

THE GRINDSTONE LAKE AREA

GRINDSTONE LAKE

- “Grindstone Lake” originates from the Ojibwe word Gaa-zhiigwanaabikokaag meaning “a place abundant with grindstones [or round sharpening stones used for grinding or sharpening ferrous tools].” It’s also been called “Lac du Gres” which means “Sandstone Lake” in French
- Grindstone Lake is a popular resort area drawing cabin owners and visitors from the Minneapolis, St. Paul, Milwaukee, and Chicago metropolitan areas
- 4th largest lake in Sawyer County (3,176 acres, 12.85 km²)
- 12th deepest in Sawyer County (60 feet)
- 39th largest in the state of Wisconsin
- 205th deepest in the state of Wisconsin
- No public beaches
- Native species of fish in the lake include musky, panfish, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike, walleye, and trout

LAC COURTE OREILLES RESERVATION

- The eastern portion of the Grindstone Lake lies within the boundaries of the Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.
- Population: 3,013 (707 are Non-Native Americans)-- The LCO Tribe is one of several reservations that has a relatively large non-Native population within its borders. Broken treaty promises allowed settlement by white squatters and the U.S. allowed them to stay
- The LCO Reservation, located mostly in Sawyer County, totals 76,465 acres; approximately 10,500 acres are lakes
- The LCO casino employs approximately 900 people—21% (189) are non-Native Americans, and 79% (711) are Native Americans
- Total tribal enrollment is 7,275 members, of which 60% live in LCO in 23 different community villages



GRINDSTONE
LAKE 
FOUNDATION



THE TOWN OF BASS LAKE

- Population: 2,377
- Median age: 41.3 (state median: 42.6)
- Median household income: \$42,190 (state median: \$56,811)
- Demographics: 58.1% white, 36.6% American Indian, 3.3% two or more races, 2.1% Hispanic/Latino
- Most common industry: Construction (19%), Accommodation and food services (10%), Arts, entertainment, and recreation (9%), Educational services (7%), Public administration (6%), Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (5%), Wood products (5%)

SAWYER COUNTY

- Population: 16,557
- Demographics: 81.72% White, 16.07% Native American, 1.23% two or more races, 0.31% African American, 0.30% Asian, and 0.35% other

HAYWARD

- Sawyer County seat and primary commercial and retail center
- Population: 2,317
- Median age: 36.9 (state median: 42.6)
- Median household income: \$34,428 (state median: \$56,811)
- Demographics: 82.2% White, 10.8% American Indian, 3.1% two or more races, 2.5% Hispanic/Latino, 0.9% Asian, 0.4% African American, 0.04% other
- Most common industry: Manufacturing (22%), Retail trade (14%), Construction (10%), Accommodation and food services (10%), Transportation and warehousing (7%), Health care and social assistance (5%), and Public administration (5%)

