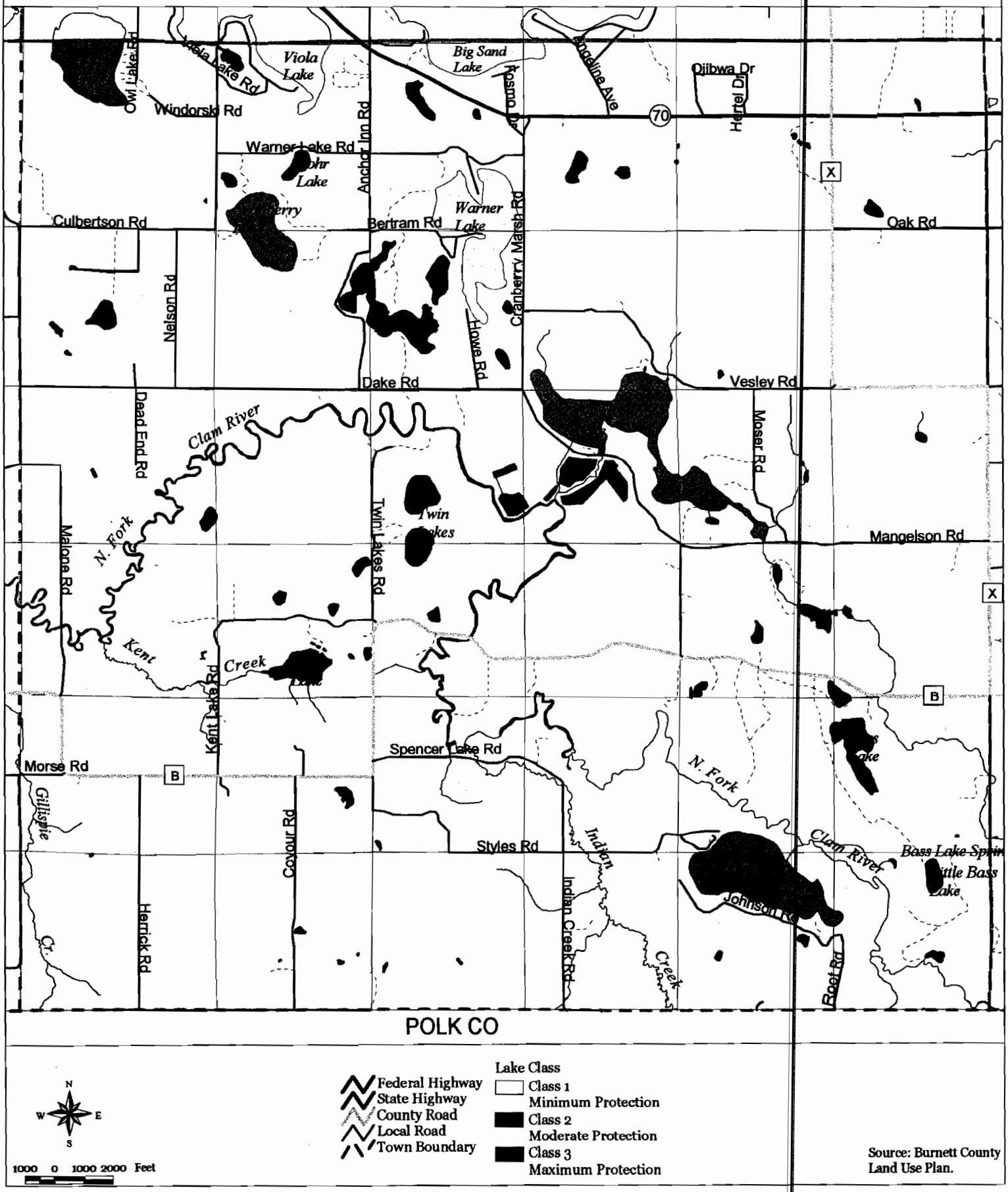
Federal Highway
State Highway
County Road
Local Road
Town Boundary

Clam River
Lower Yellow River
North Fork Clam River

Watershed Info from DNR's GIS Library.

Map 3.8

Lake Classification
Town of La Follette



Source: Burnett County Land Use Plan.

CHAPTER 4: LAND USE

EXISTING LAND USE

This chapter is intended to analyze the existing (2002) land use in the town, as well as inventory existing land use controls applicable to LaFollette. Land use was delineated using aerial photographs taken in spring of 1998 and delineating natural features. Structures were found using both the aerial photographs and Burnett County's fire number/structure database. Map 4.1 shows the existing (2002) land use in the Town of LaFollette.

Land use is a significant element when looking at a community. It governs everything from how the town looks to impacts on water quality to availability of services. Sound land use planning requires knowledge of existing and past trends to help minimize future land use conflicts.

Residential

Residential land is defined as the use of land for non-transient occupant dwelling units. This land use category can be divided up into many sub-levels, including single-family, two-family, multi-family, mobile home, and group quarters. Residential land is scattered throughout the town with higher densities occurring along the lake front areas.

Commercial

Commercial lands are used for retail sales or trade of goods and/or services. The commercial land in the town is located along STH 70. The cranberry bog facility on Cranberry Marsh Road is also commercial land. There is also a number of home run businesses in the town that have their primary land use classified as residential.

Industrial

Land in this category is classified as land for extraction or transformation of materials, fabrication, wholesaling, or long-term storage of products. Common industrial uses in a rural area include sand or gravel pits, large non-agricultural related storage buildings, or small manufacturing plants. There is no industrial land in LaFollette.

Transportation

Transportation related land includes land for the movement of people or materials, including related terminals and parking facilities. The entire road and trail network is classified in this category. The following narrative is a more detailed inventory of the transportation system in the town.

Introduction

Vehicular (automotive) travel is the predominant mode for both residents and nonresidents of the Town of LaFollette and throughout Burnett County. Scheduled air service is not available in Burnett County and the conversion of railroad corridors throughout the county and region preclude the redevelopment of passenger rail service.

Roadway Characteristics

The Town of LaFollette's roadway network is comprised of 55.4 miles of highways and town roads. Roads within the town are classified by their functional use that indicates the type and amount of traffic they are intended to carry. The table below indicates the function classification of LaFollette's roadway network. Map 4.2 shows the functional classification within the town.

Table 4.1: Functional Classification of Roadways

Road type	Total Miles	Percent of total roadway network
Principal arterials	4.13	7.5%
Minor arterials	0.00	0.0%
Major collectors	8.33	15.0%
Major collectors	4.06	7.3%
Local roads	38.83	70.2%
Total	**55.35**	**100.0%**

Source: Wisconsin Department of Transportation, District 8

In the Town of LaFollette, State Highway 70 is categorized as a "principal arterial". This roadway corridor serves as the primary road route into, out of, and through the town and carries the highest traffic numbers in the town.

Functional road classifications for rural areas include principal arterials, minor arterials, major collectors, minor collectors, and local roads.

Principal arterials- serves interstate and interregional trips. These roads generally serve urban areas greater than 5,000 in population.

Minor arterials- serves cities, large communities, and other major traffic generators providing intra-regional and inter-regional traffic movements.

Major collectors- provides service to moderate sized communities and links intra-area traffic to nearby larger population centers.

Minor collectors- these roads collect traffic from local roads and links them to all remaining smaller communities. All developed areas should be within a reasonable distance of a collector road.

Local roads- provides access for travel over relatively short distances. All roads not classified as arterials or collectors are local function roads.

Traffic Volume

The tables on the following page indicate the rate of traffic increase and/or decrease and the sites of Wisconsin Department of Transportation average daily traffic recording in and around the Town of LaFollette since 1968. As is indicated in Table 4.2, sites along US "70" and CTH "X" have demonstrated the most dramatic increase in average daily traffic in LaFollette in the past 30 years.

The increase in traffic throughout southern Burnett County can be attributed to two main factors. First, in the past 30 years, the residents of LaFollette and neighboring towns are simply making more car trips for shopping, commuting to work, and for recreation. Secondly is the dramatic rise in vacation homes and increased tourism trade. Individuals and families with seasonal recreational homes are predominantly from out of the area or from out-of-state and therefore increase the incoming and out-going traffic. Map 4.2 shows the locations of the four sites listed.

Table 4.2: Average Daily Traffic for Southern Burnett County Major Roadways, 1968-1999

	1968	1969	1974	1977	1980	1983	1986	1989	1996	1999
Site 1:	130	130	90	270	290	270	260	280	500	510
Site 2:	640	750	N/A	1540	1290	1340	1680	2200	3300	3100
Site 3:	290	290	130	100	100	90	90	N/A	250	290
Site 4:	10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	70	90	110	120

Source: Wisconsin Highway Traffic, Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Site 1: T.38N.-R.15.W. Sec. 1. ½ mile north of the intersection of Hwy 70 and CTH X.
Site 2: T.38N.-R.15.W. Sec. 1. ½ mile east of the intersection of Hwy 70 and CTH X. On Hwy 70.
Site 3: T.38N.-R.15.W. Sec. 29. On CTH Rd B.
Site 4: T.38N.-R.15.W. Sec. 24. 1 mile north of the intersection of CTH Rd B and CTH Rd X. On CTH X.

Table 4.3: Change in Average Daily Traffic for Southern Burnett County Major Roadways, 1968-1999

	Net Change in Average Daily Traffic 1968-1999	Percent Change 1968-1999
Site 1	+380	292%
Site 2	+2,460	384%
Site 3	0	0%
Site 4	+110	1,100%

Roadway Improvements

Improvements to the local roadway system are critical for maintaining an adequate and safe roadway system. The Town of LaFollette keeps a three-year schedule of future improvements for roadways in town. For more information on this roadway improvement plan, contact the town.

Roadway Management Plan

In 2001, the Town of LaFollette conducted a state mandated roadway evaluation known as PASER (Pavement Surface Evaluation Rating). The rating system is intended to assist the town in planning for roadway improvements and to better allocate its financial resources for these improvements. In the evaluation, roadways in the town were inventoried in terms of their surface condition, drainage, and road crown. Paved roads were rated from 1 to 10 (10 being the best), and gravel roads were rated from 1 to 5 (5 being the best).

