

CHAPTER 5: Natural, Cultural & Agricultural Resources***Wisconsin State Statute § 66.1001(2)(e)******Agricultural, Natural & Cultural Resources***

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs for the conservation, and promotion of the effective management, of natural resources such as groundwater, forests, productive agricultural areas, environmentally sensitive areas, threatened and endangered species, stream corridors, surface water, floodplains, wetlands, wildlife habitat, metallic and nonmetallic mineral resources consistent with zoning limitations under s. 295.20(2), parks, open spaces, historical and cultural resources, community design, recreational resources and other natural resources.

INTRODUCTION

The protection of natural resources is necessary for the welfare of both people and the environment. By allowing natural processes, such as the hydrologic system, to function without impediment, property, water supply and the environment are protected. The protection of natural resources also preserves important ecological communities. Certain natural resources have more than merely aesthetic and leisure-time activity values. They are essential to long-term human survival and the preservation of life, health, and general welfare. As such, the protection and management of these resources clearly are in the public interest. Thus, the analysis of those natural resources found within the planning area is done for the purpose of directing development away from those areas not intrinsically suitable for a particular use, or to at least guide development in a direction that is least disruptive.

TOPOGRAPHY

An undulating plain dissected by many lakes, rivers and streams characterizes the topography of Sawyer County. The northeastern corner of the County is quite hilly, and the southwestern corner contains many high quartzite ridges. The highest elevation (1,800 feet) occurs at Meteor Hill within the "Blue Hills" region of southern Sawyer County in the of Town of Meteor. The lowest elevation (1,139 feet) occurs along the Namekagon River in the Town of Bass Lake, near the County line. Sawyer County topography is represented in Map 7.

SLOPE

Slope is the steepness or grade of a straight line. A higher slope value (expressed as a percent) indicates a steeper incline. Percent slope is derived by dividing the vertical "rise" by the horizontal "run" between two points on a line. Steeper slopes (exceeding 20 percent) are of particular concern in a planning context due to the potential for runoff and subsequent erosion. Steep slopes can also be environmentally sensitive habitats for certain plant and animal species. In Sawyer County, the greatest concentration of slopes exceeding 20 percent occurs within the Seely Hills region east of the Namekagon River in the Towns of Lenroot and Spider Lake. Steep slopes in Sawyer County are shown in Map 7.

GROUNDWATER RESOURCES

To sustain human life, water is a prerequisite. The water we drink, use to grow plants and food, or use for recreational purposes is a resource that if contaminated could have catastrophic effects. It is estimated that 1.2 quadrillion gallons of groundwater is under Wisconsin, enough to cover the entire state of Wisconsin to a depth of 30 feet.

Groundwater serves as the principal water source for most rural households in the County. Glacial drift is the soil composition for most wells, with sand and gravel deposits providing the greatest yields of water. Groundwater is also drawn from bedrock, mostly from granite. Across the County, depth to groundwater varies from 0 to over 200 feet. The shallowest depths are generally found in areas near lakes and streams, especially in the central and southeastern sections of the County. The deepest groundwater is generally found in hilly areas, primarily the northern and southwestern parts of the County.

Contamination of groundwater can occur naturally and by human interaction. Natural contamination due to the earth's soil releasing chemicals in the ground water is rare. A greater threat to ground water contamination are leaking storage tanks, failing septic systems, application of pesticides and fertilizers, and storm water runoff near feedlots and industrial sites. While nitrates in drinking water occur naturally, but at very low levels, fertilizers, failing septic systems and feedlots can contribute to significant increases in Nitrate levels. Most of Sawyer County is rated as moderate to highly susceptible to groundwater contamination (Map 8).

Closed landfills and leaking underground storage tanks (LUST) can also threaten the groundwater. A list of closed landfills and leaking underground storage tank sites is found in the Land Use Chapter. Monitoring wells are often placed on sites near closed and operating landfills and LUST sites. In the FY 2009 Groundwater Coordinating Council Report to the Legislature, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) are a significant contributor to ground water contamination near landfills, especially in landfills that do not have engineered liner and leachate collection.

Groundwater quality in the Namekagon Basin is generally rated very good and usable for most purposes. Hardness of groundwater in the sand and gravel aquifers varies from 50-150 mg/L of calcium carbonate. The relatively low hardness is due to the permeable outwash and rapid movement of groundwater. In the deeper sandstone aquifer, hardness tends to be a little higher. The concentration of iron and manganese is unpredictable. Wells close together may have large differences in concentration of these ions. The known natural concentrations of nitrate in groundwater of the basin are generally low.

Large supplies of good quality groundwater are available in most of the Chippewa Basin of Sawyer County. Area differences in groundwater quality are due to the composition, solubility and surface area of the soil particles and rock through which the water moves and its speed of movement. Minor water use problems are created by hardness and locally high iron concentrations. Water from the deeper sandstone aquifers is slightly more mineralized as opposed to the surficial sand and gravel aquifers. Hardness tends to be higher in the southeastern half of the County. The concentration of nitrate in groundwater of the basin is generally low.

BEDROCK GEOLOGY

Igneous and metamorphic rocks of Precambrian age underlie Sawyer County. Sandstone overlies the Precambrian surface along the western border of the County. The principal surface deposits are glacial drift, alluvial sand, and gravel. The bedrock geology of Sawyer County is shown in Map 9. Depths to bedrock range from 5 to over 300 feet across the County, with numerous rock outcrops found in the northwestern and south-central portions of the County. Along the Chippewa and Flambeau Rivers are numerous rapids caused by outcropping of granitic rock, the underlying bedrock formation throughout the eastern three-fourths of the County. Other bedrock formations underlying the glacial till include red quartzite ridges in the southwest, sandstone along the County's western edge and igneous trap rock of the Namekagon and Totogatic River valleys. Outcrops of quartzite are found along Yarnell, Knuteson and Pipestone Creeks and the old C & NW railroad grade cuts east of Lemington. These quartzite ridges run diagonally from northwestern Barron County to the Chippewa Flowage and are known as the Barron or "Blue Hills." Numerous springs flow from the outward edge of the quartzite ridges where the overlying glacial till is thin. The high gradient of the watercourse often tends to wash away the little soil in the channel. Stream channel changes often occur in the remaining rock rubble. Spring ponds occur mostly in the areas of thick glacial deposits along the edges of the end moraine. Springs are most frequently found along the Namekagon and Couderay Rivers and the Little Weirgor Creek watershed.

The mineral geology of Northern Wisconsin received the attention of a number of mining interests during the 1970's when mineable deposits of sulphides and zinc were discovered, with the nearest deposit in nearby Rusk County. A known deposit of vanadium is located about 10 miles east of Hayward in the vicinity of the Tiger Cat Flowage and State Highway 77. Vanadium is a rare ductile metal that adds tensile strength when alloyed with steel. Whether such a mine is developed depends on variables such as the market price of vanadium and steel, taxes on minerals extracted, environmental constraints, and access to transportation facilities. There are currently no known plans to develop this deposit.

SOILS

The soil types of Sawyer County are upland and outwash from glacial drift and are acidic in nature. The sandy soils occur along the Namekagon River, Lac Courte Oreilles, Round and Grindstone Lakes region. More organic soils, such as silt loams and peats are found throughout much of the eastern one-half of the County. Soil surface texture in Sawyer County is shown in Map 10. The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has completed detailed soil mapping for all of Sawyer County. According to NRCS data, there are 202 unique soil types in Sawyer County.

The natural drainage condition of the soil refers to the frequency and duration of wet soil periods. Well drained to excessively drained soils are generally characteristic of the Namekagon River and Flambeau River valley regions, the Chippewa Flowage area, and portions of the northeastern part of the County. Moderately well drained to poorly drained soils are found throughout much of the remainder of the County.

CLIMATE

The climate of Sawyer County is classified as continental, a climate type characterized by large seasonal and daily variation in temperatures. Winters are long, cold, and snowy. Summers are relatively short and warm with brief periods of hot, humid weather. Summer days are usually warm and sunny, while nights are cool. Spring and fall are often short with sharp day-to-day temperature changes. All seasons have

frequent weather changes as alternate high and low pressure systems move across the continent from west to east. The long-term average temperature is 41 degrees Fahrenheit. December through March finds temperatures generally averaging below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. The date of the last killing frost in Sawyer County has ranged from May 15th in 1968 to June 13th in 1969. The growing season averages about 120 days. Average monthly temperatures range from a low of 9.6 degrees in January to 66 degrees in July. Annual precipitation, including snowfall is about 32 inches. Snowfall averages between 60 and 70 inches per year.

Local climatic conditions along with recurrent seasonal fluctuation cause variations in the groundwater level, which in turn impacts stream flow and lake levels. With natural recharge and discharge continually occurring, the greatest rise in groundwater levels usually occurs in the spring and early summer due to snow melt and rainfall. Water levels generally decline for the remainder of the year. Long-range fluctuations also occur from year to year. Changes in groundwater levels reflect, in a general way, changes in the balance between precipitation, evaporation and run-off in the water system. Ground water levels in Sawyer County are more stable than in other parts of the state. Sawyer County lies in a Drift Province of abundant aquifers where plentiful supplies of groundwater are obtained from sands and gravels of the glacial drift and valley alluvium. Water levels tend to fluctuate most in the small seepage lakes in the southwestern part of the County and in the sandy till of the northwestern part.

LAND COVER

Nearly two-thirds of landscape of Sawyer County is covered by forestlands while open water and wetlands cover nearly one-third (Table 5-1). Less than six percent of the landscape is considered cropland or developed areas. Sawyer County land cover is shown on Map 11.

Table 5-1: Sawyer County Land Cover

Land Cover Class	Acres
AGRICULTURE	
Dairy Rotation	10,073.8
Cash Grain	2,370.7
Continuous Corn	1,669.1
Cranberries	680.1
Potato/Vegetable	11.1
GRASSLAND	
Pasture	7,618.2
Cool-season Grass	5,408.8
Hay	4,130.4
Warm-season Grass	309.7
FOREST	
Northern Hardwoods	201,773.6
Aspen/Paper Birch	169,518.3
Pine	80,864.4
Oak	52,908.0

Land Cover Class	Acres
Fir Spruce	38,963.1
Red Maple	19,746.1
Mixed Deciduous/Coniferous Forest	10,971.6
Hemlock Hardwoods	3,235.8
WETLAND	
Coniferous Forested Wetland	61,237.3
Mixed Deciduous/Coniferous Forested Wetland	36,811.2
Broad-leaved Deciduous Scrub/Shrub	29,235.4
Aspen Forested Wetland	23,065.3
Swamp Hardwoods	16,469.4
Broad-leaved Evergreen Scrub/Shrub	8,506.0
Cattails	4241.1
Other Emergent/Wet Meadow	2,691.3
Reed Canary Grass	2,530.3
Floating Aquatic Herbaceous Vegetation	2,202.4
Bottomland Hardwoods	1,718.2
Needle-leaved Scrub/Shrub	489.0
DEVELOPED	
Developed, Low Intensity	5,610.4
Developed, High Intensity	1,251.7
BARREN	571.3
SHRUBLAND	69.2
OPEN WATER	56,483.1
TOTAL	863,435.2

Source: Wiscland 2

FOREST RESOURCES

Forestlands are a major component of the overall character of the regional landscape and one of the key characteristics commonly used to define the “Northwoods” region of Wisconsin. Forestlands are also important social, environmental, and economic resources. Associated values include public recreation and aesthetic values, wildlife habitat, protection of air and water quality and production of timber. There are approximately 545,717 acres of upland forest in Sawyer County, with an additional 104,036 acres of forested wetlands and shrublands. Predominant forest cover types include maple, aspen, oak, along with red and white pine.

