

Town of Brazeau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Oconto County, Wisconsin

2014-2018



Compiled and Prepared with the assistance of the University of Wisconsin –
Cooperative Extension of Oconto County



RESOLUTION BZ-6-2014
**ADOPTION OF THE TOWN OF BRAZEAU
COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN (CORP)**


WHEREAS, the Town of Brazeau, County of Oconto, State of Wisconsin, has endorsed the development of a Town Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Brazeau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan encompasses a general outline and plan for the recreational development of the Town; and

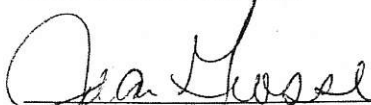
WHEREAS, this plan has been reviewed by the Town of Brazeau Plan Commission which has recommended the adoption thereof.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Brazeau Town Board that the Town of Brazeau, County of Oconto, State of Wisconsin, and Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2014-2018 be adopted as the approved Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the Town.

Signed this 17 day of June 2014 by:



Ryan Wendt, Town Chair



Jean Grosse, Town Clerk

Town of Brazeau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Oconto County, Wisconsin

Town of Brazeau
10892 Parkway Road
Pound, WI 54161

2014-2018

DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Brazeau Town Board

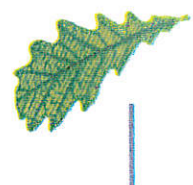
Ryan Wendt, BOARD CHAIR
Jean Grosse, TOWN CLERK
Gerald Kempka,
Rodney Gretzon
Scott Thomson
David Parmentier

Town of Brazeau Plan Commission

Randy Lavarda, COMMISSION CHAIR
Mike Luebke, VICE CHAIR
Gerald Kempka
James Rock
Howard Weier

Oconto County Resources

Dale Mohr, University Wisconsin – Extension
Jamie Broehm, County Planning & Zoning



Impetus for the Plan

FOREWORD

The Town of Brazeau adopted a Comprehensive 20-Year Land Use Plan in 2008 to guide future land use growth within the Town of Brazeau. Through the in-depth comprehensive planning process, an advisory document (Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan) was developed to serve as a guide for recreational growth considerations through investigating existing outdoor recreation resources and anticipate future demands by developing recommendations for town administered outdoor recreation facilities. This document has guided the Town Board and Plan Commission members over the recent years enhancing the development strategies of the ***Comprehensive Land Use Plan***. The document has helped both the Town Board and Plan Commission in making informed/rational decisions regarding all recreational amenities within the town and when working with neighboring communities and the County. This advisory document would need to be formalized and adopted as the official park and recreational plan for the town in order to make them eligible for state and federal aids in supporting recreational improvements. Thus, it was decided that a town CORP would be formalized and adopted in 2014.

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) is designed to assure that adequate park, open space and recreational resources are available for both present and future residents of the Town of Brazeau. Access to outdoor recreation is an important element of community health and wellness. Parks, walking paths and lake access facilities provide convenient, safe and attractive spaces for people, both resident and non-resident, to access and use the great outdoors. Time spent outdoors is connected with a number of health factors, including improved physical and mental (socialistic) health and better connects citizens within the communities.



Table of Contents

Cover:

Resolution:

Development Team:

Impetus for the Plan... Foreword:

Chapter 1: Introduction.....	1/1
Planning Summary	
Planning Process	
Implementation/Amending Process	
Chapter 2: Description of the Planning Area.....	2/1
Natural Environment	
Cultural Resources	
Economic Resources	
Population & Housing Trends/Projections	
Economy	
Anticipated Land Use Trends over 5-15 Years	
Chapter 3: Park & Recreation Guidance.....	3/1
Vision Statement	
Goals & Objectives	
Chapter 4: Parks & Recreation Description.....	4/1
Outdoor Recreation Supply Inventory	
Park & Open Space	
Public Nature Walking Paths	
Developed/Undeveloped Water Access Inventory	
Chapter 5 Space, Facility Standards and Needs.....	5/1
Recommendations	
Specific Location Outdoor Recreation Recommendations	
Additional Recommendations On Recreation Activities	
Appendix A: Maps.....	AA



Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

Town of Brazeau staff along with the University Wisconsin Extension Community Development Program began drafting the community's first Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) in early 2014. This plan will be in effect for the 2014 – 2018 term. The CORP will serve to guide recreational management and development of town parks for the next five years and enable the town to apply for grant funding from agencies such as the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). The plan, as designed:

1. Evaluates the town's existing parks, park improvements and open spaces.
2. Identifies and recommends active and passive outdoor recreational opportunities to address the needs of all residents, and provide a framework for the natural resource element and cultural resource element of the Town Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
3. Provides the town with a period of eligibility for cost sharing and matching grant assistance through Federal and State grant programs administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
4. Provides a cost summary for all recommendations, to assist the town with its Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) efforts.

PLANNING SUMMARY

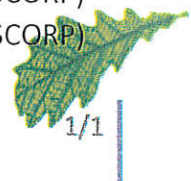
The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the Town of Brazeau incorporates information from past and present planning efforts in the town, Oconto County, the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission (BLRPC) region and the State of Wisconsin. The following list identifies those plans that have addressed socio-economic, natural resource, goals, objectives, policies and potential impacts on town parks and recreation systems including both motorized and non-motorized trails.

Local Plans

- Town of Brazeau Comprehensive Plan 2008
- Oconto County 2020 Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Vol. #1, 2009
- Oconto County CORP Plans, 1972, 1977, 1989, 1994, 2000, 2005

Regional/State Plans

- Bay-Lake RPC Regional Environmental Corridor Plan & Brochure 2005
- "Surface Water Resources of Oconto County" Wisconsin Conservation Department, 1977
- Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2005 – 2010 (SCORP)
- Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2000 – 2005 (SCORP)



PLANNING PROCESS

This report was accomplished through a process of information gathering meetings, site visits, idea generation on future needs and collaborative approaches among Town Board members, County and State staff and colleagues. The first public participation meetings began in 2007 with the creation of key natural resource and recreation elements of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. In July and August of 2010, Board members discussed improving playground equipment at Memorial Field with the Little League President. Later, the Plan Commission and Town Board meetings convened on April 20, 2013; July 16, 2013; August 20, 2013; January 21, 2014; February 8, 2014; March 18, 2014; April 18, 2014 and May 18, 2014 to gather more information on current happenings with parks, discuss improvements, discuss strategies and alternatives and lastly funding options. A budget preparation meeting was held on October 28, 2013 and a public participation meeting was held at the Annual Town Meeting on April 15, 2014. In addition, the planning staff took part in a county-wide discussion of park needs and collaborative approaches on April 28, 2014. A recreation inventory took place with primary visits on May 19th-23rd 2014. The Plan Commission approved the plan at a public meeting on June 11th, 2014 with the Town Board adopting by resolution on June 17th, 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION/AMENDING PROCESS

As with all plans of this nature, implementation will require capital improvement planning and fiscal resources of the town. Public policies and procedures, and the various regulatory measures which the Town of Brazeau now exercises, should continue to be directed toward providing a variety of recreational facilities and activities for all groups, including the elderly and the handicapped. It must be recognized, however, that implementation is subject to funding, legal, and coordination limitations. The *U.S. Access Board* has issued a guide to the ADA accessibility guidelines for play areas which is available at their website: www.access-board.gov.

ADMINISTRATION

Town staff should continue to develop park site plans and work collaboratively to prepare and write grants to actively seek funds for projects. The town should coordinate recreation programming with the school districts, while continuing to be responsible for park plans, development and maintenance. This plan should be updated every five years to maintain eligibility for recreation grant funds following the same process as the original. Reviews and amendments shall be addressed by the Town Plan Commission and adopted by the Town Board.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Implementation of the CORP can take many forms. Strategies for implementation include regulatory techniques and acquisition techniques.

Regulatory Techniques

- *Zoning*
- *Land Division/Subdivision Control*
- *Official Mapping*
- *Land Management Plans*

Acquisition Techniques

In addition to these regulatory techniques, the town has a number of acquisition techniques that may apply to each potential park acquisition. The acquisition of land is often the most challenging aspect of developing a municipal park system. These include:

- *Fee Simple Acquisition*
The landowner is given a sum of money for all rights to a specific piece of land or property. In Wisconsin, fee simple acquisition is the most common way of acquiring public lands for recreational uses. A land contract may also be used as a form of fee simple acquisition.
- *Purchase of Tax Delinquent Property*
- *Lease or Easement*
- *Land Banking*
- *Conversion of Landfills*
- *Trust for Public Lands*
Private groups or organizations such as the Trust for Public Land or the Nature Conservancy can purchase outdoor recreation lands and hold these lands until a public agency can acquire them.
- *Donation*

POTENTIAL PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The following organizations may be able to provide expertise, volunteers, and funding for the implementation of the CORP:

- *UW-Extension & UW Basin Educators*
- *WDNR-Northern District*
- *Oconto County Forestry*
- *Wisconsin Waterfowl Association*
- *River Alliance of Wisconsin*
- *The Conservation Fund*

CONCLUSION

Implementation of the plan will require a coordinated effort by private interests and the federal, state, and local government and the funding agencies involved. Implementation of the recommendations set forth in this plan will enhance the existing facilities and ultimately result in a comprehensive outdoor recreation system for the town that can serve the existing population, and future residents.

