

READER'S GUIDE to USING this PUBLICATION

Your fishing map guide is a thorough, easy-to-use collection of accurate contour lake maps along with geographic and biologic statistical information to help you locate a lake and enjoy a successful day out on the water of one of Michigan's excellent fisheries.

The heart of this book is the **contour lake map**. Copyrighted maps are used with permission from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and are not intended for navigation. The lakes selected for this guide are confined to those that are accessible to the public.

Each map is accompanied by a **detailed write-up**. In each piece, you'll find fishing tips and hot spots specific to the body of water you're planning to fish.

Lake **stocking records** and **management comments** are provided courtesy of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and summarized to reflect management trends and objectives for each fishery represented. Please keep in mind that annual fish stocking aspirations are directly affected by state hatchery production levels and sometimes the numbers available for stocking fluctuate considerably.

Detailed **area road maps** (1:210,000 scale) and **lake access** information is provided to help you plan your route to the lake. If there is more than one access point on a body of water, the GPS coordinates refer to the primary access. To locate a lake on these road maps, simply use the alphabetical lake listing on the back cover. Turn to that page to find the area road map page and coordinates for the lake. As a cross-reference, the area road maps include numbers on or adjacent to featured lakes, which designate the pages of the lake maps and information. Streams and rivers are also referenced in these area road maps.

While every effort is made to create the most accurate maps possible, the process of merging existing DNR maps with the latest GPS information will cause some slight differences to occur. (Especially on larger, more complicated lakes.) Please use the GPS grids provided in this book only as a guideline.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Gill net: This is the main piece of equipment used for sampling walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, cisco, whitefish, trout, and salmon. The standard gill net is 6 feet tall by 250 feet long, with 5 different mesh sizes. Gill nets are generally set in off shore areas in water deeper than 9 feet. Nets are fished for a period of 24 hours. Fish are captured by swimming into the net and becoming entangled. Fisheries workers record length and weight data from each fish, determine the sex, look for parasites or disease, and remove several of the fishes scales for determining the fishes age. Most of the fish taken in gill nets are

killed, but only a small portion of the lakes fish population is sampled during an individual survey event. The number of gill nets set during a survey is dependant on the lake acreage.

Trap net: This is the main piece of equipment used for sampling bluegill, crappie, and bullheads. The standard trap net is 4 feet tall by 6 feet wide with a 40 foot lead. Trap nets are generally set perpendicular to shore in water less than 8 feet in depth. Nets are fished for a period of 24 hours. Fish are captured by swimming into the lead and following it towards the trap. Most of the fish collected in trap nets are returned back to the water as soon as the necessary biological data is recorded. The number of trap net sets during a survey is dependant on the lake acreage.

Electrofishing: This is a specialized type of equipment that is most often used for sampling largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and young of the year walleye. A boat-mounted generator is used to induce electrical current into the water that stuns the fish, allowing fisheries workers to net the fish for placement in live wells. Most of the fish caught by electrofishing recover rapidly and are promptly returned to the water after the necessary biological data is recorded.

CPUE: An acronym representing "Catch Per Unit of Effort," a way of representing the density of a species population. Readings are in fish captured per hour or minute of surveying. The higher the CPUE value, the greater the number of fish present.

PSD: An acronym for "Proportional Stock Density," which is a way of representing the size structure of fish populations. It represents the percentage of "quality-size" fish within a given population. In arriving at this figure, one considers only fish of "stock" length (the size at which members of a given species reach sexual maturity) or greater. Young-of year fish are not included in the calculation. The higher the PSD number, the greater the percentage of "quality" fish within a particular population.

RSD-12 (or -10 or -14, etc.): An acronym for "Relative Stock Density," which is yet another way of representing the size structure of fish populations. This corresponds to the percentage of fish at a given length or larger within a population. Hence, an RSD-14 reading of 25 for largemouth bass indicates that 25 percent of sexually mature bass are at least 14 inches in length. On another measurement scale, the RSD- values could be stated as "preferred," "memorable," or "trophy."