County Forest

The Sawyer County Forest includes 114,000 acres of publicly-owned and managed property spread across seven designated geographical units (blocks). County Forest acreage is distributed throughout 12 of Sawyer County’s 16 unincorporated towns, with the largest contiguous blocks found in the Towns of Winter and Lenroot. County Forest lands are managed for timber, game and non-game animals and public outdoor recreation. The *Sawyer County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan* along with the supporting *Forest Access Management Plan* and Appendixes guides forest use and management.

SURFACE WATERS**Watersheds**

A watershed is an area of land that catches precipitation and drains or seeps into a marsh, stream, river, lake, ocean, or groundwater. Sawyer County is divided into two major drainage basins, with the northwestern portion of the county located in the St. Croix Basin and the remainder of the county in the Upper Chippewa Basin. Sawyer County watersheds are shown in Table 5-2 and Map 12.

Table 5-2: Sawyer County Watersheds

Watershed	Acres
Brill and Red Cedar Rivers	202.0
Couderay River	132,548.6
East Fork Chippewa River	38,089.2
Lake Chippewa	116,253.5
Lower Flambeau River	3,636.3
Lower North Fork Flambeau River	68,817.5
Lower South Fork Flambeau River	19,590.7
Red Cedar Lake	41,567.0
Thornapple River	79,862.6
Totagatic River	24,941.2
Trego Lake - Middle Namekagon River	25,277.2
Upper Namekagon River	45,886.4
Weirgor Creek and Brunet River	174,848.7
West Fork Chippewa River	92,145.5
Grand Total	863,666.5

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Northwest Regional Planning Commission

There are 14 major watersheds within Sawyer County. Large watersheds are generally composed of several smaller sub watersheds, defining the drainage area for smaller creeks and streams. Lake sheds are also part of the drainage regime. A lake shed defines the drainage area for individual lakes and ponds.

Lakes

Sawyer County lakes are legendary for providing recreational & leisure activities and producing world record fish. The total inland surface water area of Sawyer County is approximately 56,183 acres. There are 496 lakes and impoundments in Sawyer County, including the 15,300-acre Chippewa Flowage, the third largest inland water body in Wisconsin. There is approximately 850 miles of shoreline on Sawyer County lakes.

Lakes in Sawyer County fall into four main types when classified by water source and chemistry: hard water drainage, soft water drainage, hard water seepage and soft water seepage. Three additional subclasses of lakes include acid bog lakes, alkaline bog lakes and spring ponds. The most common type of lake in Sawyer County is the soft water seepage lake, of which there are 224, ranging in size from 0.3 to over 2,700 acres in size. Seepage lakes are generally clear, slightly acid, and relatively infertile waters.

Streams

There are nearly 690 miles of perennial streams in Sawyer County, including 265 miles of trout stream (Table 5-3 and Map 13). Stream sizes vary from small brooks to the 195-foot-wide Chippewa River. Nine other streams in the County have average widths over 40 feet, including the West and East Forks of the Chippewa River, the Flambeau River and its South Fork, the Namekagon, Couderay, Moose, Teal Rivers, and the North Fork of the Chief River. Stream gradients vary from one foot per mile (Moss Creek), to 250 feet per mile (Yarnell Creek). Stream gradients are generally highest in the region of quartzite ridges of the Blue Hills and lowest in the eastern half of the County.

Table 5-3: Stream Type & Classification

Duration	Miles
Fluctuating	39.4
Intermittent	277.7
Not Applicable	4.1
Perennial	689.0
Total	1010.2
Stream Class	Miles
Class 1	152.2
Class 2	82.3
Class 3	30.8
Total	265.3

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Impaired Waters

Every two years, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources publishes a list of waters considered impaired, as required by the federal Clean Water Act (Section 303(d)). Impaired waters are those that do not meet water quality standards and may not support fishing, swimming, recreating or public health and welfare. Sawyer County waterbodies on the 2020 Impaired Waters List are identified in Map 14. For more information on impaired waters in Sawyer County, refer to the *Sawyer County Land and Water Resource Management Plan*.

Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters

Waters designated as Outstanding or Exceptional Resource Waters (ORW or ERW) provide outstanding recreational opportunities, support valuable fisheries, have unique hydrologic or geologic features, have unique environmental settings, and are not significantly impacted by human activities. These are the highest quality waters in Wisconsin and under the state's 1989 anti-degradation policy, receive special protection from the impact of point source wastewater discharges. Table 5-4 below outlines the 82 Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters found in Sawyer County (Map 15).

Table 5-4: Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters

Waterbody Name	Status	Mileage	Waterbody Name	Status	Mileage
Alder Creek	ERW	4.31	Namekagon R.	ORW	53.23
Badger Creek	ORW	5.44	Nelson Lake	ORW	0
Barker Lake	ORW	0	Osgood Lake	ORW	0
Bean Brook	ERW	1.21	Pacwawong Lake	ORW	0
Bear Creek	ERW	3.91	Perch Lake (T42n R06w S25)	ORW	0
Beaver Creek	ORW	1.72	Phipps Flowage	ORW	0
Benson Creek	ORW	2.01	Phipps Springs	ORW	0
Blaisdell Lake	ORW	0	Pipestone Creek	ERW	3
Blueberry Creek	ERW	2.78	Price Creek	ERW	4.05
Brunet R.	ERW	6.03	Round Lake (Big Round)	ORW	0
Flambeau R Trib T37n R3w S27	ERW	2	Sand Lake	ORW	0
Casey Creek	ERW	4.8	Smith Lake	ORW	0
Chippanazie Creek	ERW	1.53	Lower S. Fork Flambeau R.	ORW	34
Chippewa R.	ORW	11.85	Spider - Clear Lake	ORW	0
Connors Creek	ERW	1.28	Spooky Bay Creek	ERW	0.77
Couderay R.	ERW	1.83	Sucker Creek	ERW	6.96
Couderay R.	ORW	16.26	Swan Creek	ORW	9.26
Deadman Creek	ERW	4.85	Swift Creek	ERW	4.46
Deer Creek (Winter Township)	ERW	2.55	Teal Lake	ORW	0
East Fork Chippewa R.	ORW	27.81	Teal R.	ORW	7
Eddy Creek	ORW	4.24	Teal R. Flowage	ORW	0
Evergreen Lake	ORW	0	Thirtythree Creek	ERW	7.78
Flambeau R.	ORW	50	Thornapple R.	ORW	44.85
Flambeau Flowage	ERW	48.58	Totagatic R.	ORW	3.67
Fortyone Creek	ERW	5.73	S13 (Namekagon R. Trib)	ERW	0.87
Grindstone Creek	ORW	2.71	S7 (Long Creek Trib)	ERW	0.92
Grindstone Lake	ORW	0	S14-13 (Flambeau R. Trib)	ERW	2.37
Hackett Creek	ERW	3.95	S18-30 (Flambeau R. Trib)	ERW	2.31
Hatchery Creek	ERW	2.35	S10-9 (Flambeau R. Trib)	ERW	2.5
Hauer Creek	ERW	2.89	S11-14 (Flambeau R. Trib)	ERW	0.93
Hayward Lake	ORW	0	S1-12 (Flambeau R. Trib)	ERW	1.66
Hemlock Spur Creek	ERW	3.45	S33-34 (Lake Weirgor Creek Trib)	ORW	2.15
Knapp Stout Creek	ERW	3.34	Buckhorn Creek Tributary	ORW	0.75
Knuteson Creek	ORW	3.38	S18-24 (Brunet R. Trib)	ERW	2.28
Knuteson Creek	ERW	3.51	S17-18 (Couderay R. Trib)	ERW	1.65
Lac Courte Oreilles	ORW	0	S2 (Chippewa R. Trib)	ERW	0.57
Lake Chippewa	ORW	0	S17-9 (Lake Chippewa Trib)	ERW	2.5
Little Weirgor Creek	ERW	2.02	McDermott Creek	ORW	0.78
Little Weirgor Creek	ORW	13.18	S5 (Lac Courte Oreilles Trib)	ERW	0.65
Maple Creek	ORW	10.19	S14-27 (Sfk Flambeau R. Trib)	ERW	2.92
Mcdermott Brook	ORW	2.23	West Fork Chippewa R.	ORW	22.69
Mosquito Brook	ORW	3.71	Whitefish Lake	ORW	0
Moss Creek	ERW	2.53	Yarnell Creek	ERW	1.57

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Wetland Resources

Wetlands provide beneficial environmental functions such as flood control, water quality protection and improvement and groundwater recharge. Wetlands also provide critical habitat for fish and wildlife. A complex set of regulations places limitations on the development and use of wetlands. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources regulates the placement of structures and other alterations below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of navigable streams and lakes. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has authority over the placement of fill materials in virtually all wetlands. The U.S. Department of Agriculture incorporates wetland preservation criteria into its crop price support programs. Prior to placing fill or altering wetland resources, these agencies must be contacted to receive authorization.

According to the Wisconsin Wetland Inventory, there are over 172,000 acres of wetlands five acres or larger in Sawyer County. Wetlands of less than five acres are not identified in the inventory. Forested and scrub/shrub wetlands are the dominant wetland types, especially across the heavily forested portions of the northern and western parts of the County. When proposing future land use changes or developments, County and State representatives must be consulted to determine the location and extent of on-site wetlands prior to development occurring.

Table 5-5: Wetland Types

Class	Acres
Aquatic Bed	1,897.9
Emergent/Wet Meadow	9,582.4
Filled/Drained Wetland	21.3
Flats/Unvegetated Wet Soil	22.9
Forested	93,141.3
Scrub/Shrub	67,486.8
Grand Total	172,152.6

Source: Wisconsin Wetland Inventory

Migratory Bird Habitat

The waters which afford the highest relative value to waterfowl include the Totagatic Flowage in the Totagatic River Wildlife Area and the Chippewa Flowage, by virtue of its large size and relatively undeveloped shoreline. Also important are the large numbers of glacial lakes of the northern and western parts of the County and the poorly drained marsh bordered streams of the eastern part. Beaver are active throughout smaller streams and provide additional suitable habitat for waterfowl because of open water conditions, while nearby lakes remain frozen over. Fall migrants utilize the extensive sedge marshes and wild rice beds bordering the natural lakes on the bigger river systems of the West and East Forks of the Chippewa River. The large natural lakes, Lac Courte Oreilles, Chetac, Grindstone, Sissabagama, Round, Sand, and Blueberry Lakes, have high spring migratory duck use. The activities of boaters and fisherman greatly reduce dusk nesting and fall migratory waterfowl use. These lakes also have dense shore use that is competitive to waterfowl habitat. A scarcity of some species of ducks in Sawyer County is due, in part, to the fact that the area lies on the fringes of major migratory flight lines.