Communications/Utilities

Land in this category is used for the generation, processing, and/or transmission of electronic communication or of water, electricity, petroleum, or other transmittable products and for the disposal, waste processing, and/or recycling of byproducts. Within the town there is no land

designated on the land use map for this category; however, any power lines would be lumped into this category.

Governmental/Institutional
This is use of land for public and private facilities for education, health, or assembly for cemeteries and related facilities and for all government facilities used for administration or safety except public utilities and areas of outdoor recreation. The town hall and cemetery would fall under this category in LaFollette.

Park & Recreation
Park and recreational land is used for outdoors sport and general recreation facilities, for camping or picnicking facilities, for nature exhibits, and for the preservation or protection of historical and other cultural amenities. In LaFollette, this would include the two boat landings on Pokegama Lake.

Agricultural
This is defined as use of land for growth or husbandry of plants and animals and their products and for associated facilities. Within the town, this would include all agricultural land used for crops and grazing as well as their accessory buildings. The cranberry bog operation would also be considered in this category.

Woodlands/Other Natural Areas
Land in this category includes all woodlands, wetlands, and other natural, undeveloped areas including grasslands, prairies, and land undergoing change from a natural state to another use. This is the largest land use category in the town and covers over 88 percent of the town.

OWNERSHIP

The majority of the land with the town is privately owned. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources owns five parcels scattered throughout the town, totaling 278 acres. Burnett County owns a small 16.5-acre parcel on the east side of Owl Lake. The largest non-private landowner in the town is the St. Croix-Chippewa Reservation. They own large tracts of land in the northern portion of town along STH 70 and a 160-acre parcel in the west central part of town. In all, the St. Croix Chippewa owns approximately 1,170 acres of land in the town. Map 4.3 shows the ownership in the town.

TAX PARCEL TRENDS

One way to examine land use trends is to look at the tax parcel data from previous years. The following information examines a 12-year span of tax parcel information. Table 4.5 shows acres allotted into each assessment class and the percent change between the years. Not surprisingly, this shows that land assessed as agriculture is declining at an incredible rate, 35 percent, over the last five years and 48 percent over the past 12 years. The loss of agricultural land is becoming more common both in Burnett County and across the state.

The tax classes showing the biggest increase in land are residential and swamp/waste. Residential land increased over 12 percent in the last 5 years and 19 percent over the past 12 years. This is not surprising due to the amount of new homes built during this period. Burnett County recently changed how they evaluate the tax class of Swamp/Waste. This is the reason that the amount of acreage has increased 17 percent over the last five years.

Table 4.5: Tax Assessment Acres and Percent Change, 1990, 1997 and 2002

Land Use	1990 Acres	1997 Acres	1990-97 Percent Change	2002 Acres	1997-2002 Percent Change
Residential	676	718	6.2%	806	12.3%
Agricultural	2,819	2,253	-20.1%	1,464	-35.0%
Forest	14,866	14,694	-1.2%	14,192	-3.4%
Commercial	NA	56	NA	55	-1.8%
Swamp/Waste	NA	3,333	NA	3,904	17.1%
Woodland Tax	NA	1,934	NA	2,049	6.0%
Exempt	NA	891	NA	891	0.0%

Source: Burnett County Tax Assessment, 2002

Table 4.6 shows the major lands uses over the past 12 years in terms of number of parcels. This also shows the dramatic decrease in agricultural land, almost a 44 percent decrease in the number of parcels taxed as agriculture in the last 12 years. These parcels were most likely converted to residential, put into the Woodland Tax Program, or reclassified as Swamp/Waste.

Table 4.6: Major Land Use – Number of Parcels and Percent Change 1990, 1997 and 2002

	Number of Parcels			Percent Change		
Land Use	**1990**	**1997**	**2002**	**1990-97**	**1997-2002**	**1990-2002**
Residential	460	476	518	3.5%	8.8%	12.6%
Agricultural	149	126	84	-15.4%	-33.3%	-43.6%
Forest	614	617	613	0.5%	-0.6%	-0.2%

Source: Burnett County Tax Assessment, 2002

EXISTING LAND USE CONTROLS

Zoning

Burnett County adopted their zoning ordinance on February 23, 1984. Currently, 10 of the 21 towns are zoned with LaFollette not being one of them. Two of LaFollette's neighbors (Dewey to the east and Siren to the west) are zoned. The county has 15 zoning districts including four residential, and three agricultural districts. Other districts are: commercial, industrial, forestry, resource conservation, shoreland protection, planned unit development, shoreland-wetland, and unincorporated village overlay.

Farmland Preservation Plan

The county adopted the Burnett County Farmland Preservation Plan in 1982. The main goals of this plan were to maintain a viable agricultural community, protect the county's environment, and direct future growth. Adoption of this plan has allowed farmers to qualify for 70 percent of the tax credits available to them under the state's Farmland Preservation Act. A series of goals

and objectives were created to address the issues of farmland preservation, urban growth, public facilities, and environmental preservation.

The plan divides land up into four categories: agriculture, environmental, excluded, and transition.

Agriculture
These are lands that are currently in productive agriculture and include cropland, pastures, unique land, and potential cropland. The land is in NRSC land classes 1-5 or land that has potential via physical modification such as drainage or irrigation. The lands are mapped at a 100-acre minimum.

Environmental
These lands are currently under government control such as federal, state, or county forests; National Park Service; special use lands; school forests, or land that has known historical, scientific, or cultural significance.

Excluded
Lands under the excluded category include incorporated areas, developed areas not incorporated, and sub-divided areas that are not yet developed.

Transition
These lands meet the criteria of preservation lands, are greater than 35 acres but less than 100 acres in extent, or lie within or partially within urban service areas or anticipated growth concentrations.

The majority of the land within LaFollette is classified in the agricultural category. There are some excluded areas around the lakes and scattered environmental parcels throughout the town. Map 4.4 shows the Farmland Preservation in the town.

Shoreland Zoning
Section 4.4 of the Burnett County Zoning Ordinance regulates land within the shoreland zone. The shoreland zone, as defined in Wisconsin State Statutes Section 59.692 and 59.694, is all lands in the unincorporated areas of the county within the following distance from the ordinary high water mark of navigable water: 1,000 feet from a lake, pond, or flowage and 300 feet from a river or streams or the landward side of a floodplain, whichever distance is greater. This section regulates all building setbacks; removal of shoreline cover; forest management programs; filling, grading, dredging, and lagooning; the lake class development standards; lake access; and other developments within the shoreland zone.

Burnett County also has a Shoreland-Wetland District as part of their zoning ordinance. This district includes all lands within the shoreland zone and is designated as wetlands on the county's adopted wetland map. This district was created to maintain safe and healthful conditions; to prevent water pollution; to protect fish spawning grounds, aquatic life, wildlife habitat; to reduce flood hazards; and to control building and development in a manner that minimizes impacts on wetlands.

Burnett County Lake Classification Scheme

As previously discussed, Burnett County developed a classification scheme for building on waterfront property. This plan will affect anyone building new structures on any lake or river in the county. Surface waters are broken up into three categories based on their physical characteristics and vulnerability to developmental pressures and certain setbacks; and building requirements are required for each class. Chapter 3 goes into more detail on this scheme or refer to the *Burnett County Land Use Plan* or *A Guide for Developing and Managing Shoreland in Burnett County* for more information.

Map 4.1

Existing Land Use

Town of La Follette

N
W E
S

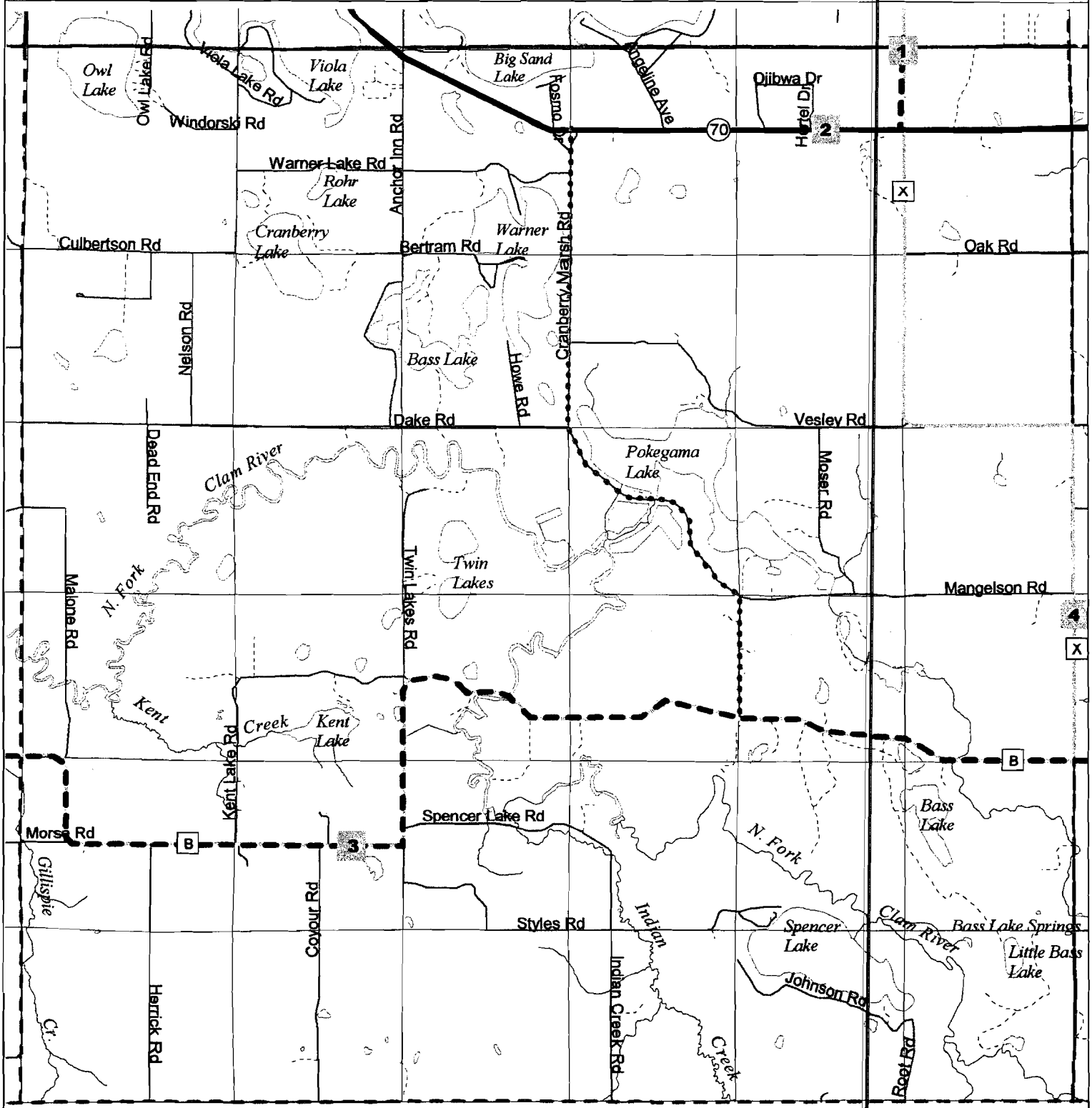
2000 0 2000 Feet

State Highways
County Roads
Local Roads
Town Boundary
Section Lines
Lakes & Ponds
Rivers & Streams