Chapter 2

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING AREA

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The Town of Brazeau is located in the north-central portion of Oconto County encompassing an area of approximately 72 square miles, or approximately 46,000 acres. Natural resources are plentiful in this large Oconto town, including Oconto County Forest lands and 24 lakes. An abundance of streams helps make the town an attractive place to live and recreate, as well. State Highway 64, a major east/west corridor within Oconto County, dissects the town. **Map 2.1** illustrates the general location of the Town of Brazeau in Wisconsin, while **Map 2.2** is an aerial photograph detailing the town's planning area.

The following text describes the key types and locations of the town's many resources and briefly discusses the importance of them on planning within the Town of Brazeau.

Bedrock

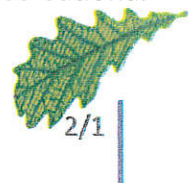
The bedrock found in the northern portion of Brazeau is part of the Northern Highlands region that is comprised of granite and a mixture of igneous rocks; whereas the southern portion of the town is part of the Central Plain region, which is comprised mostly of sandstones.

Soil

Soil is composed of varying proportions of sand, gravel, silt, clay and organic material. The prominent soil type in the planning area is Onaway-Solona Association which is found on uplands with nearly level to very steep slopes and is well drained to poorly drained and loamy. These soils are moderately permeable with moderate water capacity. These soils are mostly used for crops and woodlands with some pastureland. The main limitation is water erosion and wetness. The areas that are gently sloping (Onaway soils) are suited to residential development, whereas the Solona are not due to seasonal high water tables. **Map 2.6** shows the Prime Agricultural Soils as depicted within the County Comprehensive Plan and the Farmland Preservation Plan. Soils are described in greater detail in the *Soil Conservation Service Soils Survey of Oconto County, Wisconsin*.

Climate

The climate in and around Brazeau is typical of Northern Wisconsin. It is classified as continental climate with harsh cold winters, heavy snowfall, and warm humid summers. The average annual rainfall is approximately thirty-one inches with the maximum occurring during June and July, and the minimum during January and February. The growing season averages approximately 150 days. The weather conditions are favorable for many outdoor recreational



activities including the intense watercraft and snowmobiles and non-motorized activities such as equestrian trails/hiking trails, ball fields and parks.

Flora & Fauna

The Town of Brazeau and Oconto County have many rare, threatened and endangered species. Species of plants include: Holly Fern, Bog Bluegrass, Dwarf Huckleberry, Ram's Head and Lady Slipper. Fauna include: Bald Eagle, Barn Owl, Terns, Plovers, Northern Blue Butterfly, and Western Ribbon Snake. Exact locations of these species are not published, but care needs to be taken before development occurs to not disturb the habitats. Additionally, the more common animals of Wisconsin can be found in Brazeau which includes the Black Bear, White Tailed Deer, Red Fox, Beaver, Muskrat, Wolf, Coyote, Opossum, and Raccoon. Numerous species of song birds, ducks, and shore birds inhabit or frequent the grassy areas, forests and shores of lakes and waterways.

Elevations

Some of the highest elevations in the state can be observed in the Northern Highlands region. The town is situated 870 feet above sea level. Butler Rock which is found in the north central portion of the Town of Brazeau is a significant geologic feature of the Northern Highlands region. The Central Plain region of the town is covered by a hilly, undulating end moraine. **Map 2.3** illustrates the topography/elevation of the Town of Brazeau.

Surface Waters

Surface waters are abundant in the northern and central portion of Oconto County and play a significant biological and economic role in the everyday life of the Town of Brazeau's residents and visitors. Table 2.1 contains a list of named lakes and flowages in the Town of Brazeau, while **Map 2.4** illustrates their locations in the town.

Name	Map 2.4 Number	Name	Map 2.4 Number
Bass Lake	1	Pickerel Lake	18
First Lake	2	Ranch Lake	19
Frog Lake	3	Reader Lake	20
Gaffney Lake	4	Rost Lake	21
Halfmoon Lake	5	Round Lake	22
Holt Lake	6	Second Lake	23
Jocko Lake	7	Shay Lake	24
Kelly Lake	8	Underwood Lake	25
Kobus Lake	9	White Potato Lake	26
Leigh Flowage (<i>Lee Lake,</i>		Yankee Lake	27
<i>Marl Lake, Rice Lake</i>)	10	McDonald Creek	28
Little Bass Lake	11	Messenger Creek	29
Little Pickerel Lake	12	North Branch Peshtigo Brook	30
Long Lake	13	Peshtigo Brook	31
Lost Lake	14	South Branch Beaver Creek	32
Marsh Lake	15	Spring Creek	33
Montana Lake	16	West Branch Peshtigo Brook	34
Perch Lake	17	Whiskey Creek	35

Source: "Surface Water Resources of Oconto County" Wisconsin Conservation Department, 1977

For greater information regarding these water resources please see *Chapter 5* and *Appendix A* of *Volume II: Oconto County Resources* document which is the resource portion of the *Oconto County 2020 Comprehensive Land Use Plan*.

The Town of Brazeau contains approximately 28,520 acres of woodlands. Over 12,130 acres of these woodlands are part of Oconto County forestlands, meaning that nearly 53 percent of the town's woodlands are owned and managed by Oconto County.

Other areas of environmental significance in the town are referred to as "plan determinants." Plan determinants consist of the following features which are illustrated on **Map 2.5**:

- Wetlands (2 acres or greater) with a 50-foot buffer
- Steep slope (12% or greater)
- 100-year floodplains
- Surface waters with a 75-foot building setback

The individual plan determinants merged together forms a single feature known as "environmental corridors", which serve a vital role in protecting local water quality; serving as buffers between different land uses; controlling, moderating, and storing floodwaters; providing nutrient and sediment filtration; and providing fish and wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The Town of Brazeau contains a number of sites of historic and culture significance to the town. *White Potato Lake Garden Beds Site*, which dates back to 1200 - 1600 AD, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places; *Bedora Mound Group* is an archeological site dating back to 100 AD; *Bulter Rock* is a significant geological feature; and the *Brazeau Town Hall* dates back to the early 1900's.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Being a rural community, the town's primary economic components consist of its vast amount of natural resources including; water features, forestlands, open space lands, and recreational resources that bring seasonal residents and tourism.

POPULATION & HOUSING TRENDS & PROJECTIONS

Analyzing changes in the trends and characteristics of a community's population and housing is important in understanding the needs of its current and future populations. The Town of Brazeau has experienced an increase in its population by nearly 1,000 people since the year 1900. The town's population increased in almost every decade between 1900 and 2010. However, one substantial decline did occur between 1940 and 1950. Additionally, the 2012 population is estimated to have decreased from 2010. The Town's 2010 Census year-round population was recorded at 1,284. The median Age for the Town is 51 years. It is estimated that the seasonal population of Brazeau is 1,671. **Map 2.8** details the land use within the town highlighting residential, agricultural and natural areas.

The Comprehensive Land Use Plan anticipates between 1,797 and 2,183 total housing units by the year 2025, which would include both year-round and seasonal type residences. If this comes to be, there would be a projected increase of between 277 and 663 housing units with an anticipated population increase of around 332 – 700 persons. Both the economic recession of 2008 and the rising cost of fuel are anticipated to downplay these earlier numbers quite a bit. Indeed, the U.S. Census Bureau has the Town's population mostly frozen for the 5 year planning cycle of this plan. With the estimates for 2011, 2012 and 2013 being 1,282; 1,276 and 1,291 respectively. The anticipated growth by 2018 will largely be unchanged.