The most common nesting waterfowl are mallards and blue-winged teal. Less common are wood ducks, black ducks, hooded and American mergansers and ring-necked ducks. The least common nesters are the American widgeon, green-winged teal, red-breasted mergansers, loon, coot and lesser scaup. Only rarely do other species of waterfowl nest in this part of the state. The most abundant migratory waterfowl during the spring and fall seasons in Sawyer County are scaup, ring-necks, coot and mallards.

Less common are goldeneyes, buffleheads, redheads, canvasbacks, black ducks, and blue-winged teal. The least common migrants are the wood ducks, American widgeon, pintails, green-winged teal, shovelers, gadwall, ruddy ducks, and mergansers. Blue, snow and Canada geese, sandhill cranes and whistling swans are also part of the migratory flight.

WILDLIFE RESOURCES

The abundant and varied habitats found in Sawyer County support a highly diverse range of wildlife species, including several threatened or endangered species. The Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) provides a listing of rare, threatened, and endangered species and communities that have been identified in Sawyer County (Table 5-6). While the specific location of threatened or endangered species is not public, Map 17 represents sections where species have been reported.

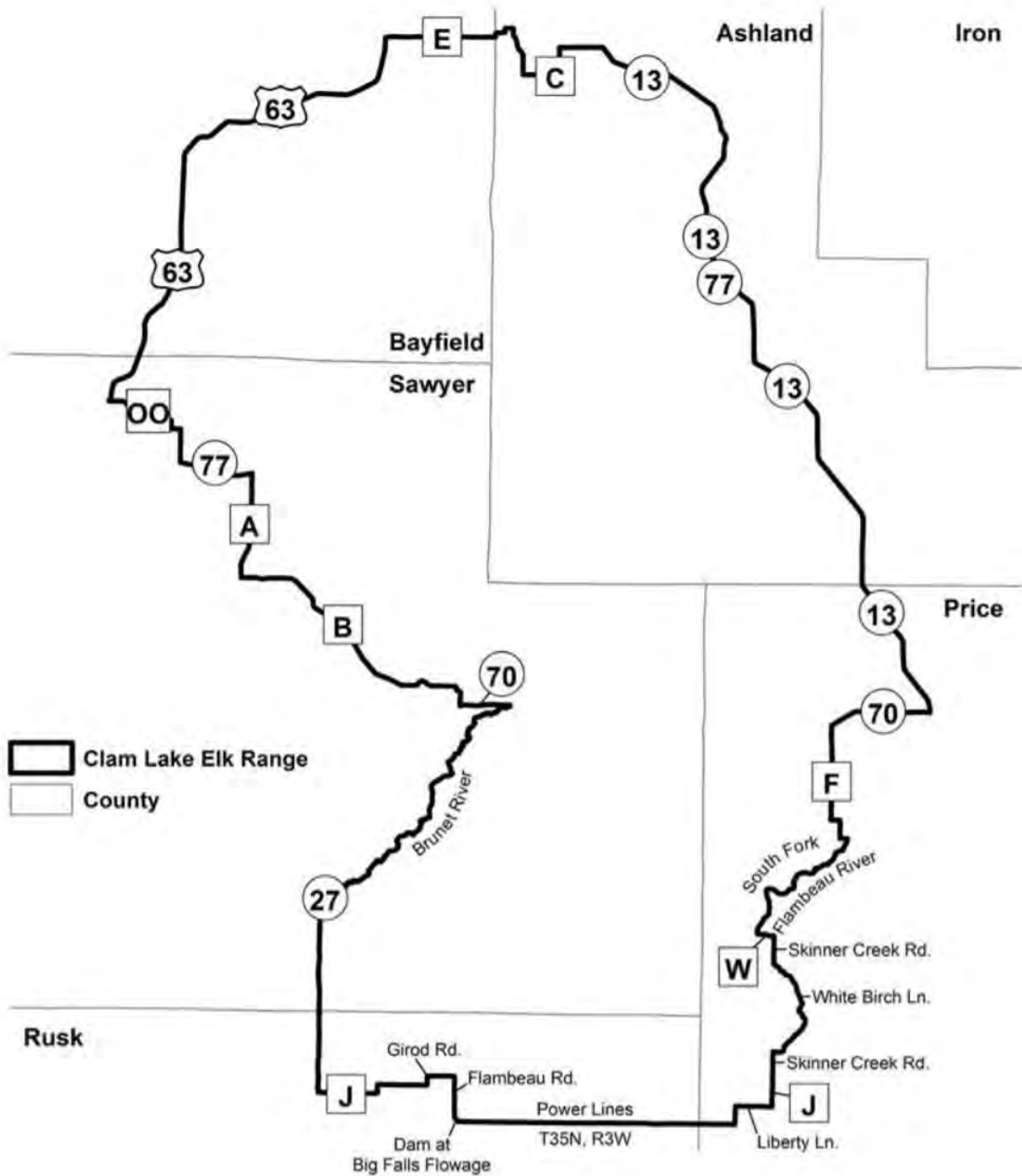
Forested land makes up much of the wildlife habitat in Sawyer County. These lands provide a home for major game species such as whitetail deer, black bear, ruffed grouse, and other species. Forest habitats are continually changing due to natural succession and human activities on the landscape. Through natural succession, the pioneer plant communities (aspen, jack pine, oak) that followed the wildfire era are being replaced by mid-successional species such as maple-hemlock, maple-beech, birch, and spruce-fir. Many acres of good wildlife habitat have naturally converted to non-productive habitat. Man has further influenced the landscape through fire protection and reforestation, speeding plant succession. Man has also been instrumental in reversing natural succession through certain cutting practices.

The gray wolf population throughout northern Wisconsin has been increasing since 1993. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service removed the gray wolf from the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species list in January 2012, and it was relisted in December 2014. In January 2021, the gray wolf was again removed from the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species List, returning management authority to state agencies. The DNR is working towards completing a 10-year wolf management plan that will guide future management decisions for wolves in Wisconsin.

In 1993 the Wisconsin State Legislature authorized the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to evaluate the potential for reintroducing elk to the Great Divide District of the Chequamegon National Forest near Clam Lake. In May 1995, 25 elk from Michigan's lower peninsula were translocated to Wisconsin. The core area of release was in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest near Clam Lake, at the confluence of Ashland, Bayfield, and Sawyer counties. The Clam Lake Elk Range is depicted in Figure 5-1. Management responsibility of the herd was transferred from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in May 1999.

The Clam Lake elk herd population was estimated to have reached approximately 297 as of July 2020, with the addition of new animals through natural reproduction within the herd and the translocation of elk from Kentucky in 2017 and 2019. This population has grown slowly, but steadily since reintroduction in 1995. Wisconsin holds a very limited hunt in the Clam Lake Elk Range each fall.

Figure 5-1: Clam Lake Elk Range



Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Wisconsin's Natural Heritage Inventory Program

Wisconsin's Natural Heritage Inventory Program (NHI) focuses on locating and documenting occurrences of rare species and natural communities, including state and federal endangered and threatened species. NHI data is exempt from the Wisconsin Open Records Law due to the vulnerable nature of these sensitive resources. Determination of the specific locations of sensitive resources within Sawyer County will require coordination between the County and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Table 5-6: Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory

Common Name	Scientific Name	Year
AQUATIC OCCURRENCES		
Animals		
Elktoe	<i>Alasmidonta marginata</i>	1997
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	1992
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	2002
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	2003
Lake Darner	<i>Aeshna eremita</i>	2002
Water Shrew	<i>Sorex palustris</i>	1948
Weed Shiner	<i>Notropis texanus</i>	1976
Wood Turtle	<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>	2008
Yellow Rail	<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>	2005
Least Darter	<i>Etheostoma microperca</i>	1991
Round Pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema sintoxia</i>	1997
Lake Sturgeon	<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>	1991
Spruce Grouse	<i>Falcapennis canadensis</i>	2007
Mottled Darner	<i>Aeshna clepsydra</i>	2002
Lake Chubsucker	<i>Erimyzon sucetta</i>	2008
Longear Sunfish	<i>Lepomis megalotis</i>	1978
American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	2005
Fragile Forktail	<i>Ischnura posita</i>	1989
Greater Redhorse	<i>Moxostoma valenciennesi</i>	1989
Harlequin Darner	<i>Gomphaeschna furcillata</i>	1992
Purple Wartback	<i>Cyclonaias tuberculata</i>	1997
Blanding's Turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	2008
Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	1980
Pronghorned Clubtail	<i>Gomphus graslinellus</i>	1991
Woodland Jumping Mouse	<i>Napaeozapus insignis</i>	1969
Extra-striped Snaketail	<i>Ophiogomphus anomalus</i>	1996
Plants		
Swamp-pink	<i>Arethusa bulbosa</i>	2007
Fairy Slipper	<i>Calypso bulbosa</i>	1997

Common Name	Scientific Name	Year
Marsh Ragwort	<i>Senecio congestus</i>	1926
Swamp Bedstraw	<i>Galium brevipes</i>	1963
Spotted Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton pulcher</i>	1931
Torrey's Bulrush	<i>Scirpus torreyi</i>	1976
Vasey's Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton vaseyi</i>	1971
Assiniboine Sedge	<i>Carex assiniboinensis</i>	2000
Downy Willow-herb	<i>Epilobium strictum</i>	1992
Marsh Willow-herb	<i>Epilobium palustre</i>	1992
Leafy White Orchis	<i>Platanthera dilatata</i>	1979
Purple Bladderwort	<i>Utricularia purpurea</i>	1976
Robbins' Spikerush	<i>Eleocharis robbinsii</i>	1934
Longstem Water-wort	<i>Elatine triandra</i>	1971
Round-leaved Orchis	<i>Amerorchis rotundifolia</i>	1993
American Shore-grass	<i>Littorella americana</i>	1931
Sparse-flowered Sedge	<i>Carex tenuiflora</i>	2006
Common Bog Arrow-grass	<i>Triglochin maritima</i>	1992
Northern Black Currant	<i>Ribes hudsonianum</i>	1997
Ram's-head Lady's-slipper	<i>Cypripedium arietinum</i>	1992
Natural Communities		
Muskeg		2006
Open Bog		1981
Poor Fen		2006
Shrub-carr		1980
Spring Pond		1979
Alder Thicket		1979
Forested Seep		2000
Ephemeral Pond		2000
Lake--Hard Bog		1988
Lake--Soft Bog		1981
Boreal Rich Fen		1993
Black Spruce Swamp		2006
Northern Wet Forest		2000
Northern Sedge Meadow		2004
Tamarack (Poor) Swamp		2005
Lake--Deep, Soft, Seepage		1997
Northern Wet-mesic Forest		2004
Lake--Deep, Soft, Drainage		1979
Lake--Shallow, Soft, Seepage		2000
Springs and Spring Runs, Hard		1981

Common Name	Scientific Name	Year
TERRESTRIAL OCCURRENCES		
Animals		
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	1979
Gray Wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>	2008
Pygmy Shrew	<i>Sorex hoyi</i>	1848
Bird Rookery	<i>Bird Rookery</i>	1985
American Marten	<i>Martes americana</i>	2008
Cape May Warbler	<i>Dendroica tigrina</i>	2000
Cerulean Warbler	<i>Dendroica cerulea</i>	2000
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	2005
Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	2000
Appalachian Pillar	<i>Cochlicopa morseana</i>	1997
Laurentian Skipper	<i>Hesperia comma</i>	1995
Connecticut Warbler	<i>Oporornis agilis</i>	2000
Northern Ring-necked Snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus edwardsii</i>	2000
Black-throated Blue Warbler	<i>Dendroica caerulescens</i>	2000
Plants		
Purple Clematis	<i>Clematis occidentalis</i>	1924
Climbing Fumitory	<i>Adlumia fungosa</i>	1969
Mingan's Moonwort	<i>Botrychium minganense</i>	1992
Mountain Cranberry	<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea ssp. minus</i>	2006
Moonwort Grape-fern	<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>	1980
Blunt-lobe Grape-fern	<i>Botrychium oneidense</i>	2000
Little Goblin Moonwort	<i>Botrychium mormo</i>	2000
Large-flowered Ground-cherry	<i>Leucophysalis grandiflora</i>	1926
Natural Communities		
Mesic Cedar Forest		1993
Northern Mesic Forest		2007
Northern Dry-mesic Forest		2005

PUBLIC CONSERVATION LANDS

Local Land Trusts

Several local land trusts are actively purchasing properties to conserve area resources. Often these lands are transferred to federal and state organizations to keep areas undeveloped and open to the public. An example of local and national conservation organization is the Rocky Mountain National Elk Foundation. The Foundation has been instrumental in acquiring property near the Clam Lake Elk Herd area and then later transferring ownership of the property to the U.S. Forest Service.