Land Use Categories
Residential
Commercial
Governmental/Institutional
Park & Recreation
Agricultural/Open Space
Cranberry Bog
Woodlands & Other Natural Areas

Functional Classification
Town of La Follette

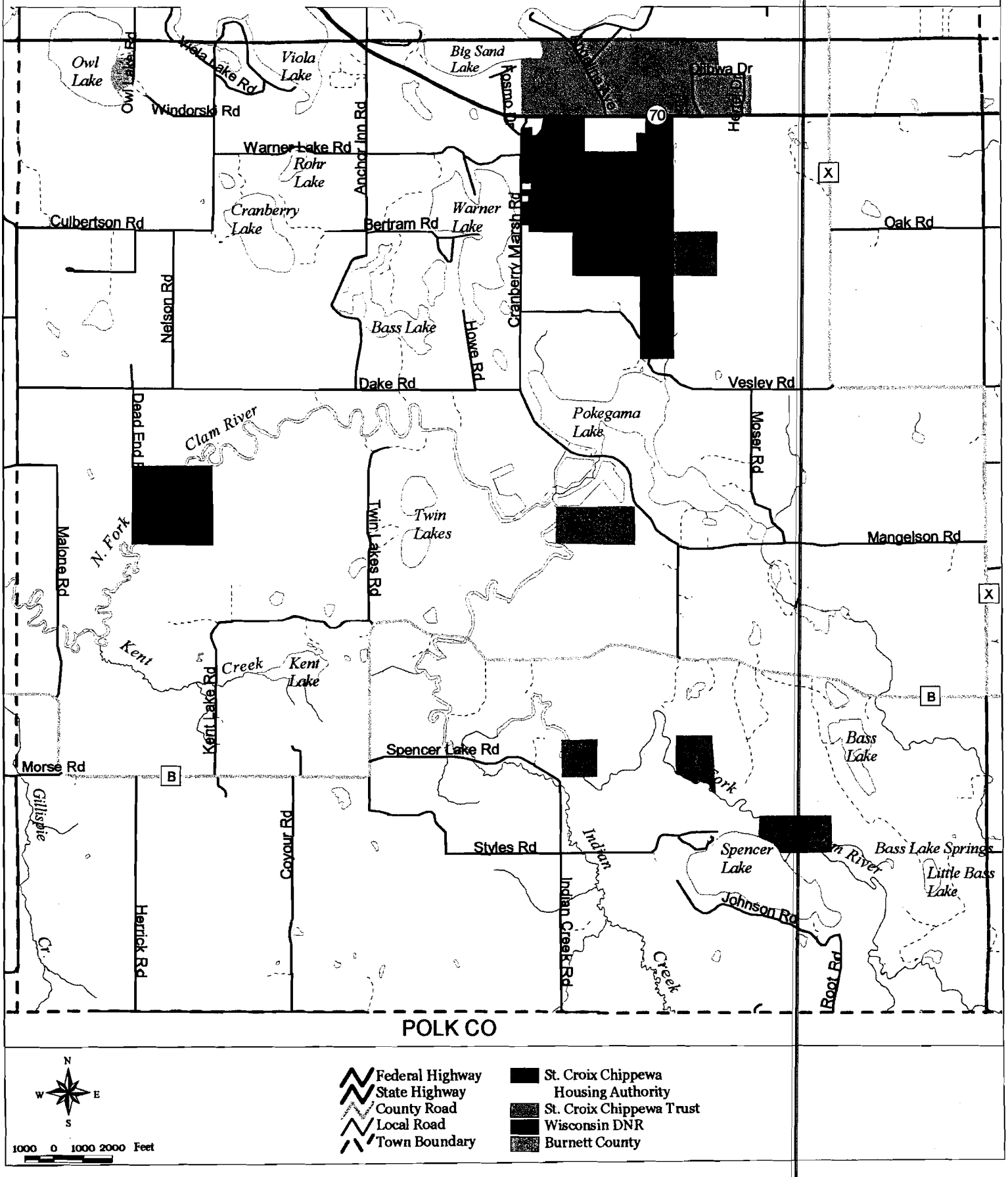
Map 4.2



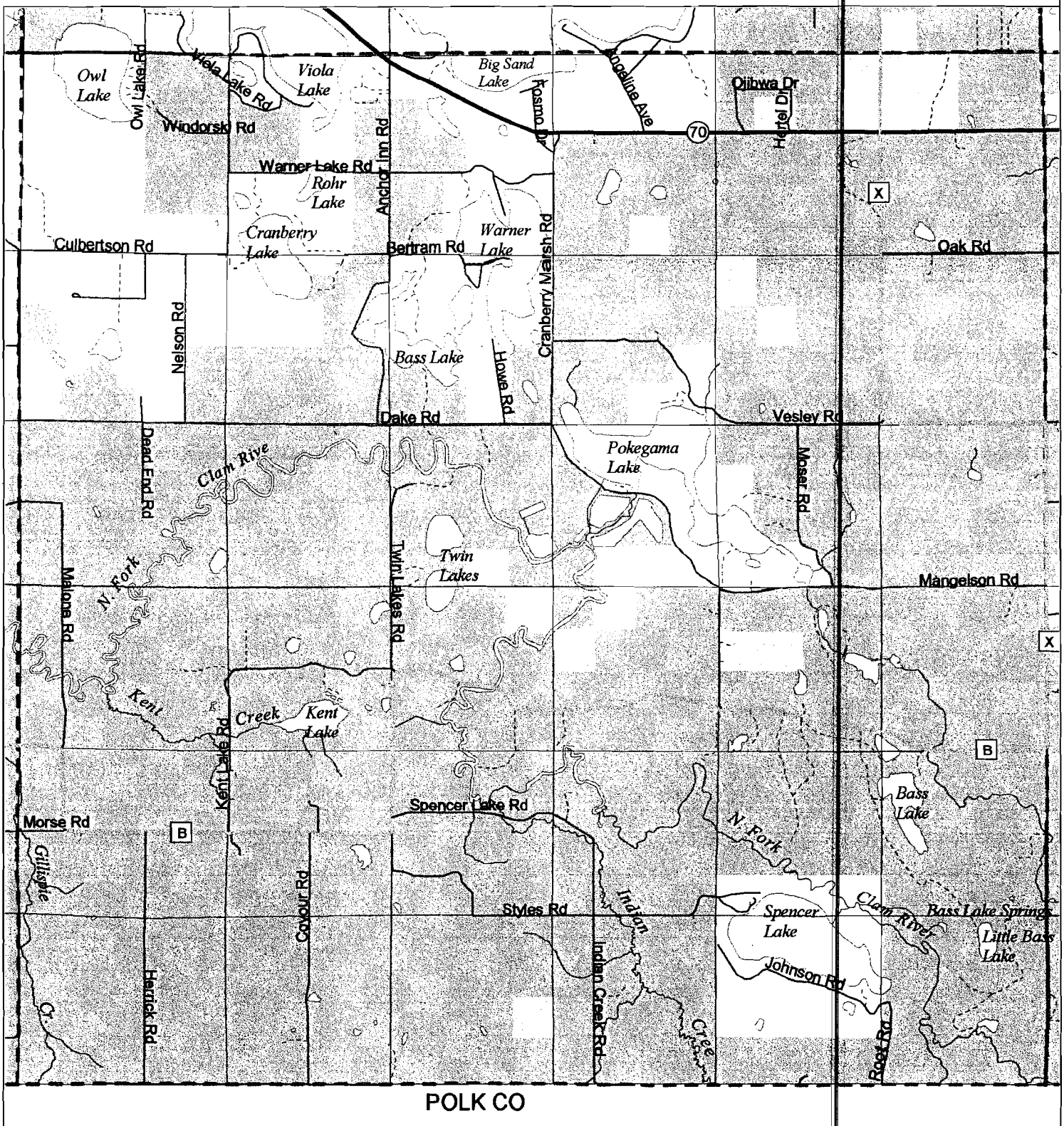
Source: WisDOT, Northwest RPC.

Map 4.3

Ownership
Town of La Follette



Farmland Preservation
Town of La Follette



N
W E
S

1000 0 1000 2000 Feet

Federal Highway
State Highway
County Road
Local Road
Town Boundary

Agriculture
Environmental
Excluded

Watershed Info from DNR's GIS Library.

CHAPTER 5: ISSUES & GOAL DEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

Introduction

In July of 2002, 609 surveys were sent out to the landowners of the Town of LaFollette. This survey was intended to get a feel for how the town felt on a variety of issues. Two hundred five were returned for a response rate of 34 percent. Some of the key issues of the survey were zoning, restrictions on billboards, commercial and industrial locations, non-licensed cars and junk in yards, night lighting, the adequacy of town services, and the use of all types of recreational vehicles. The full results of the survey can be found in Appendix A.

Residency and Property Location

Table 5.1 shows the residency status and whether or not the respondents have waterfront property. Seventy-six of the survey respondents (38%) were permanent residents, and 115 (57.5%) were seasonal. Five percent didn't respond. This may seem like a large proportion of the respondents were seasonal; however, according to the 2000 census; 53 percent of the households in the town are used for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use.