Table 2.2: 2010 POPULATION BY AGE CATEGORY

AGE	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total population	1,284	100.0
Under 5 years	48	3.7
5 to 9 years	72	5.6
10 to 14 years	60	4.7
15 to 19 years	64	5.0
20 to 24 years	47	3.7
25 to 29 years	55	4.3
30 to 34 years	45	3.5
35 to 39 years	62	4.8
40 to 44 years	85	6.6
45 to 49 years	85	6.6
50 to 54 years	100	7.8
55 to 59 years	105	8.2
60 to 64 years	110	8.6
65 to 69 years	108	8.4
70 to 74 years	90	7.0
75 to 79 years	82	6.4
80 to 84 years	40	3.1
85 years and over	26	2.0

Source: U.S. Census 2010; American Fact Finder

The racial makeup of the town is largely White with 98 percent of the population. Hispanics, African Americans, and Native Americans make up 1 percent; 0.07 percent; and 0.1 percent respectively. The ancestry of the town is 46 percent German, 22 percent Polish, 7 percent Irish, 7 percent French, 6 percent Czech and 5 percent Dutch.

ECONOMY

The Town of Brazeau's economy is heavily influenced by its forest and water resources. The woodlands and lakes promote tourism and attract a number of seasonal residents which further enhances opportunities for local retailers and service providers. Just over half of the residents of Brazeau are part of the civilian labor force (i.e., persons sixteen years of age or older who are employed or seeking employment). Of those that are part of the town's labor force, the majority 26 percent, are employed in production, transportation, and material moving or service related occupations. A large percent, 22.5, are employed in Management, Professional and Related Occupations. The unemployment rate in Brazeau and Oconto County



is higher than the state average, but lower than many counties in northern Wisconsin. Unemployment is somewhat seasonal as tourism constitutes a significant part of the economy.

The U.S. and Wisconsin unemployment rates are on a downward trend which is expected to continue over the next five years of this plan. As of December 2013, the seasonally adjusted U.S. unemployment rate (source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development) is 6.9 percent for Oconto County, down from 7.9 percent in October of 2012. Wisconsin's unemployment rate has also tracked lower over the period and is below the U.S. rate. Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.5 percent in October 2013, down from 6.8 percent a year earlier.

YEAR 2012 SOCIO/ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Median Household Income (in 2012 inflation adjusted dollars): \$43,259

Employed: 54%

Unemployed: (Dec 2013) 6.9%

Out of Working Force: 43.7%

Mean Commute-to-Work Time: 32 minutes

Education Levels: (Ages 25 & over):

- High School Graduate: 45%
- Associate Degree: 4.7%
- Bachelor's Degree: 6.3%
- Graduate or Professional Degree: 1.8%

ANTICIPATED LAND USE TRENDS OVER 5-15 YEARS

The town's anticipated land use trends were developed over the course of a number of meetings with public officials and residents within the town. They were developed as a key element of the town's 20 year Comprehensive Plan and apply to this five year Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. They include:

- A push for more lake development, particularly secondary tier growth. There may be additional pressures to develop other natural areas, including woodlands, as the lakeshore property becomes scarce.
- The demand for more commercial/light industrial development along STH 64 along with the intersection of CTH's B and Z for commuter traffic and local residents.
- The increasing presence of subdivisions accommodating housing demands.
- The presence of two sanitary districts. This is important in terms of development that the community might attract.
- The need for additional/enhanced municipal services including sanitary, emergency services, storm water management, park and recreation.
- Fragmentation of woodlands and other large areas of contiguous open space by residential development.
- Development pressure around public lands by residential.

Chapter 3

PARK & RECREATION GUIDANCE

TOWN OF BRAZEAU VISION STATEMENT

"The Town of Brazeau's diverse landscape includes an abundance of forestlands, quality open space and scenic waterways. Development is sensitive to the natural environment creating an inviting community for quality residential living and recreation activities. The town's collection of well maintained parks and trails contribute to the town's rural makeup providing year-round opportunities for recreation to both residents and visitors."

Goal 1: To assure sufficient park space to meet the needs of present and future populations.

Objectives:

- A. To determine the "Use Capacity" of existing park space.
- B. To formulate recommendations for the quality and quantity of park and recreation land needs.

Goal 2: Design parks to balance the capacity of park areas with the individual and group recreational user needs.

Objectives:

- A. Inventory existing park and recreational areas to determine the amount and types of present use.
- B. Anticipate population changes for the present and future recreational needs.
- C. To make sure that there are adequate park and recreational facilities for the full population, including the handicapped.
- D. Recommend the acquisition and development, redevelopment of parks and facilities or the selling of parklands according to population demands and anticipated recreational program use.

Goal 3: Preserve the environment for present and future parks and open space.

Objectives:

- A. Consider the effects of user activities and enhance the natural, environmental features of the parks.
- B. Design parks with an emphasis on aesthetics and natural features with an awareness of user needs and activity patterns.
- C. Provide permanent open space in the town for access to natural resources and ensure environmental protection.

Goal 4: Set priorities for the capital improvements of the parks.

Objectives:

- A. Use the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as guidance for preparation of budgets for park improvements using practical design to meet requirements of Americans' with Disabilities Act.
- B. Recommend the appropriate capital improvements.

Goal 5: Maximize efforts to reduce the cost of park operations and maintenance.

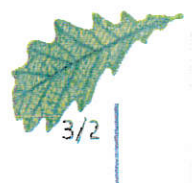
Objectives:

- A. Conduct site analysis of existing parks to determine representative maintenance and operation problems, which could be corrected by redesign or re-development.
- B. Interview appropriate personnel to identify excessive maintenance problems of each park, boat ramp and trail.
- C. Utilize greenways and environmental corridors as part of the permanent open space for passive recreation uses, such as nature walking paths
- D. Recommend planning considerations for present and future parks that will reduce maintenance.

Goal 6: Design and maintain park areas and facilities, considering behavioral control, handicapped accessibility (ADA), and the use patterns of the parks.

Objectives:

- A. Recognize that people use the same facilities for different reasons. At the same time, parks should be designed to allow multiple activities to take place at the same time without detracting from the enjoyment of any individual activities.
- B. Identify appropriate level of service standards for recreation facilities not limited to parks and to include boat landings and public walking trail.
- C. Create an information center, signage policy or message Kiosk to be located at a key park.
- D. Recognize that parks may be used after hours and for anti-social behavior. This means to consider designs that best provide safety and security 24 hours a day.



Chapter 4

PARKS AND RECREATION DESCRIPTION

Klondike Memorial Field (with ball diamond and pavilion) and Parkway Golf Course (an 18-hole "Parkway" course features 6,600 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 72 . Parkway golf course opened in 1999) are a couple of improved recreational sites located within the town. Serving its many waterways, the Town of Brazeau contains 19 improved and 14 un-improved public water access points. Two of which are designated ADA accessible.



The Dusty Trails ATV trail (part of 100 mile trail system) meanders throughout the northern portion of the town. A snowmobile route is established throughout the northern and southern portions of the town. The town's recreational facilities are illustrated on **Map 2.7A&B**. Recreational lands total 146.7 acres or 6.5 percent of all developed lands and 0.3 percent of total lands within the town.

Additionally, Oconto County Forest Unit 'North Peshtigo Brook' contains approximately 12,538 acres within the town providing numerous trail networks and primitive camping. There are 8 County managed primitive campsites within the town at : Forest Road 603; Lost Lake; Butler Rock Road (Site #1 & Site #2); Peshtigo Brook; DeBaker Lane (Site #1 & #2); and at Pete DeFoure Road.



OUTDOOR RECREATION SUPPLY INVENTORY

PARK & OPEN SPACE

1. **Memorial Field-Park** – Dedicated August 1948 – size 4 acres

Location: County Road Z west of Klondike intersection

Facilities:

- Baseball/Softball Field with Backstop,
- Men/Women Toilets,
- Port-A-Potty,
- Canopy Roofed Pavilion,
- Play Swing,
- Flag Pole,
- 12 Picnic Tables,
- Bleachers,
- Open Space Grassy,
- Veterans Monument,
- Storage Shed,
- Roadside parking
- Gravel walk to Pavilion

2. **Underwood Lake Park** —

Undeveloped – wooded area – size 2.6 acres

Location: Cherry Road and Pine Street

Facilities: None



3. **Vision Corner Vacant land** –

Undeveloped small open space – size 0.04 acres

Location: West Shay Lake Road and Old Hwy 64

Facilities: None

4. **PUBLIC NATURE WALKING PATH**

Location: Pickeral Lake Shoreline

Access Points: Remus Lane & Oak Lane

Facility offering:

- Approximately 700 foot walkway, Non-ADA.
- Grass/soft surface walking path marked with small trail signs.