Legacy Places

Legacy Places are Wisconsin's most important areas for meeting the state's conservation and recreation needs for the next 50 years. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources identified 228 Legacy Places statewide in the 2002 report Wisconsin Land Legacy Report: An Inventory of Places Critical in Meeting Wisconsin's Future Conservation and Recreation Needs. The report details 15 Legacy Places occurring within Sawyer County. Map 18 depicts the generalized locations of Legacy Places in Sawyer County.

Blue Hills

The Blue Hills are remnants of an ancient mountain range that was worn away by the glacial activity. This heavily forested region contains numerous lakes and several high quality rivers and streams, including several trout streams. Numerous quartzite outcrops and a rolling topography also characterize the region.

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest encompasses approximately 124,000 acres in northeastern Sawyer County. The U.S. Forest Service manages the land for multiple uses, including forestry, wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation, special forest products gathering, fisheries and wilderness and natural areas.

Chippewa Flowage

The Chippewa Flowage is a 15,300 acre impoundment in central Sawyer County. The Flowage features 233 miles of relatively undeveloped shoreline and nearly 200 islands and is highly regarded for its natural scenic beauty and recreational opportunities.

Flambeau River State Forest

The Flambeau River State Forest covers nearly 65,000 acres in eastern Sawyer County. These state-managed forestlands encircle the North and South Forks of the Flambeau River, both popular recreational waterways.

Haugen-Birchwood Lakeland

This region of kettle lake topography lies between Lake Chetac in Sawyer County and Long Lake in Washburn County. A high density of small, mostly undeveloped lakes and forested uplands characterizes the region.

Namekagon River

The Namekagon River in northwestern Sawyer County is part of the National Park Service's St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. Above Lake Hayward, the Namekagon is a premiere cold water trout stream.

Other popular river-based recreational activities on the Namekagon include canoeing, kayaking, and tubing.

North Fork of the Chief River

The North Fork of the Chief River flows from the Tiger Cat Flowage south through the Chief River Wildlife Area to the Chippewa Flowage. The river serves as important spawning habitat for muskellunge, while the riparian areas along the river provide habitat for many northern wildlife species.

Pipestone Hills

This area in central Sawyer County contains a large tract of forest representative of northern hardwoods and contains glacial landforms representative of the surrounding area.

Thornapple-Brunet River Woods

The Thornapple-Brunet River Woods is a large, forested tract southeast of Winter in eastern Sawyer County. The area contains a mix of mature northern mesic forest and northern hardwood swamps. The area is fairly remote and isolated and there are few roads giving the area a “big woods” flavor. The Thornapple and Brunet Rivers, which flow through the area, provide an ecological connection between the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest to the north and the Sawyer County Forest.

Upper Chippewa River

From the Chippewa flowage south, the Eau Claire River and Chippewa River corridor provides exceptional recreational and ecological resource values. The surrounding forest and wetlands serve as wildlife travel corridors. The Chippewa River is popular for water-based recreation such as fishing, canoeing, kayaking, and tubing.

State Natural Areas

State Natural Areas (SNAs) are formally designated sites devoted to scientific research, the teaching of conservation biology and preservation of their natural values and genetic diversity for future generations. A total of 16 SNAs have been designated within Sawyer County. Sawyer County SNAs are shown along with public lands in Map 18.

Table 5-7: State Natural Areas within Sawyer County

State Natural Area	Description
Swamp Lake	Remote and undeveloped 258-acre soft-water drainage Wilderness Lake. Numerous bird species use the site and waterfowl use is especially significant during migration.
Oxbo Pines	Extensive stand of natural origin dry-mesic forest on hilly, steep-sided pitted outwash and esker deposits.
Lake Helane	Undeveloped, soft-water seepage lake with two separate basins and a navigable channel connecting the two.
Hanson Lake Wetlands	Diverse mosaic of representative wetland communities and associated aquatic features.
Bass Lake Peatlands	Vast, open peatland with scattered trees and drains to the southwest from Bass Lake and beyond where it forms the headwaters of Little Connor Creek.

Flambeau River Hardwood Forest	Education and research site, especially for the study of regeneration of old-growth forest following a natural disturbance.
Lake of the Pines Conifer-Hardwoods	Former site of old growth mesic forest which was destroyed in a windstorm. Important research area for the study of natural regeneration of old-growth forests.
Kissick Alkaline Bog Lake	10-acre wilderness lake with an extensive open bog and northern wet forest. Site hosts rare plants and birds.
Upper Brunet River	Diverse array of upland and lowland plant communities. Located within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest
Snoose Creek	Complex of natural forest communities on Glidden Drumlin Land type. Located within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.
No-Name Lake	Remote, undeveloped soft-water seepage lake and adjoining forested uplands and wetlands. Located within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.
Ghost Lake	High quality upland hardwood forest and conifer swamps. Mature white cedar forest bordering Ghost Lake. Located within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.
Wilson Lake	High quality mosaic of sedge meadow communities in association with Wilson Creek, Wilson Lake, Star Lake, and northern dry-mesic forest situated on eskers. Located within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.
Moose River Cedar Hills	Upland northern whiter cedar forest bordering tributaries of the Moose River. Located within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.
Spring Brook Drumlins	Largest tract of closed canopy mesic hardwood forest in the National Forest outside of the Penokee Range. Located within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.
Thornapple Hemlocks	Represents most of the major community types found within the Flambeau Silt-Capped Drumlins. Located within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

METALLIC MINERAL RESOURCES

Metallic mining has been of minor importance in the region over the past century. The nearest commercial metallic mineral mines (iron) were located in Iron County, 70 miles northeast of Hayward. A known mineral deposit (iron, titanium, vanadium) is present in the Round Lake area. However, the complex mineralogy of the area would likely result in low metal recovery. If that or any other mine would open, then this resource would have a substantial impact within the County.

Current Status

Currently there are no active metallic mineral mines in Sawyer County.

Regulations

A metallic mine in Wisconsin is subject to many rules and regulations. Before a mine can be developed, Wisconsin requires a metallic mining permit and approved plans for environmental monitoring, mining and reclamation, a risk assessment, and a contingency plan. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

must be prepared by the Department of Natural Resources in order to assess the potential impacts of the proposed mine. WDNR is also responsible for monitoring construction, mining, and reclamation activities. The Wisconsin mining statutes state that the local municipality within which a metallic mine site is located has zoning approval authority over a proposed metallic mine. Before a proposed metallic mine can receive approval from the state, the local municipality must have granted approval under its zoning or land use ordinances or have entered into a legally binding agreement with the mining proponent.

NONMETALLIC MINERAL RESOURCES

Nonmetallic mineral resources include sand, gravel, and aggregate deposits. Minerals extracted from Sawyer County are primarily used for construction purposes. Nonmetallic mineral resource sites are identified in Table 5-8.

Table 5-8: Nonmetallic Mining Operations

Location	Pit Name	Acres
T. Bass Lake	Skille #302	17
T. Bass Lake	Jonjak	2
T. Bass Lake	Select Materials	11
T. Couderay	Couderay	3
T. Couderay	Futurewood	5
T. Couderay	Winter #341	21
T. Draper	Consolidated	12
T. Draper	County M Pit	10
T. Draper	Blaisdell Lk Rd.	2
T. Draper	Payne Farm Rd.	3
T. Edgewater	Marcon	8
T. Edgewater	Sirinek	1
T. Hayward	County Hill Rd	8
T. Hayward	Chippewa Tr/Kraemer	7
T. Hayward	Peninsula Rd.	7
T. Hayward	Shop Pit	16
T. Hayward	Todd's Redi-Mix	85
T. Hayward	Butterfield	1
T. Hunter	Harris	2
T. Lenroot	CTH OO	2
T. Lenroot	Erickson	1
T. Lenroot	Olson Rd.	4
T. Lenroot	Olson	3
T. Lenroot	Todd's	41
T. Lenroot	Seeley Fire Lane	2
T. Lenroot	Shop Pit	4
T. Meadowbrook	Ewert	3
T. Meadowbrook	Hajdasz	4
T. Meadowbrook	Thompson Plant	14
T. Meteor	Zesiger	9

Table 5-8: Nonmetallic Mining Operations

T. Ojibwa	Yankee Joe Pit	2.6
T. Radisson	CTH H	1
T. Radisson	Earthly Materials	7
T. Round Lake	Kramer	10
T. Round Lake	Mrotek #198	45
T. Round Lake	#369 Point Pit	19
T. Round Lake	77 Pit	8
T. Round Lake	Mrotek	19.5
T. Round Lake	CTH B	3
T. Round Lake	Joan's Pit	4
T. Sand Lake	Sissabagama Rd.	6
T. Sand Lake	Sand Lake Pit	7
T. Weirgor	Villiard	1
T. Weirgor	Blomberg	9
T. Weirgor	Schwietzer	4
T. Weirgor	Schweitzer's	6
T. Winter	Heath	2
T. Winter	Johnson	4
T. Winter	Petit	5
T. Winter	Strouf	2
T. Winter	Bissel Grade	1
T. Winter	Hwy. 70	7
T. Winter	Lagoon Rd.	1
T. Winter	Tupper Creek	1
T. Winter	Bumblebee	5
T. Winter	ATP	4
T. Winter	Price Creek Pit	4
T. Winter	Cedar Rapids Pit	2
T. Winter	Haystack	1
T. Winter	R&P Lagoon Rd.	3
C. Hayward	City	5

Source: Sawyer County Zoning Department

Current Status

Based on nonmetallic mining permits in Sawyer County, a total of 57 nonmetallic mines are active. All of which produce sand and gravel or stone products.

Regulations

Chapter NR135 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code requires that all counties develop and adopt a non-metallic mining reclamation ordinance. NR 135 ensures that all nonmetallic mining sites are reclaimed in compliance with the uniform statewide reclamation standards by providing the detailed requirements and reclamation standards for local ordinances.