YAR: An acronym for "Young-(to)-Adult Ratio." This refers to the proportion of young-of-year fish in relation to adult or "quality-size" fish within a particular population. For balanced populations, the index should be about 1-to-10. In smaller waters, 1-to-3 is considered a reasonable ratio.

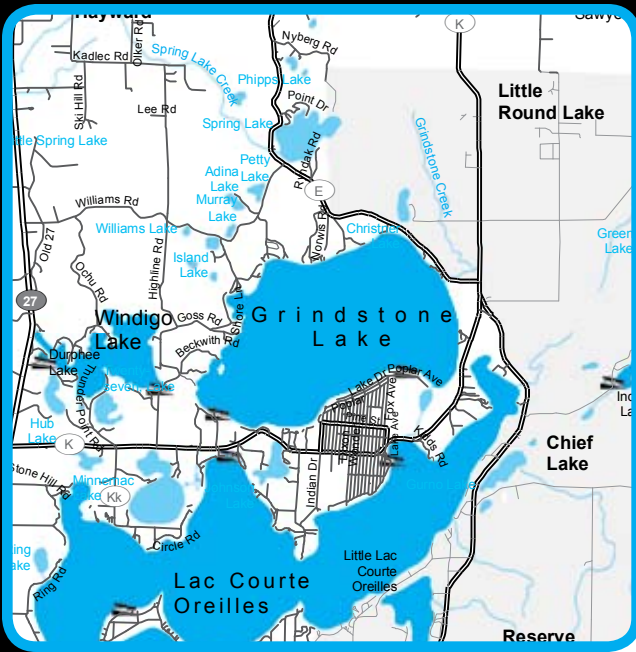
Secchi Disk: Used in measuring water clarity, it is a white-colored, plate-size device submerged on the end of a line until it reaches a point where it's no longer visible; the depth at which this occurs is measured and recorded. In this book, secchi disk readings are given in English measure. Of course, many factors influence water clarity, and secchi disk readings vary according to season, growth of vegetation, weather, location in a lake, even human activity. Hence the readings given are approximations for any lake—snapshots of the water clarity at a given time and in a given location.

LEGEND

	Boat Ramp		Marina		Marsh		Red & Green Channel Buoys
	Carry Down Access		Lily Pads		Emergent Vegetation		White Hazard Buoy
	Access by Navigable Channel		Submergent Vegetation		Manmade Canal		River Mile
	Portage Access		Emergent Vegetation		Marked Fishing Spots		Daymarker
	Access Information Marker		Stumps		Submerged Rail		Light & Daymarker
	Campground		Flooded Timber		Submerged Road		County Road
	Picnic Area		Rocks		Bridge		State Highway
	Fishing Dock (Pier)		Submerged Culvert		Submerged Riverbed		US Highway
	Shore Fishing		Submerged Ruins		GPS Grid		Interstate
	Fish Attractors						
	Boat tie-up						

GRINDSTONE LAKE Sawyer County

Sawyer County GRINDSTONE LAKE



Area map page / coordinates: 20/A-1, 20/B-1

Accommodations: resorts

Surface water area: 3,111 acres

Shorelength: 10.5 miles

Maximum depth: 60 feet

Mean depth: 29 feet

Secchi disk (water clarity): 11 feet

Water color: clear

Lake type: drainage

Littoral bottom types: 35% sand, 45% gravel, 15% rubble

Basic management: SM bass, walleye, esocids, panfish

Accessibility: 1) Trailer Launch 45° 55' 13" N / 91° 26' 39" W

Accessibility: 2) Trailer Launch 45° 55' 43" N / 91° 23' 45" W

Gamefish			Panfish				Rough Fish												
Muskie	N Pike	Walleye	LM Bass	SM Bass	Trout	Catfish	Sturgeon	B Crappie	W Crappie	Bluegill	Pumpkinseed	Y Perch	Bl Bullhead	Br Bullhead	Y Bullhead	Wh Sucker	Carp	Bowfin	
C	C	A	P	A				P	C	P	P								