DEVELOPED/UNDEVELOPED WATER ACCESS INVENTORY

The areas listed in Table 4.1 provide access to the lakes from town roads or boat landings. Some are grass, gravel or paved surfaced accesses. Two lakes have **ADA Docks** which were recently built. The White Potato Lake ADA dock was built three years ago while the one on Kelly Lake was built five years ago. In addition to these improvements, the town has maintained a "Life Jacket Depot" on Kelly Lake, White Potato Lake and Rost Lake. See **Map 2.7A&B** for locations.

LAKE	ACRES	LANDING #	ACCESS	SURFACE	ADA Access
Bass Lake	16		Near Sand Hill Lane	Gravel	
First Lake	7			Unimproved	
Half moon Lake	28		Half Moon Lake Rd	Gravel	
Holt Lake	6			Unimproved	
Kelly Lake	367	4	N. County G & Kelly Lake Rd	Paved	
		5	Kelly Lake Rd & N. Round Lake	Paved	Handicap Dock
Leigh Flowage	238		Ed tank Boat Landing	Gravel	
Lee Lake	238		Juda Lane	Gravel	
Montana Lake	143		12th Rd-Marquette County		
Perch Lake	8		Off of Reader Lake Rd	Unimproved	
Pickeral Lake	36		Near Oak Lane	Gravel	
			Pickeral Lake Road	Carry-In	
Ranch Lake	52		Ranch Lake Road	Gravel	
Reader Lake	8		Reader Lake Road	Unimproved	
Rost Lake	99		W. Rost Lake Road	Gravel	
Round Lake	31		Round Lake Park Road	Gravel	
Shay Lake	68		W. Shay Lake Road	Paved	
			Adjoining County Forest		
Underwood Lake	45		Marl Lake Road	Unimproved	
White Potato Lake	1023	1	S. White Potato Lake Road	Paved	
		2	S. White Potato Lake Road	Paved	
		3	Parkway Road	Paved	
		4	Lake Drive	Paved	
		5	Pike Lane	Paved	Handicap Dock
		6	W. Lake Drive	Paved	
Yankee Lake	14	1 & 2	Parkway-Shared Mar. County	Unimproved	
Jocko Lake			Jocko Lane Private	Gravel	
Gaffney Lake				Unimproved	
Little Bass Lake				Unimproved	
Lost Lake				Unimproved	
Frog Lake				Unimproved	
Kobus Lake				Unimproved	
Second Lake				Unimproved	
Whiskey Lake				Unimproved	

Source: Town of Brazeau, 2014

Chapter 5

SPACE, FACILITY STANDARDS AND NEEDS

The Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is re-written by the Department of Natural Resources every five years to identify essential and contemporary issues affecting outdoor recreation in the state and comply with the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965. Each plan builds upon the previous with additions regarding political and national initiatives. The plan is used to allocate funds among local communities while recognizing the need to protect natural heritage and landscapes. Local communities are encouraged to see the plan as a blueprint to plan for their park and recreation. In the recent past – the SCORP identified:

Nature Based needs as being:

- Boat Launches (carry-in)
- Campgrounds
- Parks
- Many Trail Types

Developed Setting needs as being:

- Educational camps
- Bike Trails
- Picnic Area
- Ball fields
- Ice Skating Rinks
- Volleyball Courts
- Soccer-fields

Within 2011-2016 SCORP Appendix F ('Standards for Recreational Facilities') communities are cautioned against utilizing well established standards, of which there are many, to determine the needs of the community by themselves. Qualitative as well as quantitative standards need to be assessed along with public perceptions, needs and wants especially in communities similar to the rural Town of Brazeau (population 1,284).

During public comment meetings, key issues that were brought up included:

- Boat landing maintenance
- Ball diamond improvements
- Bathroom needs
- Pavilion upgrades/renovation
- Open Space/Picnic locations - needs
- Signage enhancement
- Updated/modern safe playground equipment
- The future amenities need to incorporate latest ADA standards

OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS

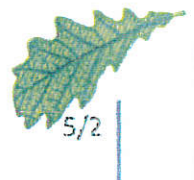
Implementation of plan recommendations will be contingent upon town priorities, feasibility, and available resources and opportunities (e.g., grants, partnerships, available land, and staff resources).

OVERALL COMMITMENTS:

1. The Town of Brazeau is committed to a program of maintaining existing parks, access to waterways and nature walking paths.
2. The town desires to maintain recreation opportunities in good condition and provide sufficient funds for operation.
3. The town believes recreational opportunities have a great community value. Therefore, the preservation of town parks providing active play areas is essential, especially since other communities with existing play areas are 8-10 miles away.

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION COMMITMENTS:

1. Periodically survey the condition of each park and facilities in order to effectively and efficiently schedule repair or replacement.
2. Mowing and maintaining the grassed lawn areas and landscaped areas.
3. Keeping the parks, boat landings and public walking path litter free.
4. Maintaining and stocking park restrooms, as needed.
5. Maintaining appropriate signage for parks, boat landings and walking paths as needed.
6. Periodically review the Town Ordinance committing to ATV/UTV passage along all town roads regarding any concerns/problems/opportunities.



SPECIFIC LOCATION, OUTDOOR RECREATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

The following pages of this section provide an inventory and specific development, renovation, and improvement recommendations for each of Brazeau's facilities:

Memorial Field-Park

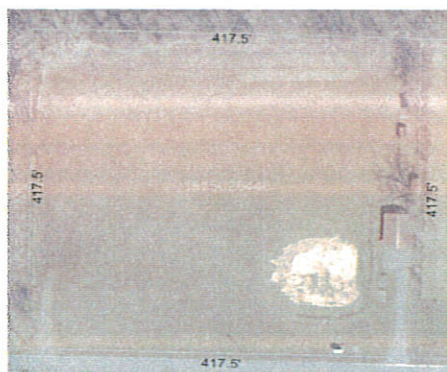
Dedicated August 1948 – size 4 acres

Park features include:

- Baseball/Softball Field with Backstop,
- Men/Women Toilets,
- Port-A-Potty,
- Canopy Roofed Pavilion,
- Play Swing,
- Flag Pole,
- 12 Picnic Tables, Bleachers
- Open Grassy Space,
- Veteran Monument,
- Storage Shed,
- Roadside Parking/ Gravel walk to pavilion.



RECOMMENDATIONS MEMORIAL FIELD - PARK	COST ESTIMATE	TIMEFRAME
Playground equipment	> \$2,000	2014- 2015
New ADA restrooms/flush toilets with Pavilion addition 60x24	\$50-57,000	Summer/Fall 2014
New well	\$3,900	Summer 2014
ADA Picnic Tables	2 X \$200 each	TBD
Grills	2 X \$150 each	TBD
Signage Enhancement	\$200-400	TBD
Ball Diamond enhancement	\$200-600	Long range



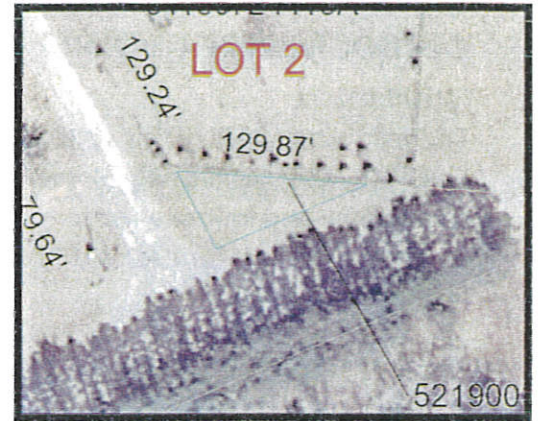
**SPECIFIC LOCATION,
OUTDOOR RECREATION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Vision Corner

This open space was purchased from the County. It was designed to enhance the vision at the intersection. It is currently unimproved.

Park features include:

- Open grassy area 0.04 acres,
- Limited on street parking 2 – 4 vehicles.



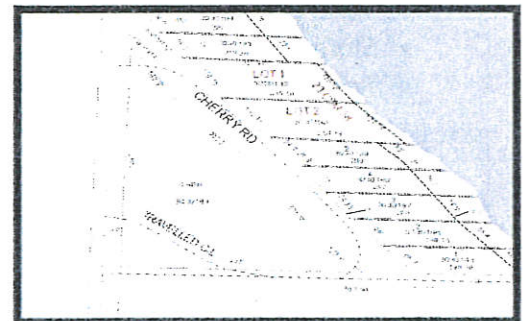
RECOMMENDATIONS VISION CORNER - PARK	COST ESTIMATE	TIMEFRAME
Flower garden	\$200 - \$400	TBD/Long Range
Signage	\$100-2000	TBD/Long Range

Underwood Lake Park

This wooded space was purchased from the County and is unimproved .