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN FLOOD IMPACT STUDY: SAWYER COUNTY

On July 11-12, 2016, multiple rounds of severe thunderstorms impacted seven counties in northwest Wisconsin, including Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Sawyer, and Washburn Counties, as well as the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa. During a 24-hour period, parts of the region received historically heavy rainfall, with 8 to 12 inches of precipitation falling in some areas. The heavy rainfall caused flash flooding and widespread and severe damage to roads and infrastructure, homes, businesses, and public facilities across the region. Travel across much of northwestern Wisconsin was not advised due to inundated roadways and washouts. The timing of these storms also coincided with the peak of tourist season in the region. Regionwide, the flood event impacted over 350 homes and left behind tens of millions of dollars in public sector damage.

In response to the disaster, the Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center was elevated to a Level 1 (full activation), with agency personnel from the Department of Administration, Department of Transportation, Department of Natural Resources and other state, federal and volunteer agencies coordinating resources. On July 12, 2016, a state of emergency was declared for the affected counties and state agency resources were directed to support response and recovery efforts. Emergency response efforts were supported by volunteer organizations including the American Red Cross, local volunteer fire departments, AmeriCorps, Team Rubicon, statewide tribal organizations, and the Civil Air Patrol. Private sector business partners also provided resources and supplies to aid flood victims.

On August 9, 2016, Presidential Disaster Declaration DR-4276 for public assistance was granted for the counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Florence, Iron, Sawyer, and Washburn, and the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa. The severe flooding also impacted the agricultural industry in northwest Wisconsin, resulting in crop losses and reduced yields. Consequently, an agricultural disaster declaration was designated on September 29, 2016, for the counties of Ashland, Bayfield, and Iron, as well as the five neighboring counties of Douglas, Price, Sawyer, Vilas, and Washburn.

In 2018, the Northwest Wisconsin Flood Impact Study was completed by the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC). The full Northwest Wisconsin Flood Impact Study and links to interactive 100-year and 500-year flood event maps are located on the project webpage available at: <http://nwrpc.com/986/Map-Servers>. The study area included the counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Sawyer, and Washburn, all of which were declared in the 2016 Presidential Disaster Declaration DR-4276. NWRPC prepared a Level 2 (customized) flood inundation analysis for the affected counties using FEMA's HAZUS software to demonstrate the potential impacts of historic flood events, pre-identify likely impact areas, and assesses the economic impacts to communities, businesses, and residents. The study focused on building community economic resiliency through a broad range of strategies and mechanisms needed to reduce risk and vulnerability. The study is also incorporated into the *Sawyer County Hazard Mitigation Plan* and serves as a point of reference to guide flood mitigation activities across the county.

Through this analysis, two tables were generated for Sawyer County: one table representing 100-year flood loss estimates and the other representing 500-year flood loss estimates. Map 16 identifies Sawyer County's flood vulnerability in a 100-year flood event and in a 500-year flood event.

Table 5-9: Sawyer County 100-Year Flood Loss Estimates

Municipality	Structures Impacted	Estimated Building Losses	Estimated Content Losses	Estimated Inventory Losses	Debris Generated (tons)
C. OF HAYWARD	74	\$ 737,521.00	\$ 1,198,313.00	\$ 54,855.00	1,148
T. OF BASS LAKE	17	\$ 217,456.00	\$ 132,725.00	\$ -	79
T. OF COUDERAY	10	\$ 124,348.00	\$ 52,225.00	\$ -	238
T. OF DRAPER	27	\$ 423,219.00	\$ 225,693.00	\$ -	396
T. OF EDGEWATER	1	\$ 12,699.00	\$ 4,590.00	\$ -	22
T. OF HAYWARD	54	\$ 1,431,369.00	\$ 1,085,157.00	\$ 150,064.00	799
T. OF HUNTER	22	\$ 278,549.00	\$ 359,083.00	\$ -	196
T. OF LENROOT	8	\$ 219,409.00	\$ 114,158.00	\$ -	146
T. OF OJIBWA	65	\$ 1,625,699.00	\$ 1,046,697.00	\$ -	1,166
T. OF RADISSON	28	\$ 578,273.00	\$ 630,180.00	\$ -	365
T. OF ROUND LAKE	19	\$ 291,070.00	\$ 171,627.00	\$ -	207
T. OF SAND LAKE	1	\$ 21,721.00	\$ 6,400.00	\$ -	35
T. OF SPIDER LAKE	10	\$ 185,065.00	\$ 81,159.00	\$ -	189
T. OF WEIRGOR	32	\$ 961,916.00	\$ 445,413.00	\$ -	715
T. OF WINTER	24	\$ 522,158.00	\$ 291,376.00	\$ -	268
V. OF COUDERAY	1	\$ 3,533.00	\$ 2,370.00	\$ -	18
V. OF EXELAND	3	\$ 6,831.00	\$ 20,223.00	\$ -	14
GRAND TOTAL	396	\$ 7,640,836.00	\$ 5,867,389.00	\$ 204,919.00	6,001

Table 5-10: Sawyer County 500-Year Flood Loss Estimates

Municipality	Structures Impacted	Estimated Building Losses	Estimated Content Losses	Estimated Inventory Losses	Debris Generated (tons)
C. OF HAYWARD	89	\$ 1,078,738.00	\$ 2,090,656.00	\$ 99,341.00	1,259
T. OF BASS LAKE	21	\$ 790,190.00	\$ 448,629.00	\$ -	163
T. OF COUDERAY	10	\$ 139,435.00	\$ 55,820.00	\$ -	271
T. OF DRAPER	30	\$ 492,648.00	\$ 256,883.00	\$ -	444
T. OF EDGEWATER	5	\$ 101,125.00	\$ 83,522.00	\$ -	1,665
T. OF HAYWARD	59	\$ 1,562,087.00	\$ 1,070,954.00	\$ 219,068.00	916
T. OF HUNTER	22	\$ 350,745.00	\$ 471,898.00	\$ -	216
T. OF LENROOT	11	\$ 260,454.00	\$ 135,519.00	\$ -	205
T. OF OJIBWA	77	\$ 3,290,933.00	\$ 1,874,476.00	\$ -	4,188
T. OF RADISSON	40	\$ 1,104,390.00	\$ 958,279.00	\$ -	903
T. OF ROUND LAKE	32	\$ 434,130.00	\$ 245,134.00	\$ -	389
T. OF SAND LAKE	1	\$ 20,748.00	\$ 6,319.00	\$ -	35
T. OF SPIDER LAKE	11	\$ 225,678.00	\$ 101,805.00	\$ -	200
T. OF WEIRGOR	34	\$ 1,251,924.00	\$ 574,025.00	\$ -	805
T. OF WINTER	29	\$ 757,348.00	\$ 451,975.00	\$ -	363
V. OF COUDERAY	1	\$ 5,669.00	\$ 3,663.00	\$ -	18
V. OF EXELAND	3	\$ 8,535.00	\$ 28,266.00	\$ -	14
GRAND TOTAL	475	\$ 11,874,777.00	\$ 8,857,823.00	\$ 318,409.00	12,054

CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

Cultural and historic sites and features are important community resources. These resources provide a critical link between the past and the present and as in all communities, are highly valued. Sawyer County has an abundance of such resources which are valued not only by residents, but also by those who vacation in the area as well as those who have some other kind of connection to the region.

The Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) was instrumental in the development of the Cultural and Historic Resources section of the Sawyer County Comprehensive Plan and provided the Historical Places information. Sawyer County is host to three sites registered with the Wisconsin National Register of Historic Places.

Organized by Ben Faast around 1918, the Wisconsin Colonization Company sought to establish a prosperous city of farmers on land formerly used for logging. Faast named the town Ojibwa and, working with UW professor Frans Aust, developed a complete town plan that included a zoo, parks, and a grand boulevard. The Colonization Company heavily promoted the agricultural resources of Sawyer County and offered potential settlers "made-to-order farms" consisting of land, a house, a barn, 2 pigs, 6 chickens, tools, and seeds. The largest ethnic groups to settle in the area were Poles, drawn to the farming life familiar to them in Europe. Ojibwa was only a moderate success as buyers found that the profits were small in comparison to the amount of work and capital required of them. The colonization movement planned to settle immigrant farmers in northern Wisconsin's "cutover" land, areas left after the harvest of virgin white pine. The company aided settlers by purchasing 50,000 acres in Sawyer County for resale as farmland. Faast envisioned a model settlement as a company showpiece. Ojibwa, named after a local band of Chippewa Indians, was designed as that model town, and was featured in advertising circulars to new settlers. **The Courier Press Building in Ojibwa** was constructed in 1922 and was one of five buildings constructed in the commercial district of the town. The building was home of the Courier Press until 1949 when the newspaper was absorbed by the Sawyer County Gazette. At the time of listing, the building served as a small grocery business. The other two sites registered with the Wisconsin National Register of Historic Places are **Hall-Raynor Stopping Place** located north of Ojibwa on WI G consisting of two buildings once used as hotels and the **North Wisconsin Lumber Company Office** located on Florida Avenue in Hayward.

The Wisconsin Architectural and Heritage Inventory (AHI) provide historical and architectural information on approximately 120,000 properties in Wisconsin. The AHI contains data on buildings, structures and objects that illustrate Wisconsin's unique history. The AHI documents a wide range of historic round barns, log houses, metal truss bridges and small town commercial buildings. It is a permanent record maintained by the Wisconsin Historical Society. Please note that this is not a comprehensive list of all old Wisconsin buildings and structures. The inventory has been assembled over a period of more than 25 years from a wide variety of sources. In many cases, the information is dated. Some properties may be altered or no longer exist. The majorities of properties included in this inventory are privately owned and not open to the public. Inclusion in this inventory conveys no special status, rights, or benefits to owners of these properties.

Area lakes and forest are culturally significant to members of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and other Native Americans. Wild ricing and hunting and gathering are traditions members of LCO Tribal Community hold strong.

CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL MODERN DAY CELEBRATIONS

Sawyer County offers a wide variety of cultural events throughout the year, from small hometown festivals to world-class competitions. Headlining the many activities of the area are the annual Musky Festival, Lumberjack World Championships (recognized as the premiere timber sporting event in the nation), Fat Tire Fest, Fall Festival and the most famous ski race in North America, the American Birkebeiner.

Birkie Ski, Run, & Bike Events are held year-round on the 100+ kilometer Birkie trail system maintained by the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation. The premier event is Birkie Week held each year in mid-February. Birkie Week includes the American Birkebeiner, the largest cross-country ski race in North America, which includes a 50K race from Cable to Hayward for skaters and a 55K race for classic skiers. The late Tony Wise founded the American Birkebeiner in 1972, patterning the ski marathon after the Birkebeiner Rennet, held in Norway since 1932.



Birkie Week also includes the Kortelopet Classic and Skate 29K and the Prince Haakon 15K, among other events. There are many more events held throughout the year, some of which include the Fat Bike Birkie, a snow bike event held in March, the Birkie Lumberjack Run held in July, and the Birkie Trail Run Festival held in September.

Spring Fling is held annually, the Village of Winter the second to last Saturday in May. More than 75 crafters on Main Street, Rhubarb Pie Baking Contest, food, live music, kid's games, pony rides, Car Show and Trash & Treasure Sale are all offered at this event.



