



Dear CHRISTIAN,


I am excited to share some incredible news — **449 acres and over six miles of shoreline on Big Mantrap Lake are now permanently protected!**


For the past 70 years, this land was part of **3M's historic retreat center**. Now, through a collaborative conservation effort led by **Northern Waters Land Trust and The Minnesota Land Trust**, the undeveloped lands will be preserved forever—safeguarding **wildlife, clean water, and future public access**.

This achievement was made possible by the **Outdoor Heritage Fund**, as a part of the *Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment*, with additional federal support secured by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources through the **Minnesota Loon Restoration Project**.

**Why this matters:**

 **Protecting Pristine Waters** – Big Mantrap Lake is a Lake of Outstanding Biological Significance, renowned for its wild rice habitat, pristine water quality, and vital fish and bird populations. It spans 1,618 acres and reaches a depth of 68 feet, serving as a sanctuary for loons, muskie, northern pike, bass, black crappie, and migratory birds.

 **Advancing Statewide Conservation Goals** – This project brings the Big Sand Watershed within 10% of its 75% protection goal, a critical threshold for maintaining long-term water quality and ecological balance.

 **Ensuring Public Access** – The protected land is slated to become a new Wildlife Management Area, offering opportunities for hunting, fishing, and wildlife observation, allowing future generations to experience the natural beauty of northern Minnesota.

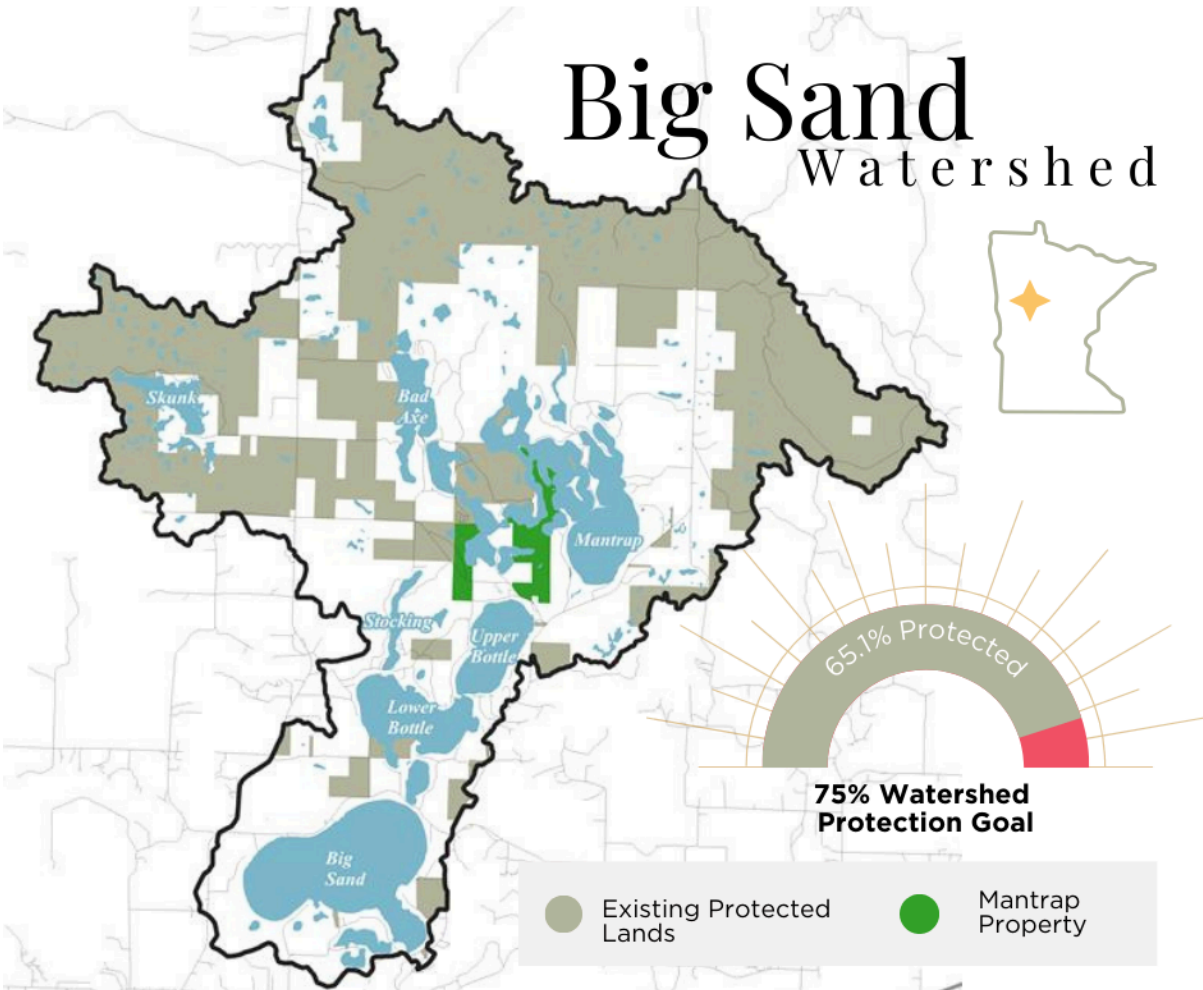
**Conservation requires time, collaboration, and unwavering dedication.** This success underscores what's achievable when organizations and supporters like you unite to protect our most cherished places.

**Thank you for being an integral part of this vital work!**

All the best,  
~Annie

*Annie Knight*  
Executive Director, Northern Waters Land Trust

# Big Sand Watershed



Northern Waters  
LAND TRUST

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