Over 58 percent of the respondents of the survey own lakefront property, where only 2 percent own riverfront property and 39 percent are non-waterfront property owners. As shown in Table 5.1, seasonal residents own over twice as much waterfront property than non-waterfront and over double the permanent residents. Permanent residents are divided equally between waterfront and non-waterfront property.

Table 5.1 Property Locations and Residency – Survey Respondents

	Property Locations			
Residency	Lakefront	Riverfront	Non-Waterfront	Total
Permanent	36	1	38	75
Seasonal	76	3	36	115
Total	112	4	74	190

Land Use & Zoning

Figures 5.1 and 5.2 show how the town felt about land use planning and zoning. When asked if the town needs land use planning, 121 (61%) of the respondents said "yes", 32 (16%) said no and 38 (19%) were not sure. When asked if the town should adopt zoning, 42 percent said "yes", 24 percent said "no" and 21 percent said "not sure". This was the only question where there was a significant difference between seasonal and non-seasonal residents. Permanent residents were split on yes and no (26 and 29 respondents, respectively), where seasonal respondents replied, "yes" three times more than "no" (60 and 20 respondents). There were also a substantial number of people, 38 and 43, that responded "not sure" to these two questions. This may mean that some educational steps should be taken to help people better understand what planning and zoning are and how they relate.

Figure 5.1

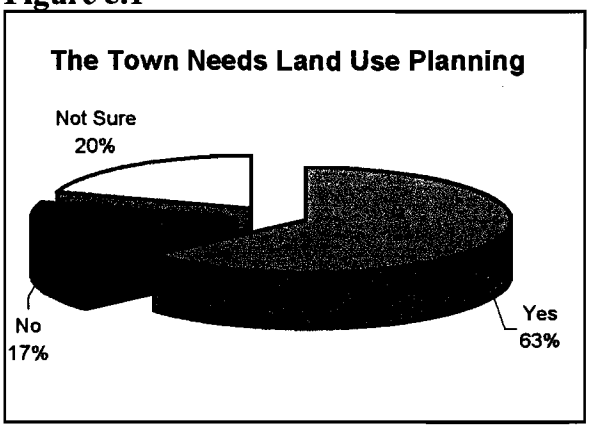
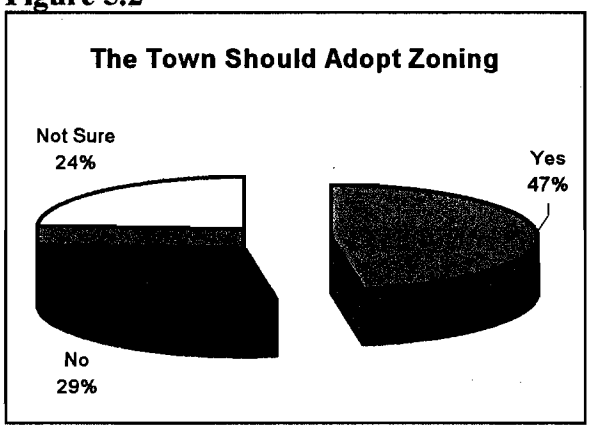


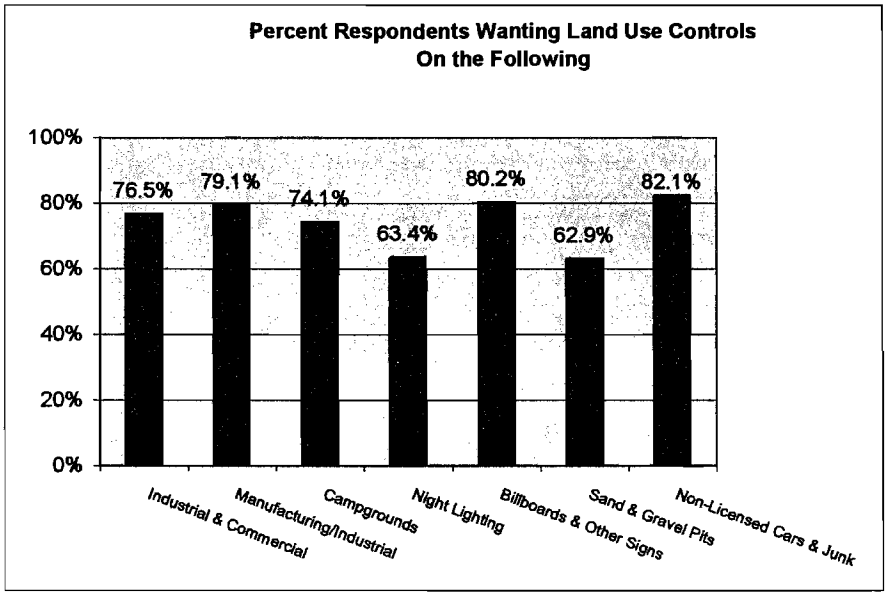
Figure 5.2



Land Use Controls and Ordinances

Survey respondents were asked whether or not the town should apply land use controls to restrict different types of development. Figure 5.3 shows the results of this question. The largest response was to non-licensed cars and debris piles gathering in yards and billboards and large commercial signs. Industrial, commercial, and manufacturing locations and size and number and location of campgrounds also received high support in the town putting regulations on. Night lighting and sand and gravel pits didn't receive as high of support.

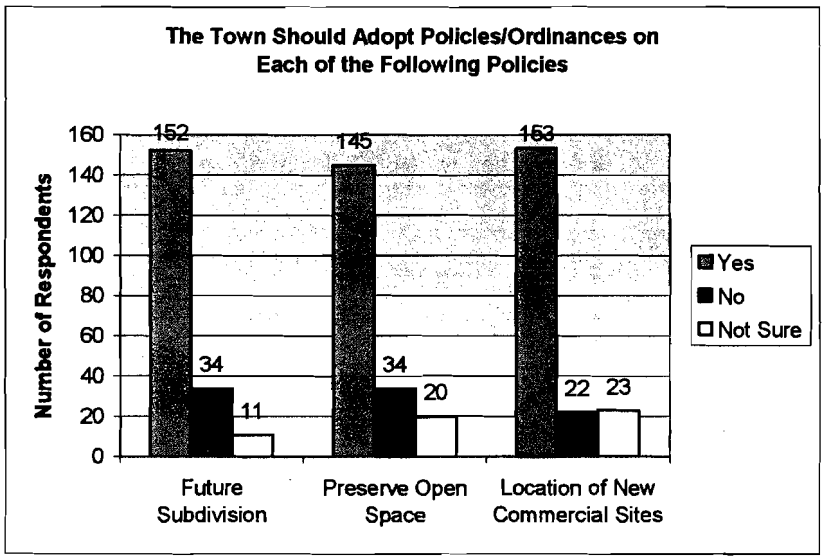
Figure 5.3



The survey also asked the town on whether or not LaFollette should develop policies, standards, or ordinances on different issues. Figure 5.4 shows these results. Of the survey respondents, 152 (76%) said the town should adopt policies and standards for future sub-division developments. One hundred forty-five (73%) of the respondents favored the encouragement of sub-division and development policies and ordinances that practice the preservation of large parcels of natural

land or open space. When asked if new commercial and industrials sites should be guided to areas where these activities already exist, 153 (77%) of the respondents said "yes".

Figure 5.4



Other Issues

Many other issues were covered in the survey. Not surprisingly, the majority of people (91%) favored single-family housing above everything else. The town respondents were in favor of new businesses developing in the town, including tourism orientated, retail, and service type businesses. The majority of the respondents rated various town services as either "good" or "fair". Almost half of the respondents wanted more restrictions on the hours of use and size of lakes where personal watercrafts can be used and on the use of high-speed boats. Over 50 percent think that the restrictions on snowmobiles are currently adequate and the people were almost split on the use of ATV's. Forty-two percent want more restrictions and 35 percent think they are currently adequate.

Open Ended Questions

There were a number of open-ended questions on the survey where the respondents could write in their feelings about different aspects of the town. The following summarizes these responses.

Should the town adopt zoning? – Why or why not?

Why?

- Keep business and residential separate
- To properly control land maintenance
- Ensures reasonable development patterns
- To protect from random and destructive development

Why not?

- Do not need more government
- You should be able to do what you want with your land
- Do not need more rules and regulations
- If you pay taxes on the land, you should be able to do what you want

What other types of businesses do you support developing in the town?

- Agricultural Related
- Small Business
- Tourism Oriented
- Light Industrial
- Whatever the person wants
- Hospitals

What do you like most about the town?

- Beauty, wildlife, natural atmosphere
- Peaceful, quiet, serenity, privacy and remoteness
- Hunting, fishing, recreation
- Friendliness of people/residents
- Closeness to the Twin Cities

What do you like least about living in LaFollette?

- High taxes
- Junk cars, garbage piles in yards
- Traffic
- Road conditions
- Zoning on lakeshore property

What are the top three issues facing LaFollette in the next 20 years?

- Taxes/increased property values
- Environmental issues
- Growth/development
- Roads
- Enforcement/Crime

Conclusion

In conclusion, it seems that although the respondents aren't sure about zoning, they are in favor of creating ordinances and policies on specific issues. Town zoning has been voted down in the past, as people do not want more rules and regulations governing their land. The town may want to hold an educational program that describes the positive aspects about zoning and get more input on what the town people want in terms of policies and ordinances. People in LaFollette want to keep the beauty and peacefulness of the town, while minimizing the negative impacts of increasing development, such as high taxes, increasing traffic, bad road conditions, and junk cars and debris piles in yards. The respondents of the survey predict the top issues facing the town in the future are taxes/increased property values, environmental issues, and growth/development issues. This plan will help address some of these issues and provide information that will help educate the town on how to make good land use decisions.

GOALS/OBJECTIVES/ACTIONS

The Town of LaFollette's Land Use Committee developed a series of goals and objectives to help guide the town in future land use decisions. Using the survey and other public input sessions the following goals, objectives, and actions were created.

Housing:

Goal: A range of housing opportunities for both seasonal and permanent residents that is affordable, safe, and preserves the town's rural character.

Objective 1: Guide new housing developments into areas that minimize the impacts on vulnerable natural resources.

Action: Identify environmental corridors and other environmentally sensitive areas to show where building would not be suitable.