Musky Festival is Hayward's largest summer celebration of the Northwoods and great fishing history. The Festival takes place the last weekend in June each year in downtown Hayward. The weekend includes the crowning of a Musky Festival Queen, sidewalk sales, large handmade art & craft show, live music, children's games, food booths, Musky Run, fishing contest and a carnival. Friday and Saturday night street dances and a large Parade on Sunday conclude this well attended yearly event.

Northwoods Annual Riverside Fine Art/Craft Fair & Family Day is held over the July Fourth holiday in the Town of Ojibwa. The event offers brats, bake sale, cheese & wine tasting, children's booth, pony rides, free booth sitting, free coffee for artisans and a fireworks display at dusk.

July Jubilee is held each year on the July Fourth holiday in Winter. There is a kiddie parade, a grand parade on Main Street, activities throughout the day at Doc Smith Park, and a fireworks display at dusk.

Namekagon Art & Music Festival is held the second Saturday in July in Seeley. Sponsored by the Cable Hayward Area Arts Council (CHARAC), this event features artisans in a wide variety of mediums. Live regional musicians perform throughout the day. The event offers a separate stage featuring a Poetry Jam Contest and live original theater, a Kid's Activity Tent, demonstrations from various artisans, food/drink and a 10 mile or 3 mile Trail Run among the Seeley Highlands.



Lumberjack World Championships® is an annual sporting event held in Hayward at Lumberjack Bowl. The championships were established to perpetuate the rich history of logging that took place here in the northwestern part of Wisconsin. In fact, Lumberjack Bowl was once a giant holding pond for the logs of Weyerhaeuser's North Wisconsin Lumber Company. The Championships showcase over 21 events competing for world records in events ranging from men's and women's logrolling, to chopping, to pole climbing. The Championships are held yearly on the last weekend in July. Competitors come from as far away as Canada, Australia, and New Zealand to vie for more than \$50,000 in prize money, one of the richest paybacks of any lumberjack contest in the world.

The **Sawyer County Fair** runs during the month of August.

The annual **Moose Lake Festival** is held the first weekend in August. The festival takes place at Louie's Landing Resort on Moose Lake in Hayward. This annual event is a fundraiser for Chequamegon Lions and Round Lake and Spider Lake Fire Departments.



Trout Festival is held in Exeland the first weekend in September. Arts & crafts sale, Queen's pageant, volleyball, baseball, street dance, parade, 10K run, kids games, horseshoes, wildlife displays, food, music and more are offered at this event.

Each year in mid-September, thousands of bikers descend on the towns of Cable and Hayward to take on the off road bicycle tests of endurance and agility offered during the **Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival** weekend. Since its inception in 1983, the Festival has built a popularity and reputation that is unmatched in the sport today. From the 27 hardy cyclists who lined up to challenge the unknown trails of the Chequamegon in the first year, to the sold out limited field of 2,500 who are chosen by a random lottery, the Festival has earned the title of the "Nation's Most Popular Off Road Bicycle Adventure." The festivities continue the following weekend when the City of Hayward welcomes in fall with the **Annual Hayward Fall Festival**. Activities include art & crafts booths, food booths, a farmers market and live music to the Main Street in downtown Hayward.

Kids' Fish O' Rama is held the second to last Saturday in September at the National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame in the City of Hayward. This fishing event for kids age 12 and under awards door prizes, prizes for biggest fish, most fish, etc., free hot dogs, pop, and ice cream.

The **Hayward Lakes Musky Tournament** is held the first weekend in October and offers large cash awards and is a favorite annual event in the area. This is a two and one half day (Fri-Sun) musky tournament on 17 Hayward area lakes where all fish are released. \$30,000 in prizes is offered at this tournament. There is an entry fee, but proceeds are used for stocking and other projects to improve musky fishing.

The annual **Stone Lake Cranberry Festival** (currently celebrating its 30th year), hosts over 30,000 guests during the one-day celebration of cranberries. Celebrated the first Saturday in October the festival offers such activities as cranberry marsh tours, high quality arts & crafts, farmers market and flea market, food vendors, entertainment, parade, and the very popular kids crate derby.

Homespun Holidays is held each year at the Winter School, held the Saturday after Thanksgiving, this event is held regardless of weather. More than sixty crafters with a wide array of crafts including stained glass, woodworking, metal works, jewelry, candles, folk art, and photography exhibit items.

The **Wisconsin Fishing Opener** held the first weekend of May brings boaters to the several hundreds of lakes across the County. Sawyer County is often host to the Governor's Fishing Opener celebration.

The Lac Courte Oreilles community celebrates several events including the **Honor the Earth Homecoming Gathering** and **Pow Wow**.

ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

People have been living in the area for thousands of years, with hunting, fishing, farming, and forestry playing a central role. This story of agriculture, resource use, and land stewardship is preserved in archaeological sites, buildings, landscapes, written accounts, photographs, governmental records, and the memories passed along by word of mouth. Planning can play a critical part in protecting these resources and in learning from this wealth of experience. Land use planning will directly impact historic buildings, archaeological sites, and cemeteries.

Since only a small portion of Sawyer County has been surveyed for the presence of archaeological sites and cemeteries, the inventory list (Table 5-11) represents only a fraction of the sites that are present. Local residents and American Indian communities who reside in the area possess much additional information on other archaeological sites and cemeteries. Clearly this sample of sites does not reflect the rich history of Sawyer County.

Using the results of archaeological surveys and relevant historical and environmental data, the following high priority areas were designated:

- Higher, drier areas adjacent to rivers, streams, creeks, lakes, wetlands
- Higher, drier areas adjacent to older, abandoned rivers, streams, creeks, lakes, wetland
- Areas adjacent to rock outcrops
- Areas adjacent to older historic features such as trails, early roads, rail corridors and earlier communities

Cemeteries and burial areas have been set aside as special areas throughout Wisconsin history and they have been given special protection under the law. Under Wis. Stat. 157.70, 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. Work cannot resume until the Burial Sites Preservation Office gives permission.

Archaeological identification and evaluations 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. Local residents frequently report sites and cemeteries. This ASI information is confidential and is not subject to Wisconsin's open records law (Wis. Stats. §§ 44.48 and 157.70). This caution not only helps protect archaeological sites but also protects landowners since private landowners own the majority of archaeological sites in the area.

Under Wisconsin law, Native American burial mounds, unmarked burials, and all marked and unmarked cemeteries are protected. In addition, a wide variety of archaeological sites may be worthy of preservation. Through the use of the State and National Register of Historic Places a procedure for identifying important sites is available. The criteria include: a good local example of an architectural style and period; association with a person important in our past; represent an important period, movement, or trend in local, state, or national history; or have the potential to yield important information about our past through archaeological investigations.

Protecting 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, conservation easements, zoning and the state operates a tax exemption program for property owners. With the 1991 changes to Wis. Stats. § 70.11, it became possible to provide a property tax exemption for owners of archaeological sites listed in the national or state register of historic places. To obtain the tax exemption, the landowner must agree to place a permanent protective covenant for the site area in the deed for the property. The tax exemption program makes the landowner and subsequent owner's stewards of Wisconsin's past. The intent of the program is not to discourage all use of the property containing a site, but to encourage land use planning that protects sites.

The archaeological site inventory (ASI) maintained by the Wisconsin Historical Society is the most comprehensive list of archaeological sites, mounds, unmarked cemeteries, marked cemeteries and cultural sites available. The ASI only includes sites that have been reported to the Wisconsin Historical Society and is a compilation of reports covering a period of 150 years. The list does not include sites on Forest Service land or sites located within the boundaries of the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation. Native American burial mounds and cemeteries are not public. The ASI is edited and updated continually and recommendations about site importance may change as new information becomes available.

Table 5-11: Archeological Site Inventory

Site Name	Site Type	Cultural Study Unit	Town Range Section
Town of Bass Lake			
Thomas Quarry #2	1. Quarry	1. Unknown	37, 9, W, 2 37, 9, W, 2 37, 9, W, 2 37, 9, W, 2
Scipio Wise Mounds	1. Mound(s) - Conical 2. Cemetery/burial	1. Woodland	37, 9, W, 4 37, 9, W, 4
Grutt-Garbutt Island	1. Cemetery/burial 2. Cultural Site 3. Campsite/village	1. Historic Indian	37, 9, W, 8
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown	37, 9, W, 8
Sentry Mound	1. Mound(s) - Conical	1. Woodland	37, 9, W, 17
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Historic Indian	37, 9, W, 17 37, 9, W, 18
Birch Chetac Crossing	1. Mound(s) - Other/Unk	1. Woodland	37, 9, W, 19
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown	37, 9, W, 20
Kissinger	1. Blacksmith	1. Historic Euro-American	38, 9, W, 20
Lake Chetac Narrows Graves	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	37, 9, W, 4
High Bridge Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	38, 9, W, 1 38, 9, W, 1
Delong Property Logging Camp	1. Logging camp	1. Historic Euro-American	38, 9, W, 36
Sugar Bush Trading Post	1. Trading/fur post 2. Campsite/village 3. Corn hills/garden beds	1. Historic Euro-American 2. Historic Indian	39, 9, W, 2
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	40, 9, W, 5
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	40, 9, W, 5
Michel Cadotte Trading Post And Portage Trail	1. Trading/fur post	1. Historic Euro-American	40, 9, W, 7
Waiting For Cadotte	1. Campsite/village	1. Woodland	40, 9, W, 7
Unnamed Site	1. Dam/historic earthwork 2. Transportation site	1. Historic Euro-American	40, 9, W, 7
Duehr	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	40, 9, W, 35
O'neil Stone	1. Cemetery/burial 2. Sugar bush	1. Historic Indian	40, 9, W, 36
Butler's Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	40, 8, W, 17
Trail Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	39, 8, W, 5
Little Spring Lake Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	40, 9, W, 4 40, 9, W, 4
Fun Valley Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Woodland	40, 9, W, 4 40, 9, W, 4
Portage Terrace	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	40, 9, W, 21
Hirchers Layover	1. Cabin/layover	1. Historic Euro-American	40, 9, W, 16