Park features include:

- Wooded area 2.6 acres,
- On street parking.



RECOMMENDATIONS UNDERWOOD LAKE - PARK	COST ESTIMATE	TIMEFRAME
Picnic tables	4 X \$200 each	TBD/Long Range
Signage	\$100-2,000	TBD/Long Range
Walkway/pathway	\$1,500-2,000	TBD/Long Range
Grills	4 X \$150 each	TBD/Long Range



ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON

RECREATION ACTIVITIES

SNOWMOBILING

The town's snowmobile trails are connected to other towns and Marinette County as part of the statewide trail system and serve enthusiasts State-wide.



Snowmobiling

Recommendations

Oconto County pursues an active and ambitious snowmobile trail development program. It is recommended that the town collaborates with the county and local clubs, when possible, to ensure this activity continues. The town will encourage the county in its efforts to delineate, make agreements, market and maintain the existing trail system shown on **Map 2.7A&B** and that the town will continue to work with clubs in providing this recreational activity.



Whenever compatible with soil and topography conditions and present land use, snowmobile trails are to be encouraged to be developed on a multi-use basis. Utilization for multiple activities would justify future development which should include shelters and sanitary facilities. All new trails must be well marked, designed for safety, and long enough to provide variety and challenge.

ATV/UTV TRAILS & TRAIL BIKES

The Oconto County ATV Trail System has over 500 miles of ATV/UTV trails. This trail system includes routes and trails on Oconto County land and town roads. UTV are not allowed in some areas of the Nicolet National Forest. The major part of the Dusty Trail system is in the woods, with hills and curves and beautiful scenery. This is sand country and can get dusty in areas.



ATV Recommendations

There are numerous trails and "play areas" for ATV use in Oconto County and the town (**Map 2.7A&B**). Care should be taken in identifying future areas or trails in order to minimize any negative environmental impacts or use conflicts.

Oconto County has designated some areas for trail bike/ATV usage. The town and county should assess the needs of this activity and plan accordingly.

The Town supports its ordinance designating each of the town's roads as ATV/UTV passable.

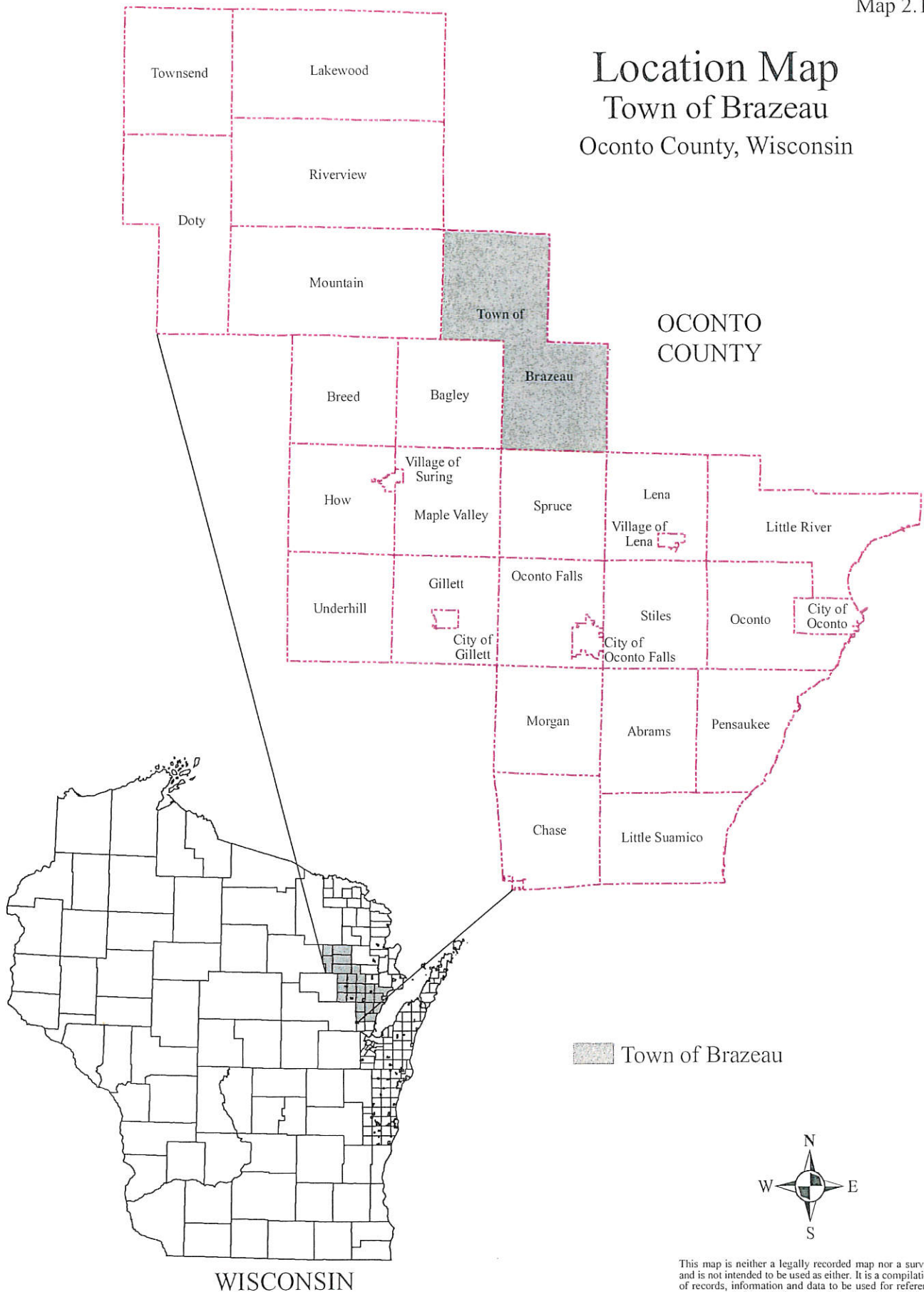


APPENDIX A

<i>LOCATION MAP.....</i>	MAP 2.1
<i>PLANNING AREA.....</i>	MAP 2.2
<i>ELEVATION HILLSHADE.....</i>	MAP 2.3
<i>SURFACE WATER FEATURES.....</i>	MAP 2.4
<i>PLAN DETERMINANTS.....</i>	MAP 2.5
<i>PRIME AGRICULTURAL SOILS.....</i>	MAP 2.6
<i>PUBLIC & COMMUNITY FACILITIES.....</i>	MAP 2.7A & 2.7B
<i>2007 LAND USE.....</i>	MAP 2.8



Location Map Town of Brazeau Oconto County, Wisconsin



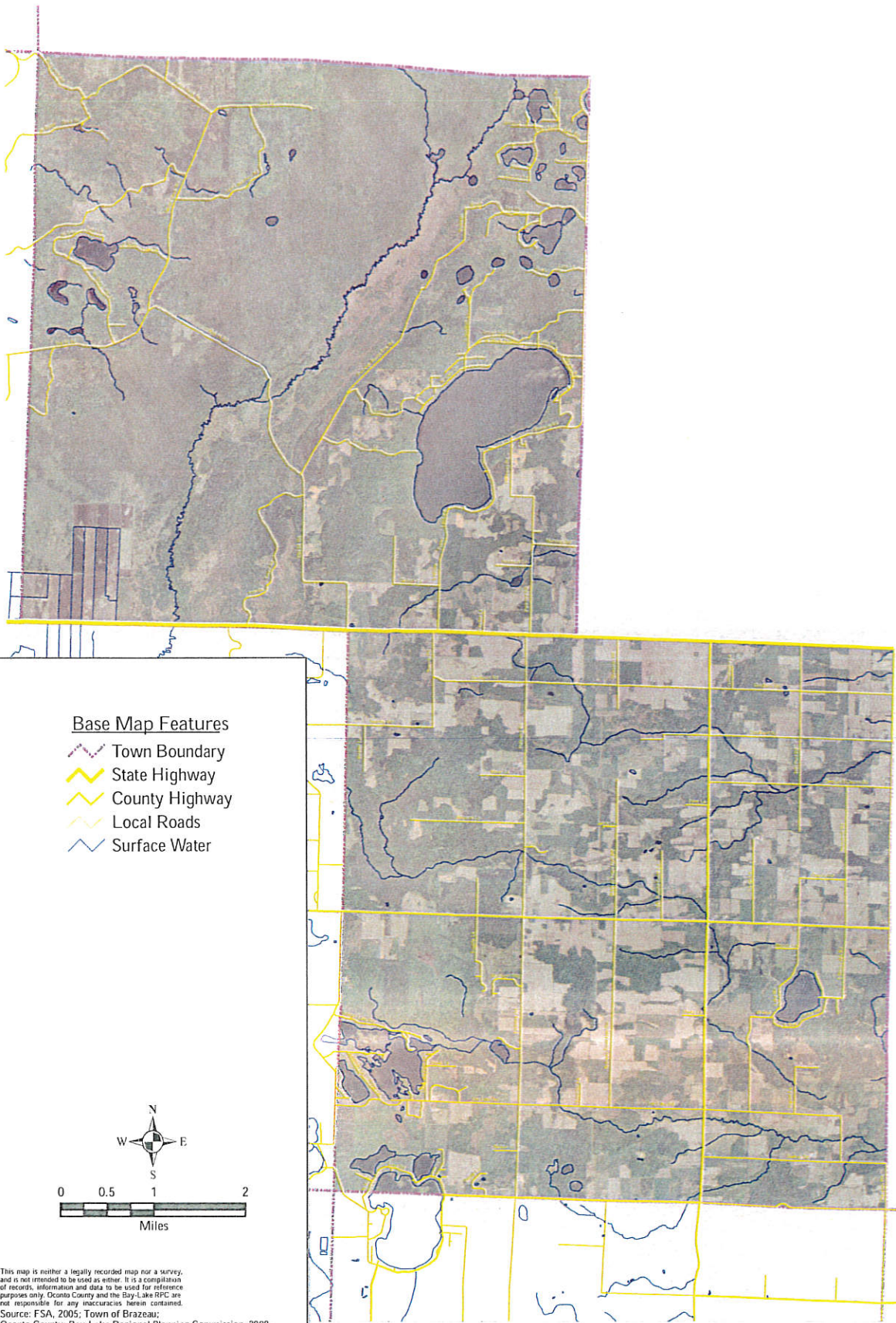
Source: Town of Brazeau; Oconto County; Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission, 2008.