Objective 2/Action: Encourage the development of sub-division, driveway, and other housing related ordinances.

Objective 3: Educate builders and prospective landowners on rules and regulations in the town and Burnett County.

Action: Create brochure or pamphlet outlining any town specific ordinances and make available at town hall or via internet and readily make available "A Guide for Developing & Managing Shoreland in Burnett County".

Economic Development:

Goal: Small retail, service, and light industrial businesses located in appropriate places that are compatible with the town's rural character.

Objective 1/Action: Support small retail and service related businesses.

Objective 2: Guide commercial development into areas most appropriate for such activities.

Action: Follow Future Land Use map that shows most appropriate areas for commercial activities.

Transportation:

Goal: A safe and efficient multi-modal transportation system that accommodates the movement of both people and goods.

Objective 1: Continue to update and maintain the town's road system.

Action: Continue to develop and follow the Town's Roadway Improvement Plan.

Objective 2: Maintain a recreational trail system to provide other modes of transportation.

Action: Work cooperatively with county and other municipalities to create trail system that runs through town.

Action: Research grant opportunities to help fund any recreational projects.

Objective3: Sustain a viable transportation network for emergency, maintenance, and service vehicles in both public and private land areas.

Action: Address these concerns in Road Improvement Plans and periodically review driveway ordinances to ensure proper standards for such vehicles.

Action: All new roads will have sufficient access and circulation for public service vehicles.

Natural Resources:

Goal: High quality natural resources that maintain the rural character of the town.

Objective 1: Identify unique and pristine ecosystems.

Action: Create an environmental corridor map that identifies environmentally sensitive areas.

Objective 2: Support planned forest management.

Action: Educate landowners on BMP's (Best Management Practices) for managing their private forestland.

Objective 3: Encourage the restoration and maintenance of wetlands.

Action: Encourage the development of "conservation sub-division" that work around smaller wetlands instead of filling them and generally have more open space compared to conventional sub-divisions.

Action: Support voluntary buffers around existing wetlands to help ensure water quality and wildlife habitat.

Agricultural Resources:

Goal: A viable agricultural system that allows residents to participate in a variety of agricultural activities.

Objective 1: Preserve prime agricultural farmland for continued agricultural use.

Action: Identify prime farmland through soils inventory and encourage and support voluntary techniques for protecting prime farmland such as nonprofit conservancies, land trusts, and conservation easements.

Action: Encourage clustering of non-farm residences in order to preserve large tracts of agriculture land and prevent fragmentation.

Objective 2: Recognize and promote other types of agricultural activities (such as silviculture, cranberry bogs, etc).

Action: Allow and support said agricultural activities.

Water Resources:

Goal: High quality surface water resources and safe, unpolluted groundwater for all to enjoy.

Objective 1: Educate people on the importance of shoreland buffers, impacts of fertilizers, and other Best Management Practices for shoreline development.

Action: Make available, either through the town, the county, or via internet educational material on how landowners can easily and affordably make their lake property more environmentally friendly.

Objective 2/Action: Encourage and provide assistance in the development and maintenance of lake associations and districts.

Objective 3/Action: Continue to encourage proper maintenance and routine checks on septic systems.

Objective 4: Encourage the restoration of wetlands.

Action: Encourage the development of "conservation sub-division" that work around smaller wetlands instead of filling them and generally preserve more open space compared to conventional sub-divisions.

Action: Support voluntary buffers around existing wetlands to help ensure water quality and wildlife habitat.

Objective 5: Promote the safe, non-destructive, and respectful use of high-powered boats and personal watercraft.

Action: Support/develop ordinances that have size and/or time restrictions on use of high-powered boats and personal watercraft.

Land Use:

Goal: Orderly, efficient planning that provides residents with a healthy and productive living environment.

Objective 1: Identify any existing land use conflicts and work towards minimizing future conflicts.

Action: Adopt Land Use Plan and use it to make future land use decisions.

Action: Develop and adopt town or county zoning that addresses the concerns of the majority of the town's landowners.

Objective 2: Create and maintain an existing land use inventory.

Action: Post existing land use map in town hall and make changes on it as new development occurs.

Objective 3: Encourage the development of various land use regulations to help guide future growth.

Action: Adopt specific town ordinances that meet the concerns of the public.

Objective 4: Use this land use plan as a basis for completing a comprehensive plan that is compliant with State Statutes Chapter 66.

Action: Apply for OLIS (Office of Land Information Services) Planning Grant within the next three to four years to help cover the cost of creating a "Smart Growth" Comprehensive Plan.

CHAPTER 6: RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

This section will provide recommendations on future land use issues as well as guidelines for maintaining and improving water quality among the town's lakes. This section will outline the future land use map developed by the planning committee as well as outline implementation tools that could help the town achieve the goals and objective discussed in Chapter 5.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Future Land Use Map (Map 6.1) is shown on page X, and shows many features that are described below.

Wetlands

Wetlands are shown as a green hatch and represent the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource's Wisconsin Wetland Inventory and displays wetlands five acres or greater. Smaller "spot" wetlands are not shown. No building should be allowed in these areas.

Ownership

These areas show where the town has no jurisdiction in regulating. It includes land owned by the St. Croix Tribe and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. These lands are shown in dark green, dark blue, and greenish gray.

Existing Land Use

These areas were taken from the existing land use map and overlaid onto the future map. These lands include existing residential, commercial, recreational, governmental /institutional, and land in existing agricultural use (including cranberry bogs). Colors correspond to those on the existing land use map.

Potential Future Land Use Areas

Shoreland Residential

These areas are shown as orange on the map and constitute built up areas along lakefront. Currently, these areas are a high-density mix of permanent and seasonal housing of various types and scale. The Shoreland Residential areas are currently managed under the county's shoreland zoning and lake classification system.

Recommendations

1. Continue supporting Burnett County's Lake Classification scheme.
2. Require building permits for all new housing developments.
3. Discourage future keyhole development (development not on but adjacent to existing lakeshore development) to stop over development of lakeshore.
4. Support and encourage the use of Best Management Practices.

Residential Expansion Area
This category can be identified by the light yellow/cream color on the Future Land Use Map. Currently this area has a few developed parcels with the Town Hall/Garage in the northwest part of town. This land has been sub-divided into 10 to 20 acre parcels. There is also a small area along CTH X that has been divided into five-acre parcels, and the area adjacent to the eastern boundary of the St. Croix Reservation land, north of HWY 70. This portion of town has existing medium density residential in and around it.

Recommendations

1. New residential areas shall be located away from incompatible land uses.
2. Building permits should be required on any new housing developments.
3. Encourage single family residential as the primary building types.

Forest/Open Space
This area is shown as white or blank on the map and constitutes the majority of the land in the town. Currently this land is scattered low density residential with large parcels, most of which are over 40 acres. Land in this category is generally in forest, fallow fields, or primary growth succession plants due to tornado damage.

Recommendations

1. These areas should stay as rural residential, with low housing densities.
2. Any higher use densities should use conservation sub-division designs to help preserve the most open space as possible.
3. Where land abuts protected lands (wetlands, floodplains, etc) buffers should be in place to minimize conflicts between landowners and wildlife.
4. Building permits should be required before any new housing developments occur.
5. Support enrollment of private forest lands into programs that promote sustainable forestry.

Commercial/Mixed Area
This area is shown as a dark pink on the Future Land Use Map and identifies appropriate areas for new commercial activities. Currently this area has a mix of commercial and residential areas along STH 70 and in Hertel.

Recommendations

1. Any new large commercial enterprises should be located along this corridor.
2. Commercial design standards (for buildings and signs) may be implemented in order to maintain the town's rural character.

Resource Conservation Area
This buffer area along the North Fork Clam River and Indian Creek is shown as a light green on the map. Existing use is limited scattered residential with some DNR land. This area has been identified as an area for further protection to help preserve surface and ground water quality.

Recommendations

1. Strongly encourage the use of Best Management Practices such as:
    - Larger native plant buffers between shoreline and lawn
    - Reduce impervious surfaces around home
    - Use of infiltration trenches with fabric filter and crushed stone around house instead of traditional gutters and downspouts
    - Use rain barrel if you have traditional gutters
    - Control shoreline erosion with revegetation or rock rip rap instead of concrete, steel or wood seawalls
    - Planting of native vegetation and grasses instead of non-native plants. Native vegetation needs less (or no) fertilizer and pesticides.

2. Require building permits in this area to let town know of any new development so town can educate landowners on BMP's.
3. Restrict or regulate use of pesticides and fertilizers on waterfront property.
4. Support larger setbacks to offset development pressures on water resources.

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

Many implementation tools are available to help the town achieve their goals and objectives. These tools are both regulatory and non-regulatory and consist of a variety of programs and regulations that will help protect and maintain the town's vision of maintaining rural character.

Town Sponsored Tools

Citizen Awareness and Participation
This plan was created by a committee of concerned citizens with the technical assistance of Northwest Regional Planning Commission. The entire Town of LaFollette should be aware of this plan and understand its content and purpose. Copies should be made available at either the town hall or local library. The plan should also be made available to adjacent jurisdictions to help with their local plans as they are created.

Developer Awareness
Potential developers in the town must be aware of this plan and of its intent. Development practices that will help preserve the rural character of the community must be encouraged through education and supported by regulation at both the town and county level. Distribution of the plan to potential developers prior to project planning will help eliminate confusion and possible conflict in the future.

Town Decision Making
It is recommended that the Town of LaFollette Board adopts this plan and town board members become educated on the details of the plan. The town board should actively use the plan as a 'blueprint for the future' in the land use decision-making process.

Town Planning Commission
The Town of LaFollette is encouraged to establish a planning commission, which would review any potential development projects to ensure consistency with the town plan. This committee would also make recommendations to developers and the town board to ensure that proposals meet plans standards. The commission would also serve to update and revise the Town Land Use Plan and to coordinate the development of a future "Smart Growth" Comprehensive Plan.

County Land Use Planning
It is essential when Burnett County decides to pursue development of a Burnett County Comprehensive Plan that reflects and includes the recommendations of the Town of LaFollette Land Use Plan.