Table 5-11: Archeological Site Inventory

Windigo Lake	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Historic 2. Unknown Prehistoric	40, 9, W, 21 40, 9, W, 21
Blind Pig	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	40, 9, W, 28
Kinnamon School	1. Campsite/village	1. Archaic	40, 8, W, 21
Windigo Canoe	1. Canoe	1. Unknown Historic, Prehistoric	40, 9, W, 21
Grindstone Copper Find	1. Campsite/village	1. Old Copper 2. Archaic	40, 8, W, 29
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Historic Indian	40, 8, W, 21
John King Homestead	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Indian	39, 8, W, 4
Unnamed Site	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Unknown	39, 8, W, 4
Unnamed Site	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Indian	40, 8, W, 34
Unnamed Site	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Indian	40, 8, W, 34
Lac Courte Oreilles Bridge Burial	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Unknown Prehistoric 2. Hist. Ind	39, 8, W, 6
Unnamed Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. unknown	39, 8, W, 5
Unnamed Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. unknown	38, 8, W, 5
Town Of Edgewater			
Thomas Quarry #2	1. Quarry	1. Unknown	37, 9, W, 2 37, 9, W, 2 37, 9, W, 2 37, 9, W, 2
Scipio Wise Mounds	1. Mound(s) - Conical 2. Cemetery/burial	1. Woodland	37, 9, W, 4 37, 9, W, 4
Grutt-Garbutt Island	1. Cemetery/burial 2. Cultural Site 3. Campsite/village	1. Historic Indian	37, 9, W, 8
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown	37, 9, W, 8
Sentry Mound	1. Mound(s) - Conical	1. Woodland	37, 9, W, 17
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Historic Indian	37, 9, W, 17 37, 9, W, 18
Birch Chetac Crossing	1. Mound(s) - Other/Unk	1. Woodland	37, 9, W, 19
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown	37, 9, W, 20
Kissinger	1. Blacksmith	1. Historic Euro-American	38, 9, W, 20
Lake Chetac Narrows Graves	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	37, 9, W, 4
High Bridge Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	38, 9, W, 1 38, 9, W, 1
Delong Property Logging Camp	1. Logging camp	1. Historic Euro-American	38, 9, W, 36
Red Cedar Resort Burial	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Unknown	38, 9, W, 27
Hines Farm	1. Cemetery/burial 2. Campsite/village	1. Historic Indian 2. Unknown Prehist.	37, 9, W, 5
Round Island	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	37, 9, W, 8
Point Cemetery	1. Campsite/village 2. Corn hills/garden beds 3. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian 2. Unknown Prehist.	38, 9, W, 4

Table 5-11: Archeological Site Inventory

Town of Hayward			
Swenson	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	41, 9, W, 13
Unnamed Site	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 26
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	41, 9, W, 27
Hayward Mill	1. Dam/historic earthwork 2. Mill/sawmill	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 27, 28
Unnamed Site	1. Transportation site	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 27
Unnamed Site	1. Dam/historic earthwork	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 27
Unnamed Site	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 28
Cai #12-133-2	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 28
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	41, 9, W, 32
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Oneota 2. Woodland	41, 9, W, 33
State Exchange	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	41, 9, W, 33
Unnamed Site	1. Dam/historic earthwork	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 33
Unnamed Site	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 33
Hayward Nursery	1. Other	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 33
Little Round Lake Village And Cemetery	1. Campsite/village 2. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	40, 8, W, 2
Round Lake Park	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	41, 8, W, 23 41, 8, W, 23
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	41, 9, W, 32
Little Round Lake Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	40, 8, W, 2
History Land Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian 2. Unknown	41, 9, W, 27
Greenwood Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 28
Chief Lake Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	40, 8, W, 36
Friske Mound	1. Mound(s) - Linear 2. Campsite/village 3. Cemetery/burial 4. Logging camp	1. Historic Euro-American 2. Woodland	41, 9, W, 23
Obriens Lost Logging Camp	1. Logging camp	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 8, W, 20 41, 8, W, 29
Hayward Ranger Station	1. Ranger Station	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 22
Hayward District Dwelling #2	1. Ranger Building	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 33
Unnamed Site	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Unknown Historic	40, 8, W, 3
Town of Hunter			
Winter Dam Sy-2n	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	39, 6, W, 2
Herman's Landing	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	40, 7, W, 24
Unnamed Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Unknown	39, 7, W, 1
Unnamed Site	1. Transportation	1. Historic Indian	40, 6, W, 34
Forks Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	40, 6, W, 20 40, 6, W, 20
1834 Trading Post	1. Trading/fur post	1. Historic Euro-American	40, 6, W, 20
Lake Pokegama Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	40, 6, W, 31 40, 6, W, 31

Table 5-11: Archeological Site Inventory

South Post Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	40, 6, W, 32
1875 Trading Post	1. Trading/fur post	1. Historic Indian 2. Historic Euro-American	40, 6, W, 32
Town of Lenroot			
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	41, 8, W, 6
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	41, 8, W, 6
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Late Woodland	41, 8, W, 6
Phipps Dam (Little Pucway Dam)	1. Dam/historic earthwork	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 8, W, 6
Unnamed Site	1. Transportation site	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 8, W, 6
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown	41, 9, W, 9
Unnamed Site	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 12
Unnamed Site	1. Dam/historic earthwork	1. Historic Euro-American	41, 9, W, 12
Unnamed Site	1. Logging camp	1. Historic Euro-American	42, 8, W, 2
Unnamed Site	1. Cabin/homestead 2. Campsite/village	1. Historic Euro-American 2. Historic Indian	42, 8, W, 2
Pawawong Dam Ruins	1. Dam/historic earthwork	1. Historic Euro-American	42, 8, W, 3
Pacwawong Village	1. Campsite/village 2. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	42, 8, W, 3
Namekagon River Mound Group	1. Mound(s) - Conical 2. Mound(s) - Other/Unk	1. Woodland	42, 8, W, 3
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	42, 8, W, 3
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Late Woodland	42, 8, W, 4
Unnamed Site	1. Dam/historic earthwork	1. Historic Euro-American	42, 8, W, 9
Seeley	1. Mound(s) - Other/Unk	1. Woodland	42, 8, W, 15
Unnamed Site	1. Dam/historic earthwork	1. Historic Euro-American	42, 8, W, 20 42, 8, W, 29
Unnamed Site	1. Cabin/homestead 2. Dam/historic earthwork	1. Historic Euro-American	42, 8, W, 20
Doran's Crossing And Lumber Camp	1. Logging camp	1. Historic Euro-American	42, 8, W, 21 42, 8, W, 21
Unnamed Site	1. Dam/historic earthwork	1. Historic Euro-American	42, 8, W, 29
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	42, 8, W, 31
Trinity Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial		41, 8, W, 6
Lenroot Domestic	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro American	41, 9, W, 6
Doran's Crossing & Lumber Camp			42, 8, W, 21 42, 8, W, 21
Wing Dams	1. Dam/historic earthwork	1. Historic Euro-American	42, 8, W, 31
Cranberry Marsh 1	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	42, 8, W, 15
Cranberry Marsh	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Historic 2. Unknown Prehistoric	42, 8, W, 15
Cranberry Marsh 3	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	42, 8, W, 15
Moore Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown	42, 8, W, 7
Town of Meteor			
Beyreis Sawmill	1. Sawmill	1. Historic Euro-American	37, 8, W, 16 37, 8, W, 16

Table 5-11: Archeological Site Inventory

Site 1	1.Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	37, 8, W, 13
Site 2	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American 2. Unknown Prehistoric	37, 8, W, 13
Site 3	1. Cabin/ homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	37, 7, W, 18
Unnamed Site	1. Farmstead 2.Foundation/depression	1. Historic Euro-American	37, 8, W, 13
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	37, 8, W, 24
Town of Ojibwa			
Wacek	1. Campsite/village	1. Old Copper	39, 6, W, 23
Jacklyn Joyce Loew Burial	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Euro-American	39, 6, W, 36
Town of Radisson			
Herman Landing Sy4-N	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	38, 7, W, 26
Eldon Marple Sy-5n	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	38, 7, W, 34
Brunet Ridge	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	38, 6, W, 34
Radisson Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial		38, 7, W, 22
Litke Site	1. Unknown	1. Unknown Historic	38, 7, W, 35
Town of Round Lake			
Battle Of The Horsefly	1. Military site 2. Cemetery/burial 3. Cultural Site	1. Historic Indian	41, 6, W, 22
Town of Sand Lake			
White Mound	1. Mound(s) - Other/Unk	1. Late Woodland	39, 9, W, 11
Mud Bay	1. Mound(s) - Conical 2. Campsite/village	1. Woodland 2. Historic Indian	39, 9, W, 11
Aiken Bay Mounds	1. Mound(s) - Conical 2. Mound(s) - Linear 3. Mound(s) - Other/Unk	1. Late Woodland	39, 9, W, 11
Eho Eto Haven Village	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	39, 9, W, 11
Eho Eto Haven Mounds	1. Mound(s) - Conical 2. Mound(s) - Linear 3. Mound(s) - Other/Unk 4. Campsite/village	1. Woodland 2. Unknown Prehistoric	39, 9, W, 11
Creek Village	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	39, 9, W, 12
Evergreen Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial		39, 8, W, 7
Whitefish Corner Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	39, 8, W, 7
Wiley Site	1. Cabin/ homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	39, 9, W, 9
Unnamed Site	1. Farmstead	1. Historic Euro-American	39, 9, W, 15
Unnamed Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	39, 9, W, 22
Reservation Line Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Indian	39, 8, W, 7
Hull Dance Circle	1. Dance Ring	1. Historic Indian	39, 8, W, 7
Town of Weirgor			
Charles Belille Sy-6n	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	37, 7, W, 2
Bellile Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Euro-American	37, 7, W, 2
Exeland Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial		37, 7, W, 27
Ivy League	1. Campsite/village	1. Late Woodland	37, 7, W, 26

Table 5-11: Archeological Site Inventory

Windfall Garden	1. Campsite/village	1. Unknown Prehistoric	37, 7, W, 26
Red Ruins	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	37, 7, W, 27
Jaques Cabin	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	37, 7, W, 22
Murphy	1. Cabin/homestead	1. Historic Euro-American	37, 7, W, 34
Mcfarland Site	1. Campsite/village	1. Early Archaic 2. Late Paleo-Indian	37, 7, W, 17
Russell's Landing	1. Logging camp	1. Historic Euro-American	37, 7, W, 15 37, 7, W, 15 37, 7, W, 15
Town of Winter			
Connor Lake	1. Mound(s) - Conical 2. Mound(s) - Effigy 3. Trading/fur post 4. Campsite/village 5. Cemetery/burial 6. Other 7. Corn hills/garden beds	1. Historic Euro-American 2. Historic Indian 3. Late Woodland 4. Woodland	38, 3, W, 22
Winter Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial		39, 5, W, 29
St. Peter's Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial		39, 5, W, 29
Flambeau Forks East	1. Campsite/village	1. Archaic 2. Unknown Historic	37, 3, W, 31 37, 3, W, 31
Flambeau Forks West	1. Campsite/village	1. Archaic 2. Historic Euro-American 3. Woodland	37, 3, W, 31
Eagle Point	1. Campsite/village	1. Late Woodland	38, 3, W, 14
Village of Couderay			
Evergreen Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial		38, 8, W, 12
Village of Radisson			
Radisson Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Euro-American	38, 7, W, 22
Village of Winter			
Winter Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Euro-American	39, 5, W, 29
St. Peter's Cemetery	1. Cemetery/burial	1. Historic Euro-American	39, 5, W, 29

Source: Wisconsin Historical Society

NATIONAL AND STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The National Register of Historic Places was authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Properties listed in the register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service (NPS), which is part of the U.S. Department of the Interior. National Register listings in Sawyer County are shown in Table 5.9. The State Register of Historic Places was established in 1989. State listings must meet evaluation criteria, which include:

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of national, state, or local history.
- Property is associated with the lives of persons significant to our past.
- Architectural, engineering, or artistic merit
- Archaeological significance

Table 5-12: Wisconsin National Register of Historic Places

Municipality	Location	Historic Name	Certification	Type
C. Hayward	Florida Ave	North Wisconsin Lumber Company Office	N/S	Building
T. Ojibwa	N of Ojibwa on CTH "G"	Hall-Raynor Stopping Place	N/S	Building
T. Ojibwa	E of Radisson at 110 Ojibwa Mall	Ojibwa Courier Press Building	N/S	Building
T. Spider Lake	10472 W Murphy Blvd	Moody's Camp Lodge	N/S	Building