This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey, and is not intended to be used as either. It is a compilation of records, information and data to be used for reference purposes only. Oconto County and the Bay-Lake RPC are not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.

Planning Area

Town of Brazeau

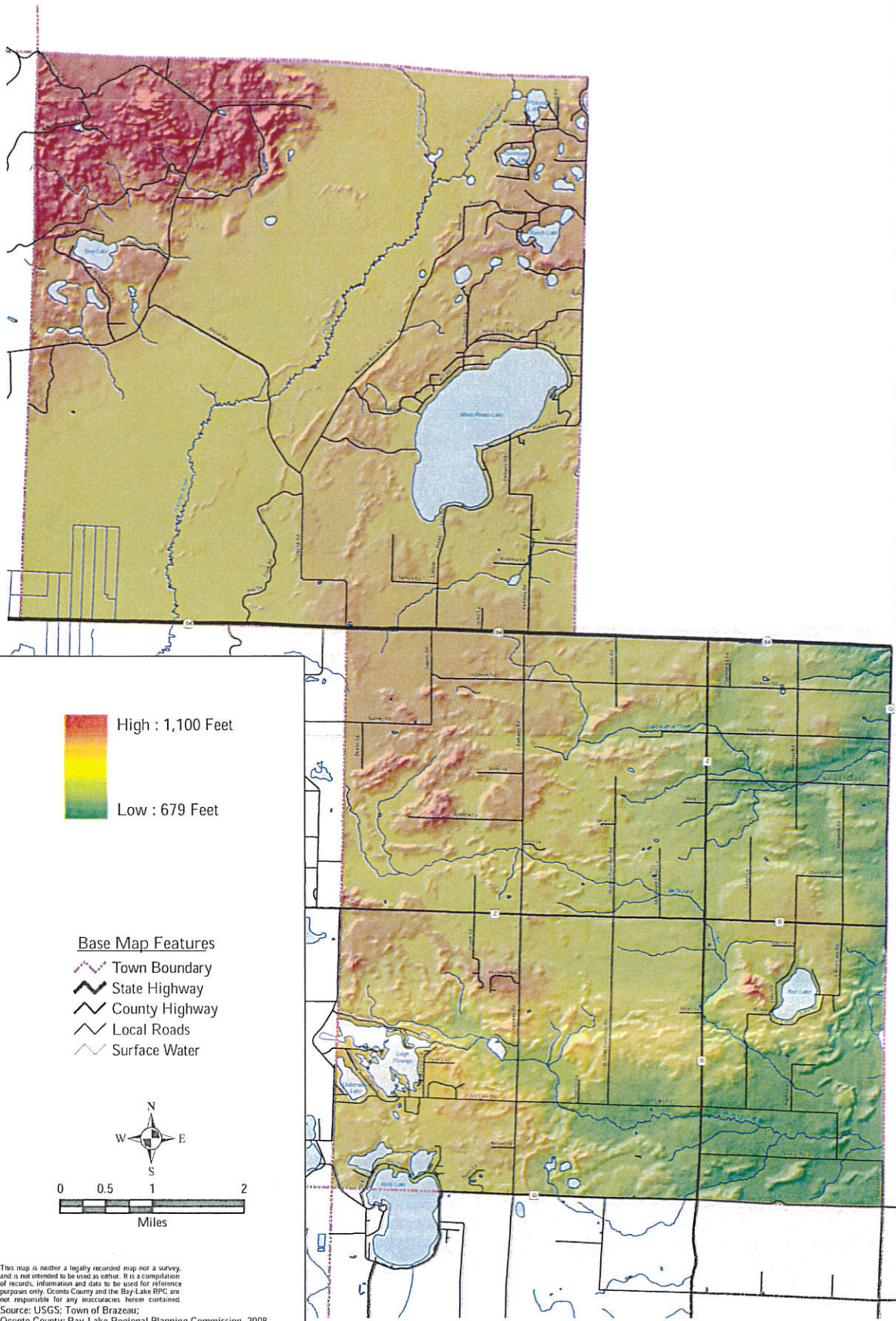
Oconto County, Wisconsin