Tools for Conservation

Purchase of Development Rights Program (PDR)
This technique is currently in use in some southern counties of Wisconsin and elsewhere in the United States and has proven to be effective for preserving farmland in areas adjacent to cities. The purchase of development rights is a voluntary protection technique that compensates the landowner for limiting future development on their land. The programs are primarily used for retention of agricultural lands, but the concept can be applied to all types of land use scenarios. Under a PDR program, an entity such as a town, county, or private conservation organization purchases the development rights to a designated piece of property. The land remains in private ownership, and the landowner retains all the other rights and responsibilities associated with the property.

Transfer of Development Rights Program (TDR)
The TDR program is a non-regulatory (voluntary) approach that allows the right to develop property to be transferred from one parcel (or zoning district) to another. Under a TDR program, development rights to parcel of land are transferred from a "sending area" to another parcel referred to as the "receiving area". Sending areas are typically those areas where development is discouraged or limited, and receiving areas are areas where growth and development are encouraged. Under some TDR programs, local government awards development rights to each parcel of developable land in the community or in selected districts on the basis of the land's acreage or value. Landowners can then sell the development rights on the open market. The TDR program has been widely implemented at the local level due to the fact that it requires no major financial contribution by local government.

Benefits of the TDR program include:

- The public benefits from the conservation easements, which protect and preserve sensitive natural features and wildlife habitat.
- Owners of sending area properties receive economic compensation for their properties where development would normally be precluded due to sensitive natural features or zoning restrictions.

- Owners of receiving area properties can increase their development density, accommodating a greater number of uses or tenants.
- Little financial contribution on behalf of local government.

Acquisition
This type of land preservation tool involves the direct purchase of land for the purposes of preservation and protection. This tool should be used in cases where other protective mechanisms fail to meet objectives and/or in cases of high-priority acquisition lands. Acquisition efforts should be coordinated with other local, state, and national acquisition initiatives (lake associations, environmental groups, USFS, WDNR, etc.)

Conservation Easements
When a landowner sells their development rights, a legal document known as a conservation easement is drafted. The easement restricts the use of the land to agricultural use, open space, or other desired use in perpetuity. A conservation easement permanently limits residential, commercial, or industrial development to protect its natural attributes or agricultural value. The conservation easement becomes a part of the landowner's deed and remains on the deed even if the land is sold or passed through inheritance thereby ensuring the development will not occur on the property.

The conservation easement does not automatically allow public access to the land; the land remains in the hands of the owner, as only the right to develop it has been purchased. All remaining rights of property ownership remain with the landowner including the right to transfer ownership, swap, deed, or sell the land. A purchase of development rights program works to ensure that incompatible development will not take place; the PDR becomes a part of the deed and keeps the land in its agricultural or natural state in perpetuity. An effective purchase of development rights program requires initial financial support and on-going administration. Additionally, the program requires a county review board to assess the lands of landowners requesting entry of their parcel into the PDR program.

Land Trusts
Land trusts are non-profit voluntary organizations that work with landowners to use a variety of tools to help them protect their land. Such organizations are formed with the purpose of protecting open space, scenic views, wildlife, etc. and they use a variety of techniques to raise money for operating expenses and the acquisition of easements. Land trusts also provide adequate monitoring and stewardship. In the United States, land trusts can hold conservation easements, which means that the organization has the right to enforce the restrictions placed on the land.

LESA Farmland Preservation Tool
LESA is an acronym for land evaluation and site assessment tool, a program that assists in the evaluation of land based on its suitability for agricultural use and value for non-farm uses. This system, developed by the Soil Conservation Service in 1981, has been routinely adopted and implemented for use by local government throughout the nation. The system involves a two-part process, the land evaluation component (LE) and site assessment component (SA). The LE portion involves assessment of soil conditions as they relate to the production of food and fiber

products. Site assessment typically involves an analysis of the non-soil variables which effect the property's use such as municipal services available, adjacent land uses, development suitability, compatibility with land use plans, and distance from populated areas (expansion areas). A point system is often used in order to quantify the variables of the LE and SA components. Points are assessed based on whether or not the property meets the guidelines of the community and then totaled to achieve a composite score. A threshold score then determines whether or not the property would be an appropriate residential development area or whether the land should remain in agricultural use.

Conservation Design Subdivisions

The conservation design subdivision concept is an alternative development design to the conventional residential subdivision. Conventionally designed subdivisions are typically characterized by land divided into house lots and streets, with minimal (if any) open space. Usually, the remaining open space lands consist of the undevelopable portion of the subdivision (steep slopes, wetlands, floodplain, etc.). The conventional subdivision lacks communal open space, community woodlands, or other open areas where people can meet and interact.

The purpose of a conservation design subdivision is to provide opportunity for development while maintaining open space characteristics, encouraging interaction among residents through site design, and protection of habitat and environmental features. A typical conservation design subdivision contains the same number of lots that would be permitted under a conventional design. The lots are typically smaller than conventional lots and are designed for single-family homes reminiscent of traditional neighborhoods found in small towns throughout America.

The compact design of a conservation subdivision allows for the creation of permanent open space (typically 50 percent or more of the buildable area). This undeveloped land typically serves as community open space land and provides recreational, aesthetic, and social benefits to subdivision residents.

The conservation design subdivision has proven economic, environmental, and social advantages over conventionally designed subdivisions including:

Economic Advantages

- Lower infrastructure and design (engineering) costs
- Attractiveness of lots for home development
- Reduction in demand for public parklands

Environmental Advantages

- Protection of conservation areas and upland buffers (which would normally be developed)
- Reduced runoff due to less impervious surface cover
- Improved water filtration due to presence of vegetation and buffers
- Opportunities for non-conventional septic system design

Social Advantages

- Opportunities for interaction among residents (common open space)

- Pedestrian friendly
- Greater opportunity for community activities

Best Management Practices
Best management practices describe voluntary procedures and activities aimed at protection of natural resources. BMP's are described in detail in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources publications titled "Wisconsin Construction Site Best Management Practice Handbook", and "Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality". Shoreland BMP's are a set of specific actions that landowners can take to help protect and preserve water quality. Detailed information on the use and implementation of shoreland BMP's is available from the University of Minnesota Extension (UM-EX).

Zoning
Currently LaFollette does not have zoning. The town is, however, under specific shoreland and floodplain zoning. Below lists different types of zoning that the town could possible be under or adopt in the future.

Town Zoning
The town would create and enforce their own zoning ordinance. A benefit of this zoning is that the town can specifically address concerns of their landowners and not worry about other outside influences. A disadvantage is the cost of creating and maintaining a town zoning ordinance and administrator.

County Zoning
The town would adopt the county's zoning ordinance and follow their guidelines. A main benefit of this is having the county do the enforcement of the laws, and a disadvantage is that the county's ordinance may not reflect exactly what the town wants or needs.

Floodplain Zoning
Floodplain zoning ordinances are required by Wisconsin law and pertain to cities, villages, and towns. The Wisconsin DNR specifies minimum standards for development in floodplains, but local ordinances may be more restrictive than these rules.

Shoreland Zoning
Wisconsin law requires that counties adopt zoning regulations in shoreline areas that are within 1,000 feet of a navigable lake, pond, or flowage or 300 feet of a navigable stream or the landward side of the floodplain, whichever distance is greater. Minimum standards for shoreland zoning ordinances are specified in rules developed by the Wisconsin DNR, while local standards may be more restrictive than these rules.

Exclusive Agricultural Zoning
Municipalities may adopt exclusive agricultural zoning for farmland under the Farmland Preservation Program. For farmers to be eligible for income tax credits, they must meet standards that require a minimum parcel size of 35 acres limit the use of the land to those that are agriculturally related. The ordinance must comply with the county farmland preservation plan.

IN CONCLUSION

By taking the time to prepare and complete this land use plan, the town shows leadership and vision, as developmental concerns are imminent. LaFollette has proven a commitment to protecting the town's natural resources and rural character which makes the area a beautiful place to live and vacation.

This land use plan is to be used as a **guide** for making any land use based decisions and should be used by the town board, the county, and private citizens as such. It is intended to guide growth and development decisions based on sound background data. This plan is an attempt to visualize the town's goals, vision, and values based on surveys, the town planning committee, and public input. This document is not static, rather it is fluid, always evolving as situations emerge. Periodic review of the plan and revisions will assure that this plan will stay consistent with the town's views and desires.

APPENDIX A – SURVEY RESULTS

I. LAND USE & ZONING

Do you agree with the following statements?

1. The town of LaFollette needs land use planning.

Yes	121 (60.5%)
No	32 (16.0%)
Not Sure	38 (19.0%)

2. It is important to preserve agricultural land in the town.

Yes	149 (74.5%)
No	31 (15.5%)
Not Sure	14 (7.0%)

3. It is important to receive information/ education about managing your private woodlots for wildlife, timber, or recreation.

Yes	151 (75.5%)
No	34 (17.0%)
Not Sure	10 (5.0%)

4. The town should adopt zoning.

Yes	83 (41.5%)
No	50 (25.0%)
Not Sure	42 (21.0%)

Should the town apply land use controls to restrict each of the following:

5. Industrial and Commercial Locations

Yes	150 (75.0%)
No	36 (18.0%)
Not Sure	10 (5.0%)

6. Manufacturing/Industrial Locations

Yes	155 (77.5%)
No	35 (17.5%)
Not Sure	6 (3.0%)

7. Size, Number & Location of Campgrounds

Yes	146 (73.0%)
No	42 (21.0%)
Not Sure	9 (4.5%)

8. Night Lighting (Large residential yard & security lights that shine beyond the intended area and may disturb neighbors.)

