

TRAVERSE COUNTY (78)

Number of lakes ¹ 68
 Lake area, acres. 9,991

The lakes in Traverse County are all located in the morainal region in the southeastern part of the county and along the boundary between Minnesota and South Dakota. The remainder of the county is in the basin of Glacial Lake Agassiz and is devoid of lakes.

The lake basins, with the exception of the two large basins located along the boundary, were formed by ice blocks deposited in till. Traverse, 78-25, the largest lake in the county, was formed by the damming action of the Little Minnesota River at the south end. Mud, 78-24, the other large basin along the South Dakota-Minnesota border was formerly a low marshy region. Traverse, 78-25, and Mud, 78-24, are presently utilized as federally owned and operated flood control and water conservation reservoirs which were placed in operation in 1941 as the Lake Traverse project on the Minnesota-South Dakota-North Dakota boundary. Mud is controlled by a dam at White Rock, South Dakota; Traverse is regulated by a control structure at the bridge on Trunk Highway 117.

Lakes classified by area

	Area in acres												Total
	10 to 25	25 to 50	50 to 75	75 to 100	100 to 125	125 to 150	150 to 200	200 to 500	500 to 1000	1000 to 2500	2500 to 5000	5000 and more	
Number listed.	27	25	7	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	1*	1*	68
Number affected by drainage or dry.	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

* This basin is mostly in South Dakota.

¹ Includes two lakes on Minnesota-South Dakota border, one of which is mostly in South Dakota.

Ident. number	Name	Range	Township	Location Section	Area in Acres	Meandered	Remarks
6-151	Smithwick.				3 (31)	x	See Big Stone County (6).
78-1	St. Marys	46	125	19,30	208	x	Affected by ditch.
78-2	46	125	20,29	62	...	
78-3	46	125	29	25	...	
78-4	46	125	29-32	176	x	
78-5	46	125	29,32	37	...	
78-6	46	125	32	25	...	
78-7	47	125	SW 19,30	23	...	
78-8	47	125	SE 19,30	60	...	
78-9	47	125	20	23	...	
78-10	47	125	29	69	...	
78-11	47	125	C 30	13	...	
78-12	47	125	WC 30	10	...	
78-13	47	125	SW 30	12	...	
78-14	47	125	WC 31	21	...	
78-15	47	125	WC 31	17	...	
78-16	47	125	NE 31	11	...	
78-17	47	125	32,33	78	...	
78-18	47	125,126	2,3;34,35	55	...	
78-19	47	126	30	49	...	Affected by ditch.

Ident. number	Name	Range	Location		Area in Acres	Meandered	Remarks
			Township	Section			
78-20		47	126	33	45	...	
78-21		47	126	33,34	54	...	
78-22		47,48	125	19,24	100	...	
78-23		47,48	125	31,36	94	...	
78-24	Mud	47,48	127,128	various	1,640 (4,600)	...	Reservoir. Mostly in South Dakota.
78-25	Traverse	47-49	125-127	various	5,780 (11,600)	...	Reservoir. Also in South Dakota.
78-26		48	124,125	1,2,35,36	34 (47)	...	Also in Big Stone County (6).
78-27		48	125	5,6	31	...	
78-28		48	125	8	13	...	
78-29		48	125	9,16	15	...	
78-30		48	125	10,15	13	...	
78-31		48	125	13,14,23,24	31	...	
78-32		48	125	NW 14	18	...	
78-33		48	125	WC 14	15	...	
78-34		48	125	14,15,22,23	31	...	
78-35		48	125	EC 15	31	...	
78-36		48	125	15,16	11	...	
78-37		48	125	15,22	14	...	
78-38		48	125	16	14	...	
78-39		48	125	17,20	44	...	
78-40		48	125	20	26	...	
78-41		48	125	20,21	26	...	
78-42		48	125	21,22	106	...	
78-43		48	125	21,22,27,28	30	...	
78-44		48	125	21,28	35	...	
78-45		48	125	NE 22	28	...	
78-46		48	125	SC 22	17	...	
78-47		48	125	23	14	...	
78-48		48	125	24	18	...	
78-49		48	125	25	31	...	
78-50		48	125	NE 26	33	...	
78-51		48	125	SW 26	10	...	
78-52		48	125	26,35	41	...	
78-53	Wet	48	125	NE 27	42	...	
78-54		48	125	SE 27	30	...	
78-55		48	125	SW 27	14	...	
78-56		48	125	28,33	40	...	
78-57		48	125	29	10	...	
78-58		48	125	29,32	22	...	
78-59		48	125	NW 34	10	...	
78-60		48	125	EC 34	39	...	
78-61		48	125	35	50	...	
78-62		48	125	36	17	...	
78-63		48	126	24,25	56	...	
78-64		48,49	125	30,25	131	...	
78-65		49	125	11,12	15	...	
78-66		49	125	12	22	...	
78-67		49	125	NC 13	37	...	
78-68		49	125	NE 13	36	...	