Source: Wisconsin Historical Society Certification=N/S (National/State)

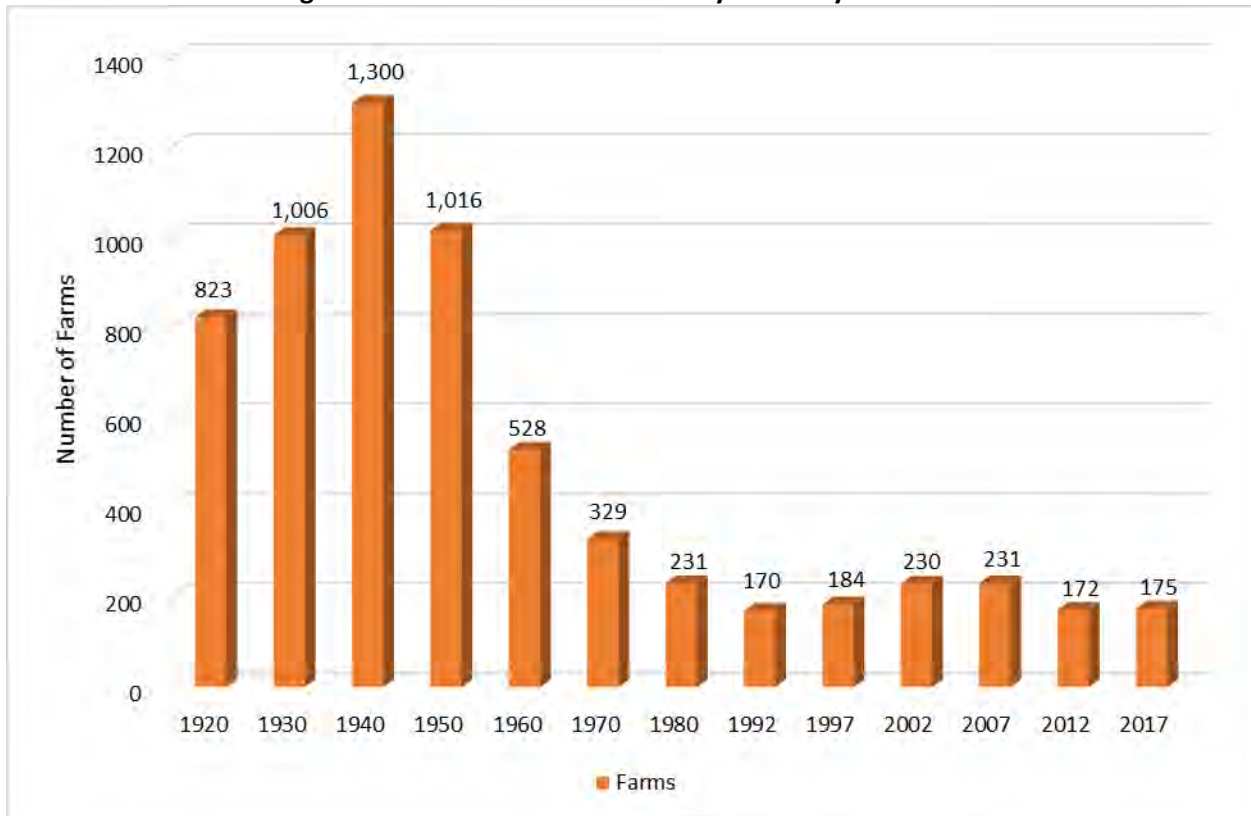
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

Agricultural Trends

Agricultural activity over the past four decades (1980-2019) has remained relatively constant, compared to the sharp declines in both acres of land in farming and total number of farms during the period from 1940-1980. Agricultural land use within Sawyer County represents a small percentage of the total land area. WISCLAND 2 land cover data indicates that two percent or approximately 18,800 acres of the County’s land base is farmland.

As indicated by Figure 5-2, the total number of farms within Sawyer County has declined significantly since 1940. However, during the period from 1980 to 2007, the total number of farms has stayed relatively the same.

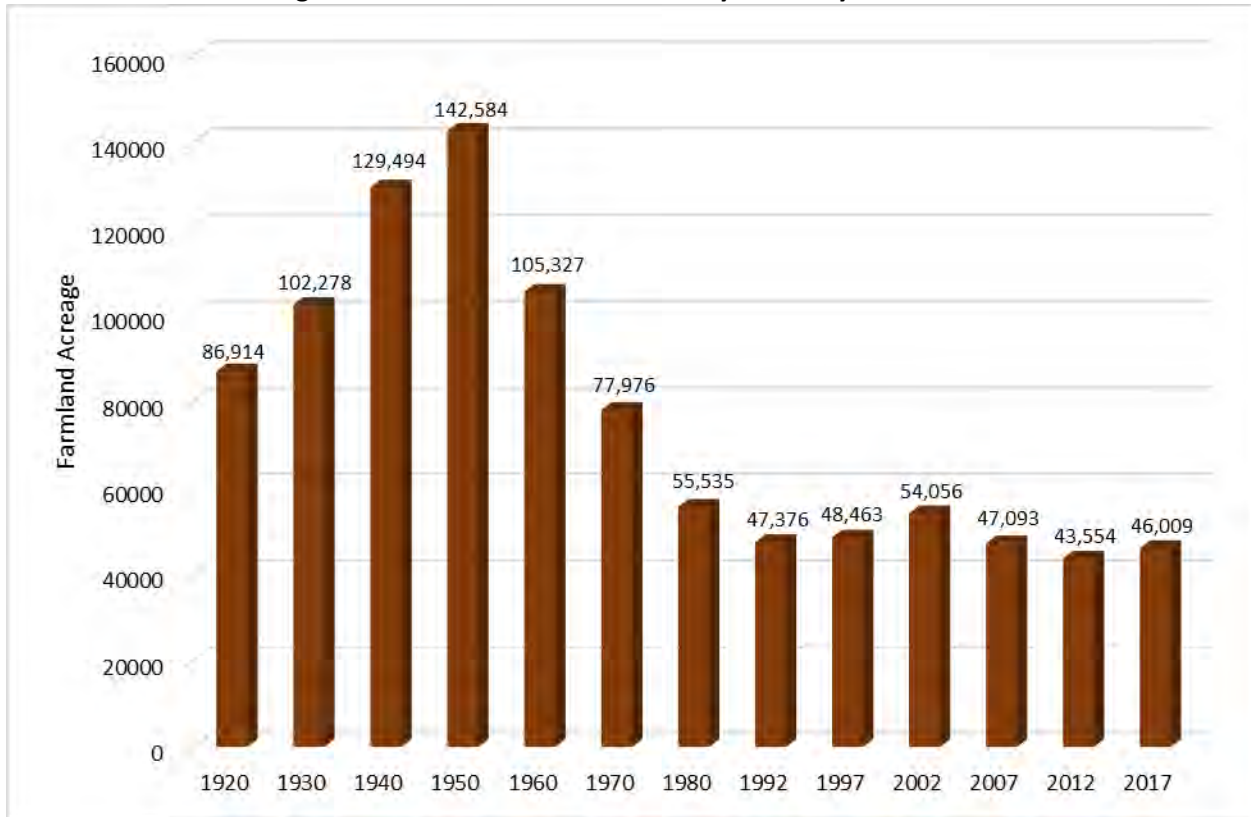
Figure 5-2: Number of Farms in Sawyer County 1920-2017



Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

Figure 5-3 reflects Sawyer County farmland acreage. A decline in total acres of farmland follows the decline in the number of farms across Sawyer County. With nearly 143,000 acres of farmland in 1950 only 47,000 acres is in farmland use in 2007, a decline of nearly 96,000 acres. Another indicator of the trending decline in farming is the fact that total agricultural assessed acreage for land across Sawyer County declined from 40,374 acres in 1998 to 36,125 by 2019.

Figure 5-3: Acres of Farmland in Sawyer County 1920-2017



Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

Productive Agricultural Lands

Agricultural lands play an important role in defining the character of many Wisconsin communities. Wisconsin’s Comprehensive Planning legislation requires communities to review and analyze their agricultural land base and to formulate goals, objectives, and policies for preserving prime agricultural lands. Currently, there is insufficient soils information available to define productive agricultural areas in Sawyer County. However, a map can be developed based on soil types, that if the land was drained, the soil would be suitable for farming (Map 19).

Existing Agricultural Protection

The Sawyer County Zoning Ordinance is the primary tool regulating the use of agricultural lands in the rural areas. The Agriculture-1 (A-1) zoning district is intended to provide for the continuation of general farming and related activities in those areas best suited for such development and to provide for orderly development of residential, commercial, and industrial development. Year-round residences are permitted within this district, only when persons engaged in farming activities on the premises occupy these dwellings. The Agriculture-2 (A-2) zoning district is intended to provide for light and hobby farming and related activities and to provide for orderly development of residential, agricultural, and commercial activities in those areas best suited for development. Non-farm residential development is allowed within this district. Both districts require a minimum lot size of 5 acres.

Agricultural Programs

The following list of programs may be used to achieve the goals and objectives presented in this comprehensive plan. This list is not comprehensive, and many other state and federal programs may also exist.

Exclusive Agricultural Zoning (EAZ)

EAZ zones are special zoning categories in which agriculture is considered the primary allowable use. For farmers to be eligible for income tax credits, they must meet standards that require a minimum parcel size of 35 acres and limit the use of the land to those that are agriculturally related.

Wisconsin Department of Revenue Farmland Preservation Programs

Wisconsin's Farmland Preservation Credit Program seeks to preserve Wisconsin farmland by means of local land use planning and soil conservation practices and to provide property tax relief to farmland owners. To qualify for the credit, farmlands must be 35 acres or more and be zoned for exclusive agricultural use or be subject to a preservation agreement between the farmland owner and the state.

The ***Wisconsin Farmland Tax Relief Credit Program*** provides direct benefits to all farmland owners with 35 or more acres. The credit is computed as a percentage of the first \$10,000 of property taxes up to a maximum credit of \$1,500.

The ***Wisconsin Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP)*** keeps productive farmland in privately owned agricultural use by assisting states, tribes and local government or non-profit entities with the purchase of conservation easements or development rights on productive farmland and on farms containing significant historical or archaeological resources. Under this program, the Natural Resources Conservation Service will provide up to 50 percent of the purchase cost for perpetual easements on eligible farmland.

Other regulatory approaches to farmland preservation could include the use of PDR (purchase of development rights) programs to buy the development rights to agricultural properties from private landowners and establish permanent conservation easements. A transfer of development rights program would allow landowners who seek to develop residential housing to acquire the development rights by purchasing conservation easements from other farmers within the same municipality. Establishing this type of program would require local municipalities to identify "sending areas", or areas identified for farmland preservation and "receiving areas", or areas where future residential growth is desired.

A practical approach to farmland preservation could involve changes to County zoning ordinances, or the creation of new ordinances and requirements. Traditional zoning tools such as exclusive agricultural zoning, overlay zoning and land/subdivision controls can be implemented to protect farmland. Contemporary planning concepts such as the use of conservation design subdivisions, rural clustering and density allowances may also be applied to the traditional tools.