Yes	121 (60.5%)
No	57 (28.5%)
Not Sure	19 (9.5%)

9. Billboards & Large Commercial Signage

Yes	158 (79.0%)
No	29 (14.5%)
Not Sure	10 (5.0%)

10. Sand & Gravel Pits

Yes	122 (61%)
No	50 (25.0%)
Not Sure	22 (11.0%)

11. Non-licensed cars & pickups and large debris piles

Yes	161 (80.5%)
No	28 (14.0%)
Not Sure	7 (3.5%)

12. Would you favor using town funds to haul away non-licensed vehicles?

Yes	74 (37.0%)
No	91 (45.5%)
Not Sure	26 (13.0%)

II. HOUSING & NEW DEVELOPMENT

As LaFollette continues to grow, would you be in favor of the following kinds of housing developments:

13. Single Family

Yes	182 (91.0%)
No	10 (5.0%)
Not Sure	5 (2.5%)

14. Apartments

Yes	67 (33.5%)
No	105 (52.5%)
Not Sure	23 (11.5%)

15. Subdivisions

Yes	65 (32.5%)
No	101 (50.5%)
Not Sure	27 (13.5%)

16. Condominiums

Yes	74 (37.0%)
No	92 (46.0%)
Not Sure	27 (13.5%)

17. Mobile Home Parks

Yes	40 (20.0%)
No	143 (71.5%)
Not Sure	14 (7.0%)

18. Two Family Duplexes

Yes	93 (46.5%)
No	78 (39.0%)
Not Sure	24 (12.0%)

Would you be in favor of the following types of businesses developing in the town:

19. Tourism orientated

Yes	132 (66.0%)
No	39 (19.5%)
Not Sure	25 (12.5%)

20. Service businesses

Yes	159 (79.5%)
No	23 (11.5%)
Not Sure	13 (6.5%)

21. Retail

Yes	156 (78.0%)
No	26 (13.0%)
Not Sure	14 (7.0%)

22. Industrial

Yes	88 (44.0%)
No	82 (41.0%)
Not Sure	26 (13.0%)

Do you agree with the following statements?

23. The town should adopt policies & standards for future subdivision developments?

Yes	152 (76.0%)
No	34 (17.0%)
Not Sure	11 (5.5%)

24. Subdivision & development practices that preserve large parcels of natural undeveloped land should be encouraged through public policies and ordinances

Yes	145 (72.5%)
No	34 (17.0%)
Not Sure	20 (10.0%)

25. Open space preservation should be promoted by receiving tax credit

Yes	135 (67.5%)
No	29 (14.5%)
Not Sure	34 (17.0%)

26. New Commercial or Industrial sites should be guided to areas where these activities already exist?

Yes	153 (76.5%)
No	22 (11.0%)
Not Sure	23 (11.5%)

27. The minimum parcel size in non-shoreland residential areas should be:

Less than one acre	11 (5.5%)
1-5 acres	87 (43.5%)
6-10 acres	37 (18.5%)
11-20 acres	18 (9.0%)
Greater than 20 acres	12 (6.0%)
No minimum	27 (13.5%)

III. TOWN SERVICES

How would you rate the town's community services:

28. Road Maintenance

Excellent	16 (8.0%)
Good	89 (44.5%)
Fair	46 (23.0%)
Poor	36 (18.0%)
No opinion	9 (4.5%)

29. Snow Removal

Excellent	28 (14.0%)
Good	94 (47.0%)
Fair	34 (17.0%)
Poor	11 (5.5%)
No opinion	28 (14.0%)

30. Fire Protection

Excellent	31 (15.5%)
Good	81 (40.5%)
Fair	24 (12.0%)
Poor	12 (6.0%)
No opinion	46 (23.0%)

31. Law Enforcement

Excellent	12 (6.0%)
Good	64 (32.0%)
Fair	41 (20.5%)
Poor	30 (15.0%)
No opinion	47 (23.5%)

32. Ambulance Service

Excellent	17 (8.5%)
Good	68 (34.0%)
Fair	26 (13.0%)
Poor	9 (4.5%)
No opinion	75 (37.5%)

33. Health Care Availability

Excellent	6 (3.0%)
Good	45 (22.5%)
Fair	43 (21.5%)
Poor	38 (19.0%)
No opinion	63 (31.5%)

IV. RECREATION

Should there be more or fewer restrictions on the following types of recreational activities on PUBLIC LANDS (such as county and state forestlands), as well as lakes & streams:

34. Hours of use of personal watercraft (Jet skis)

More restrictions	98 (49.0%)
Currently adequate	58 (29.0%)
Fewer restrictions	11 (5.5%)
No opinion	31 (15.5%)

35. Size of lakes where personal watercrafts can be used

More restrictions	96 (48.0%)
Currently adequate	57 (28.5%)
Fewer restrictions	14 (7.0%)
No opinion	30 (15.0%)

36. Use of high speed boats

More restrictions	91 (45.5%)
Currently adequate	72 (36.0%)
Fewer restrictions	10 (5.0%)
No opinion	24 (12.0%)

37. Use of snowmobiles

More restrictions	55 (27.5%)
Currently adequate	107 (53.5%)
Fewer restrictions	21 (10.5%)
No opinion	14 (7.0%)

38. Use of ATV's

More restrictions	83 (41.5%)
Currently adequate	70 (35.0%)
Fewer restrictions	28 (14.0%)
No opinion	16 (8.0%)

39. Off road mountain biking

More restrictions	35 (17.5%)
Currently adequate	90 (45.0%)
Fewer restrictions	29 (14.5%)
No opinion	41 (20.5%)

40. Structures on water such as boat lifts, docks, trampolines and rafts

More restrictions	36 (18.0%)
Currently adequate	113 (56.5%)
Fewer restrictions	25 (12.5%)
No opinion	24 (12.0%)

41. There are approximately 255 acres of public land in the town. Do you feel that this is enough public land?

Yes	84 (42.0%)
No	48 (24.0%)
Not Sure	66 (33.0%)

42. There are two improved boat landings in the town. Do you feel that this is enough public access to waterways?

Yes	99 (49.5%)
No	48 (24.0%)
Not Sure	52 (26.0%)

V. WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT

43. Second tier and back lot development is development near, but not adjacent to waterfront property, usually behind or across the road from the existing waterfront property. Is second tier and back lot development contributing to over development on the town's lakeshore/riverfront areas?

Yes	85 (42.5%)
No	48 (24.0%)
Not Sure	65 (32.5%)

44. How do you feel about how Burnett County is protecting the county's water resources?

Over protecting	13 (6.5%)
Currently adequate	91 (45.5%)
Under protecting	48 (24.0%)
No opinion	43 (21.5%)

45. How do you feel about how the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is protecting the water resources in Burnett County?

Over protecting	30 (15.0%)
Currently adequate	96 (48.0%)
Under protecting	43 (21.5%)
No opinion	25 (12.5%)

VI. GENERAL & DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

46. I am a permanent resident of the town

Yes	76 (38.0%)
No	115 (57.5%)

If yes: My primary residence in the town is:

Lakeshore	46 (23.0%)
Riverfront	1 (0.5%)
Non-waterfront	39 (19.5%)

47. I am a seasonal or non permanent resident

Yes	112 (56.0%)
No	60 (30.0%)

If yes: My primary seasonal property in the town is:

Lakeshore	75 (37.5%)
Riverfront	4 (2.0%)
Non-waterfront	38 (19.0%)

If yes: I plan on moving to the town permanently in:

Less than one year	3 (1.5%)
1-5 years	28 (14.0%)
6-10 years	6 (3.0%)
More than 10 years	19 (9.5%)
I don't plan on moving	51 (25.5%)

48. How many acres do you own in the town?

Less than one acre	35 (17.5%)
1-5 acres	41 (20.5%)
6-10 acres	23 (11.5%)
11-20 acres	10 (5.0%)
21-40 acres	30 (15.0%)
More than 40 acres	56 (28.0%)

49. Do you plan on or selling your property?

Yes	36 (18.0%)
No	159 (79.5%)

If yes, in how long?

Less than 1 year	4 (2.0%)
1-5 years	15 (7.5%)
6-10 years	11 (5.5%)
More than 10 years	6 (3.0%)

50. If you own vacant property, do you plan on developing (building a seasonal or permanent residence) on your land?

Yes	33 (16.5%)
No	74 (37.0%)

If so, when?

Less than one year	3 (1.5%)
1-5 years	15 (7.5%)
6-10 years	9 (4.5%)
More than 10 years	5 (2.5%)

51. How long have you lived (or owned property) in the town?

Less than one year	3 (1.5%)
1-5 years	35 (17.5%)
6-10 years	28 (14.0%)
11-20 years	39 (19.5%)
More than 20 years	91 (45.5%)

52. Please list the total number of people in each age group that live in your household:

Under 18 years old

1	16 (8.0%)
2	16 (8.0%)
3	5 (2.5%)
4	4 (2.0%)
5	1 (0.5%)

19-30 years old

1	9 (4.5%)
2	6 (3.0%)
3	2 (1.0%)
4	1 (0.5%)

31-45 years old

1	19 (9.5%)
2	23 (11.5%)
4	2 (1.0%)
6	1 (0.5%)

46-60 years old

1	33 (16.5%)
2	40 (20.0%)

60+ years old

1	30 (15.0%)
2	65 (32.5%)

APPENDIX B – PRIME FARMLAND SOIL

Prime Farmland	
Map Unit Name	% Slope
Padus Sandy Loam	0-6
Padwet Sandy Loam	0-6
Tradelake Fine Sandy Loam	2-6
Scott Lake Sandy Loam	0-3
Haugen-Rosholt Sandy Loams	2-6
Rosholt Sandy Loam	0-6
Dunnville Fine Sandy Loam	0-6
Antigo Silt Loam	0-6
Brill Silt Loam	0-2
Haugen Sandy Loam	2-6
Anigon Silt Loam	2-6
Branstad Fine Sandy Loam	2-6
Aftad Fine Sandy Loam	0-6
Crystal Lake Silt Loam	0-6
Sconsin Silt Loam	0-6
Tipler Sandy Loam	0-3
Docklake Sand Loam*	0-6
Sarwet Sandy Loam	2-6
Scoba Sandy Loam	0-3
Taylor Loam	2-6
Billyboy Silt Loam	0-3

Prime Farmland - Where Drained	
Map Unit Name	% Slope
Barronett Muck	0-2
Bluffton Silt Loam	0-2
Alstad Loam	0-3
Oesterle Sandy Loam	0-3
Solness Fine Sandy Loam	0-3
Worcester Sandy Loam	0-3
Minocqua Muck	0-2
Comstock Silt Loam	0-3
Poskin Silt Loam	0-3
Rib Silt Loam	0-2
Bruce Muck	0-2
Plover Fine Sandy Loam	0-3
Magnor Silt Loam	0-4
Fordum Silt Loam	0-2
Moodig Sandy Loam	0-4
Chelmo Sandy Loam	0-2
Capitola Muck	0-2
Ossmer Silt Loam	0-3
Moquah Fine Sandy Loam**	0-3
Grassylake Sandy Loam	0-3
Hegge Clay Loam	0-2
Wildwood Muck	0-2

* Loamy Substratum

** Prime where drained and not flooded

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resource Conservation Service

APPENDIX C – STATE HISTORIC SOCIETY FULL REPORT

TOWN OF LaFOLLETTE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND CEMETERIES

Archaeology is frequently presented as something that occurs in faraway places and that involves the investigation of people that lived long ago. Some Archaeologists do study the very old cultures located in faraway places, but other Archaeologists study the lives of the people who lived at the village, farmstead, or logging camp located just down the road. Archaeological deposits occur figuratively and literally under our feet.