A=Abundant C=Common P=Present

FISHING INFORMATION

Sawyer County is known as great fishing country, and Grindstone Lake is one of the lakes primarily responsible for the county's reputation. Located some six miles south of Hayward, east of Highway 27, and just north of County K, it's a fair-size drink of water at 3,111 acres. It's clear and deep, loaded with ciscoes and nice-size perch, and home to some very nice gamefish. Frank Pratt, DNR fisheries manager in the Sawyer County area, says Grindstone has a trophy muskie and northern pike fishery, and it's in the midst of population explosions of both walleye and smallmouth bass. Further, there's a good largemouth bass fishery, and the bluegills and crappies aren't to be sneezed at either.

The folks at Hayward Bait & Tackle, 15737 Davis Ave., Hayward, WI 54834, (715) 634-2921, recommend fishing the weed beds between the small islands and the southwest shore (**Spot 1**) or on Center Bar (**Spot 2**) – which also yields walleye and smallmouth – for muskies from early spring to summer. Use a black bucktail or crankbait running deep enough to brush the weed tops. At night, work the rocky bars on the west end of the lake with big bucktails or deep-diving crankbaits. The same bars can also be productive for walleyes. Pratt says locals usually throw a jig-and-minnow or jig-and-leech combination or a slip-bobber-and-leech rig into 15- to 20-foot of water. You can also troll the flat off the southeast shore (**Spot 3**), where you might also hook bass and northern pike. Another spot for northern pike is in the weedy areas on the southwest (see Spot 1, above). Work the edges with a spoon-and-pork rind combo or crankbaits or spinners. Smallmouth bass are taken spring and summer near Spot 1, in the relatively shallow bay near the boat ramp on the southwest end. Use a jig-and-grub

FISH STOCKING DATA

year	species	age	# released
96	Muskellunge	Fingerling	1,501
97	Muskellunge	Large Fingerling	750
00	Muskellunge	Large Fingerling	1,500
00	Walleye	Fry	100,000
01	Muskellunge	Large Fingerling	3,011
03	Muskellunge	Large Fingerling	2,499
05	Muskellunge	Large Fingerling	1,881

LENGTH OF SELECTED SPECIES SAMPLED FROM ALL GEAR

species	Date: 9/14/04								Total
	Gear type: Boom Shocker								
	Number of fish caught for the following length categories (inches):								
	0-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	>29	
Smallmouth Bass	1	3	4	3	1	-	-	-	12
Walleye	933	119	30	4	7	1	-	-	1094
Yellow Perch	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2