Archaeology is well suited for studying the lives of people who are not well represented in the written record because archaeologists study the things that people threw out, lost, or left behind. Archaeologists can and do use written records, oral traditions, and photographs if they are available, but their primary focus is on the things people made and used, and the places where they lived, worked, and worshiped.

Archaeological sites are villages, cornfields, mounds, houses, black smith shops, farms, rock art sites, and cemeteries. Archaeological sites are ***non-renewable*** resources. Once sites are destroyed, either by natural or human related activities, they are lost forever.

Existing Information.

The Wisconsin Historical Society maintains a list of archaeological sites and cemeteries known as the Archaeological Site Inventory Database (ASI). Up to this point in time, 11 archaeological sites and cemeteries have been reported to the Wisconsin Historical Society for the Town of LaFollette. Sites dating to the Woodland and Post-Contact period have been identified. These include:

Native American Campsite/villages a post office Cemetery/burial mounds

The small number and limited variety of sites is not representative of the rich history of the area. Only a very small portion of the Town of Lafollette has been surveyed for the presence of archaeological sites and cemeteries. These archaeological surveys have been primarily associated with transportation corridors and surveys sponsored by National Historic Preservation Sub-grants awarded to Hamline University and the Burnett County Historical Society. The Town of Lafollette, and northwestern Wisconsin in general, is a unique area. It "straddles" the border between the Woodlands in the east and the Prairies in the west. Sites used by the earliest human populations in North America should be present in the area. Large-scale logging began quite early in the area and as the white pine and Norway pine were cut, farmers and more permanent settlers quickly moved into the area. The settlement of the Pine Barrens area in northwestern Wisconsin is unique in many respects and it deserves careful study.

HOW ARE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND CEMETERIES IDENTIFIED AND EVALUATED?

Local residents already possess much additional information on archaeological sites and cemeteries in the town. Steps should be taken to have this information, information from the local historical societies, and information from Native American communities who live, or who once lived in the area, reported and incorporated into the land use plan. Archaeological surveys – identification of sites- are required for a variety of projects that receive federal or state funding, licenses, or permits. These projects are automatically forwarded to the Wisconsin Historical Society for review. Requiring archaeological surveys for other projects should be considered.

WHERE ARE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES GOING TO BE LOCATED?

Using the results of archaeological surveys completed in the vicinity, we can make the following statements on where sites will probably be found. These high priority areas are designated based upon an analysis of previous archaeological surveys in the area and the use of relevant historical and environmental data. For example:

1) higher, dryer areas adjacent to lakes, rivers, streams, creeks, and wetlands;

2) higher, dryer areas adjacent to FORMER lakes, rivers, streams, creeks, and wetlands;

3) areas adjacent to older historic features such as trails, early roads, rail corridors, homesteads, and communities.

Please keep in mind that these high potential areas are based upon a limited amount of existing information. New surveys and additional research may identify new high potential locations. As a result, archaeological surveys of only high potential locations may result in the destruction of important pieces of our history.

Cultivation and urbanization do not always completely destroy archaeological sites. It is not uncommon to find houses, storage areas, and burials underneath the tilled layer in farm fields or in areas that have been used as cities for many years.

HOW DO WE KNOW WHICH ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES NEED PRESERVATION?

In addition to cemeteries, a wide variety of other archaeological sites may be worthy of preservation. By using the state and national register of historic places, a procedure for identifying important sites is available. The state and national register of historic places is a list of archaeological sites and cemeteries that have been evaluated for their importance. No sites have evaluated to be listed on the national register in the Town of LaFollette.

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PROTECT IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES?

The wide variety of methods used to protect natural resources can also be used to protect archaeological sites: for example, land purchases, easement purchases, and zoning. A tax credit program for property owners who agree to protect sites on their property is available through the Wisconsin Historical Society.

Under Wisconsin law, Native American burial mounds, unmarked burials, and all marked and unmarked cemeteries are protected from intentional disturbance. Cemeteries and burial areas have been set aside as important areas throughout Wisconsin history and they have been given special protection under the law. At the resent time, a total of five cemeteries and burial areas have been identified in the Town of Lafollette. Since a systematic survey of the town has not been completed, additional cemeteries and burials may be present. Even historic period burials are frequently unmarked and unreported.

Under Wisconsin law, Native American burial mounds, unmarked burials, and all marked and unmarked cemeteries are protected from intentional disturbance. If anyone suspects that a Native American burial mound or an unmarked or marked burial is present in an area, the Burial Sites Preservation Office should be notified. If human bone is unearthed during any phase of a project, **all work must cease**, and the Burial Sites Preservation Office **must be contacted** at 800-342-7834 to comply with Wis. Stat. 157.70, which provides for the protection of all human burial sites. **Work cannot resume until the Burial Sites Preservation Office gives permission.** If you have any questions concerning the law, please contact the Coordinator of the Burial Sites Preservation Program at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Dr. Leslie Eisenberg at 608-264-6503. As part of the planning initiative, Town of Lafollette should systemically catalog all of the cemeteries and burials under 157.70 to provide these areas with maximum protection under the law.

A Caution. - The Archaeological Site Inventory (ASI) is the most comprehensive list of the archaeological sites, mounds, unmarked cemeteries, marked cemeteries, and cultural sites that are present in the state. The **ASI does not** include all of sites and cemeteries present in the state, however. It includes **ONLY** those sites that have been reported to the Wisconsin Historical Society. The information in the ASI Database is a compilation of reports from a period of 150 years. The information available for each entry varies widely and the Wisconsin Historical Society has not been able to verify all of the entries. In addition, few of these sites have been evaluated for their importance. The ASI is changed and updated on a daily basis and recommendations about site importance may change as new information becomes available. This ASI information is confidential and is not subject to Wisconsin's open records law (Wis. Stats. §§ 44.48 and 157.70). This information is also protected by federal law (Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 9(a) of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979). This caution not only helps protect archaeological sites but also protects landowners. Private landowners own the majority of archaeological sites in the town. WHS also maintains a list of where archaeological surveys have been completed.

Conclusions and Recommendation. - The history of the Town of LaFollette is rich, varied, and occurs in many forms. Land use planning and land use decisions will most directly impact archaeological sites, buildings, and historic landscapes.

Because the information on cultural resources for any area is constantly changing, it is our recommendation that the residents of the Town of LaFollette develop a procedure for evaluating the impact of land-use decisions on cultural resources that includes consulting the records maintained by the Wisconsin Historical Society on a regular basis. Archaeological field investigations should be incorporated into the process. A standardized process will insure that the most up-to-date and comprehensive information is available and that important places are preserved. Two copies of any archaeological reports should be forwarded to the Office of the State Archaeologist. [T of LaFollette.doc] ***Office of the State Archaeologist 10-2002***

APPENDIX D – LAKE DATA

Town of La Follette Named Lakes Data

Name (Section)	Watershed	Burnett Co. Lake Class	Acres	Depth (Feet) Max	Depth (Feet) Mean	Miles of Shoreline	Public Shoreline	Percent Private SL	Type	Access	Winterkill	TSI	P Sens
Bass Lake (8-9)	NFC	3	110	18	5	4.5	0	100	SE	BR	Y	44	IIA
Bass Lake (25-26)	NFC	3	39	34	-	1.5	0	100	SE		N	32	IA
Big Sand Lake*	LYR	1	1,400	55	9	7.6	0.01	100	SE	BR	N	39-50	IA
Cranberry Lake	CR	2	79	23	-	1.5	0	100	SE		N	51	IA
Kent Lake	NFC	3	31	16	-	1.3	0	100	SP	NW	N	-	I INS
Little Bass Lake(24)	NFC	3	10	12	-				SE	-	-	-	I INS
Little Bass Lake (36)	NFC	3	11	30	-	0.5	0	100	SE	-	-	.	I INS
North Twin Lake	NFC	3	27	26	-	0.9	0	100	SE		N	-	I INS
Owl Lake	CR	2	127	27	7	1.9	0.34	82	SE	W	N	51	IA
Pokegama Lake	NFC	2	224	56	4	5.8	0.02	100	SE	BR	N	41-53	IA
Rohr Lake	CR	3	12	5	-	0.6	0	100	SE		Y	-	-
South Twin Lake	NFC	3	19	25	-	0.6	0	100	SE		N	-	I INS
Spencer Lake	NFC	2	188	19	10	2.6	0.3	89	SE	W	Y	57	II D
Viola Lake	CR	1	285	34	13	3.3	0.02	99	SE	BF	N	38	IA
Warner Lake	NFC	1	176	75	19	3.6	0.01	100	SE	R	N	39	IA

* Listed as DNR Outstanding Resource Water (ORW)

Watersheds
NFC - North Fork Clam River
CR - Clam River
LYR - Lower Yellow River

Type
SE - Seepage
SP - Spring

Access
BR - Boat Ramp
BF - Barrier Free Pier
NW - Navigable River
W - Wilderness Type
R - Roadside

TSI
Oligitrophic <39
Mesotrophic 40-49
Eutrophic >50

Phosphorus (p) Sensitivity
I = Class I (more sensitive lakes)
A= excellent water quality; most sensitive to p loading
B= poor water quality; less sensitive to increased loading
Ins=insufficient data; monitoring recommended
II = Class II (less sensitive lakes)
A= excellent water quality; not as sensitive as Class I lakes
B= poor water quality; low sensitivity to increased loading
Ins=insufficient data