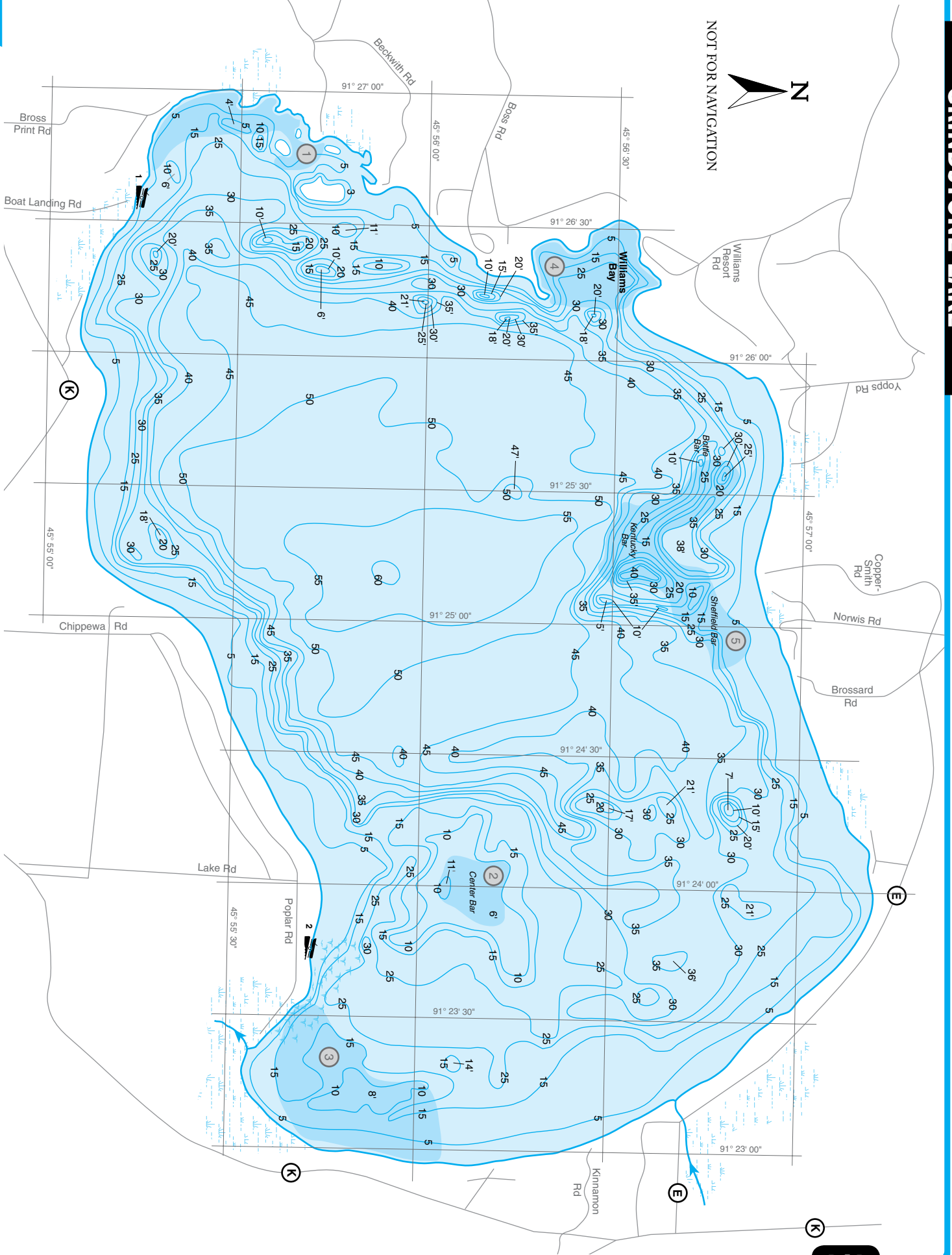
or live leech-and-jig combo from May on. For largemouth and crappies, toss spinners, spoons, and tiny jigs or surface bait in Williams Bay (**Spot 4**). The north area, from Kentucky Bar to Bottle Bar and Sheffield Bar (**Spot 5**), is a good place to try to hook muskies and walleyes. Live bait or Rapalas should lure the eyes.

Access to Grindstone Lake is easy for all craft via a nice, state-owned ramp with boarding dock on the southwest end. Parking is good. Interestingly enough, ease of access doesn't seem to boost usage much. Pratt notes there's only light fishing and recreational pressure on Grindstone Lake, even during the summer. At least in part this is because Lac Court Oreilles is literally across the street, and LCO garners more attention.

Anglers on Grindstone should be aware that there's a 50-inch minimum size limit for muskie. To maintain the trophy potential of this fishery, the Department of Natural Resources has stocked large fingerling muskies here since 1997, in odd-numbered years.

Moreover, there's a 14- to 18-inch protected slot limit for walleye as of this writing (check current regs). As always, catch-and-release is highly recommended for gamefish.

GRINDSTONE LAKE



NOT FOR NAVIGATION