Elevation Hillshade

Town of Brazeau

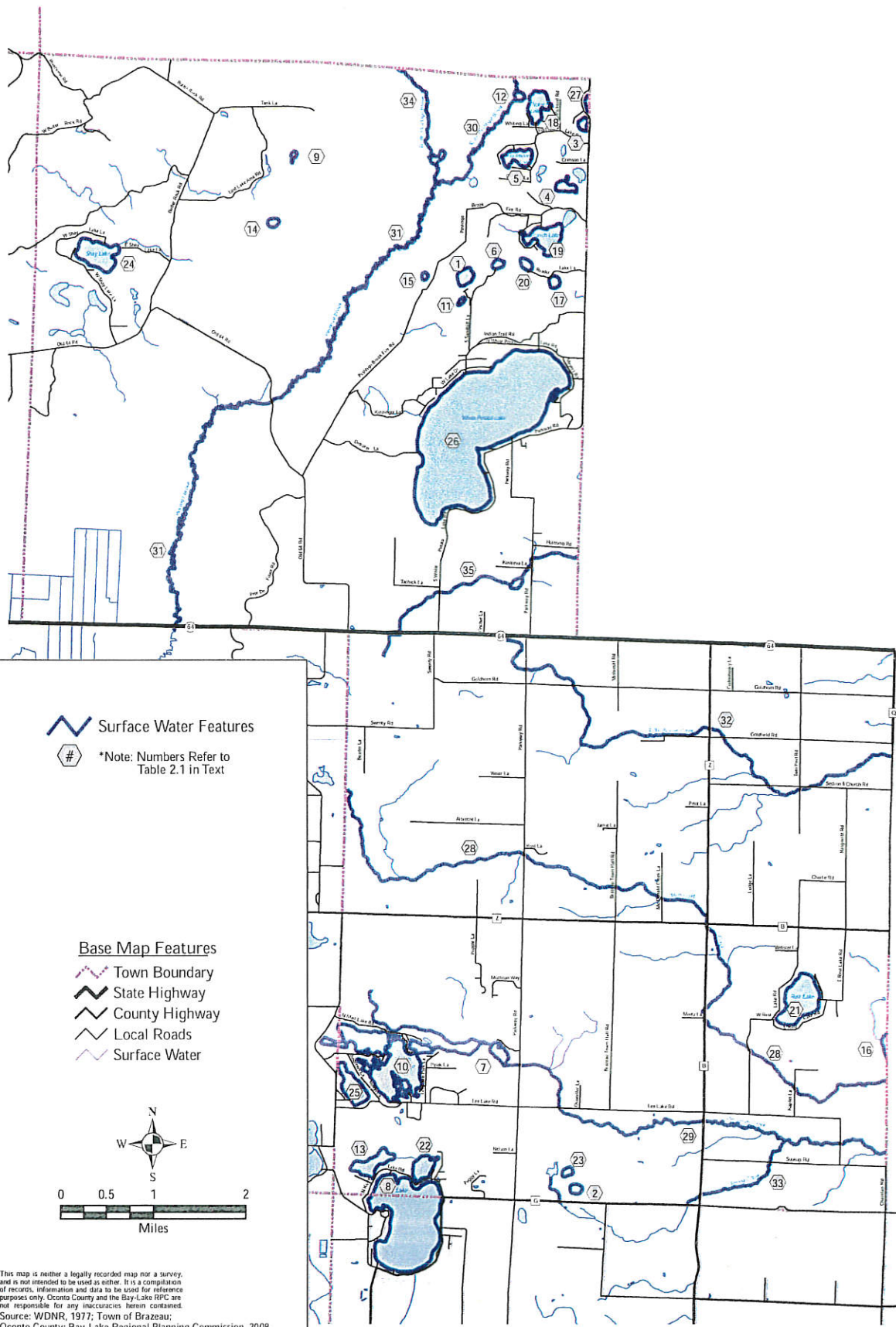
Oconto County, Wisconsin



Surface Water Features

Town of Brazeau

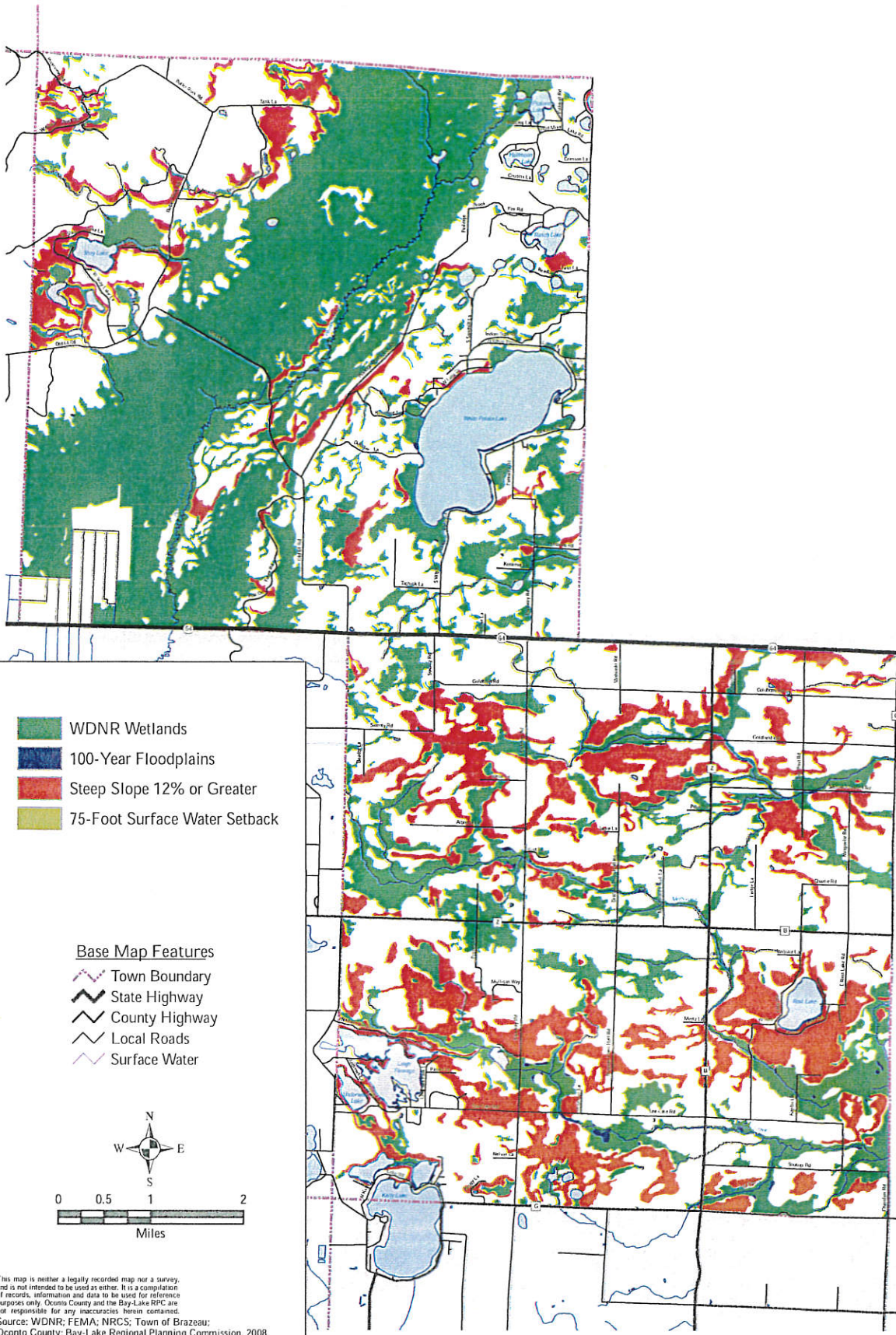
Oconto County, Wisconsin



Plan Determinants

Town of Brazeau

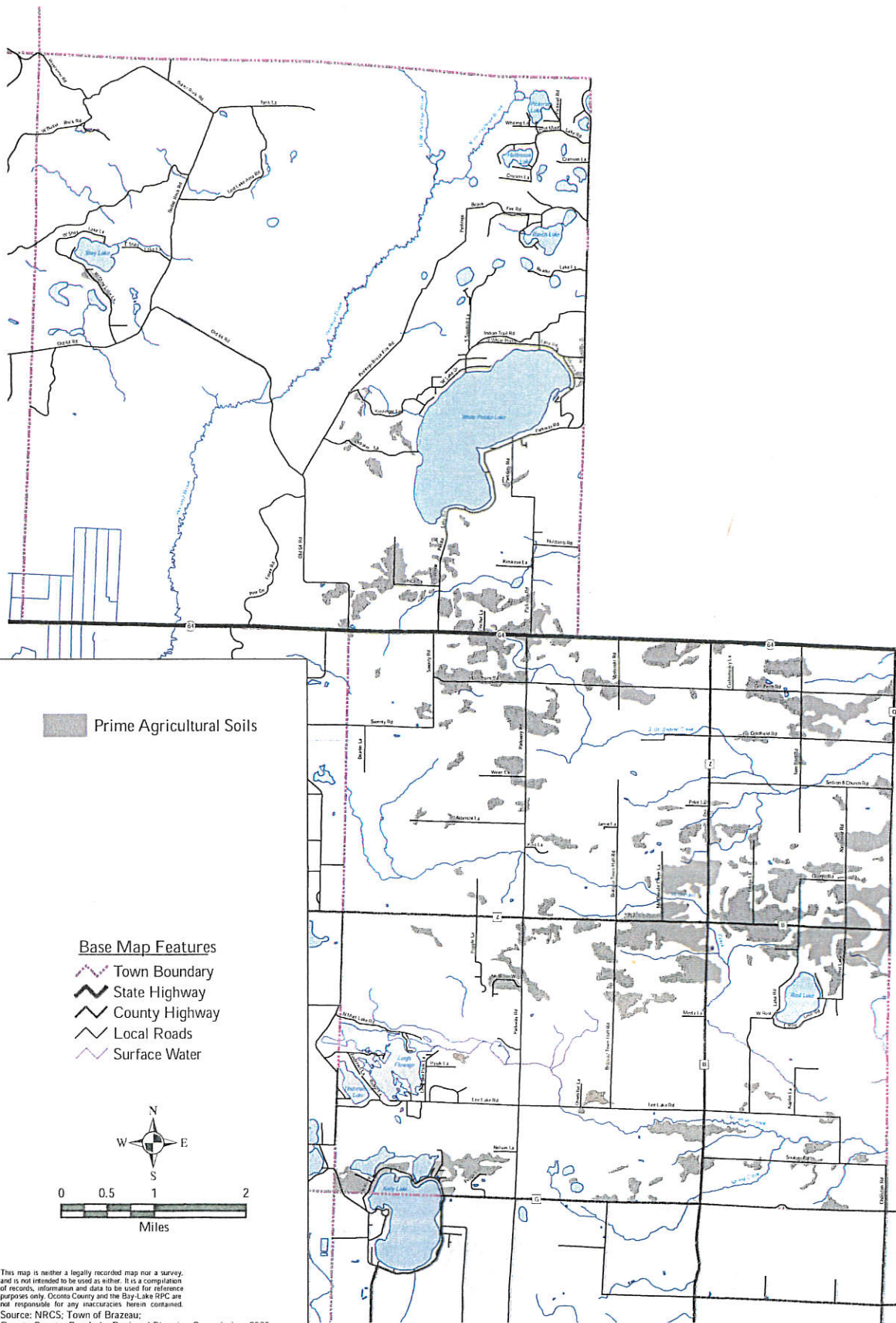
Oconto County, Wisconsin

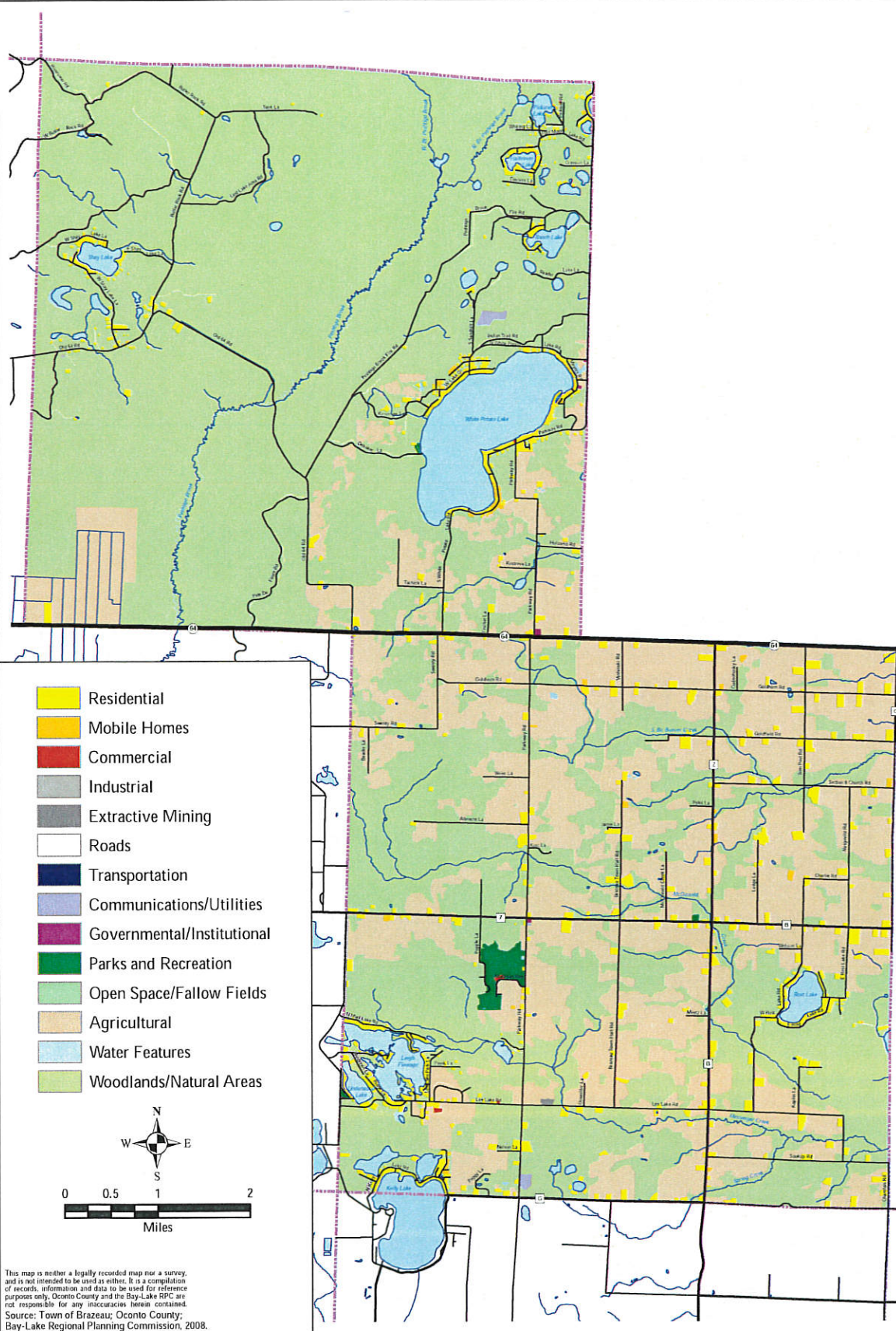


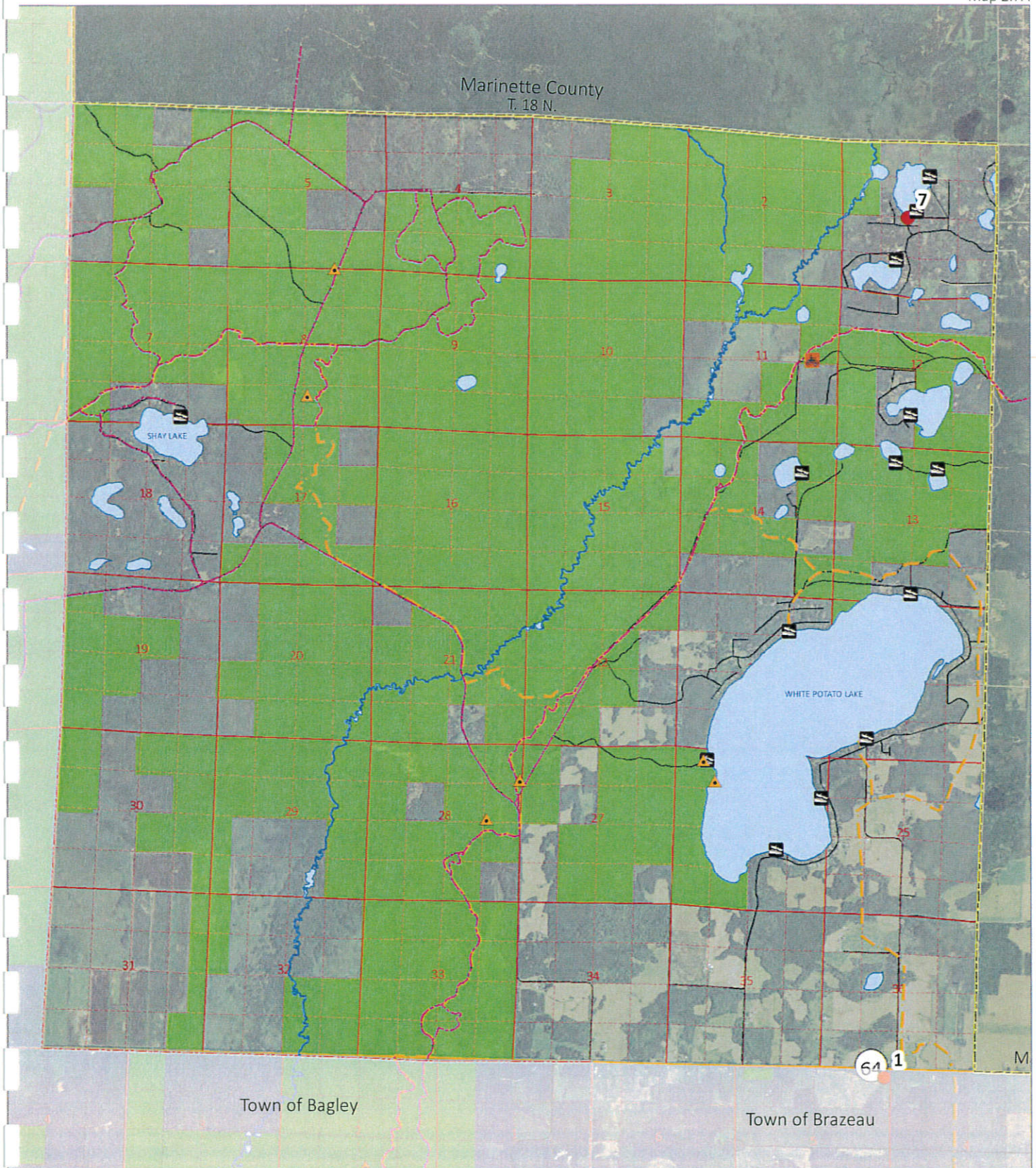
Prime Agricultural Soils

Town of Brazeau

Oconto County, Wisconsin

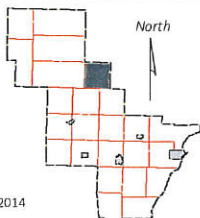






This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as such. This map contains a compilation of records, information, and data to be used for reference purposes only. Oconto County is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.

Source: Oconto County Planning; 2014



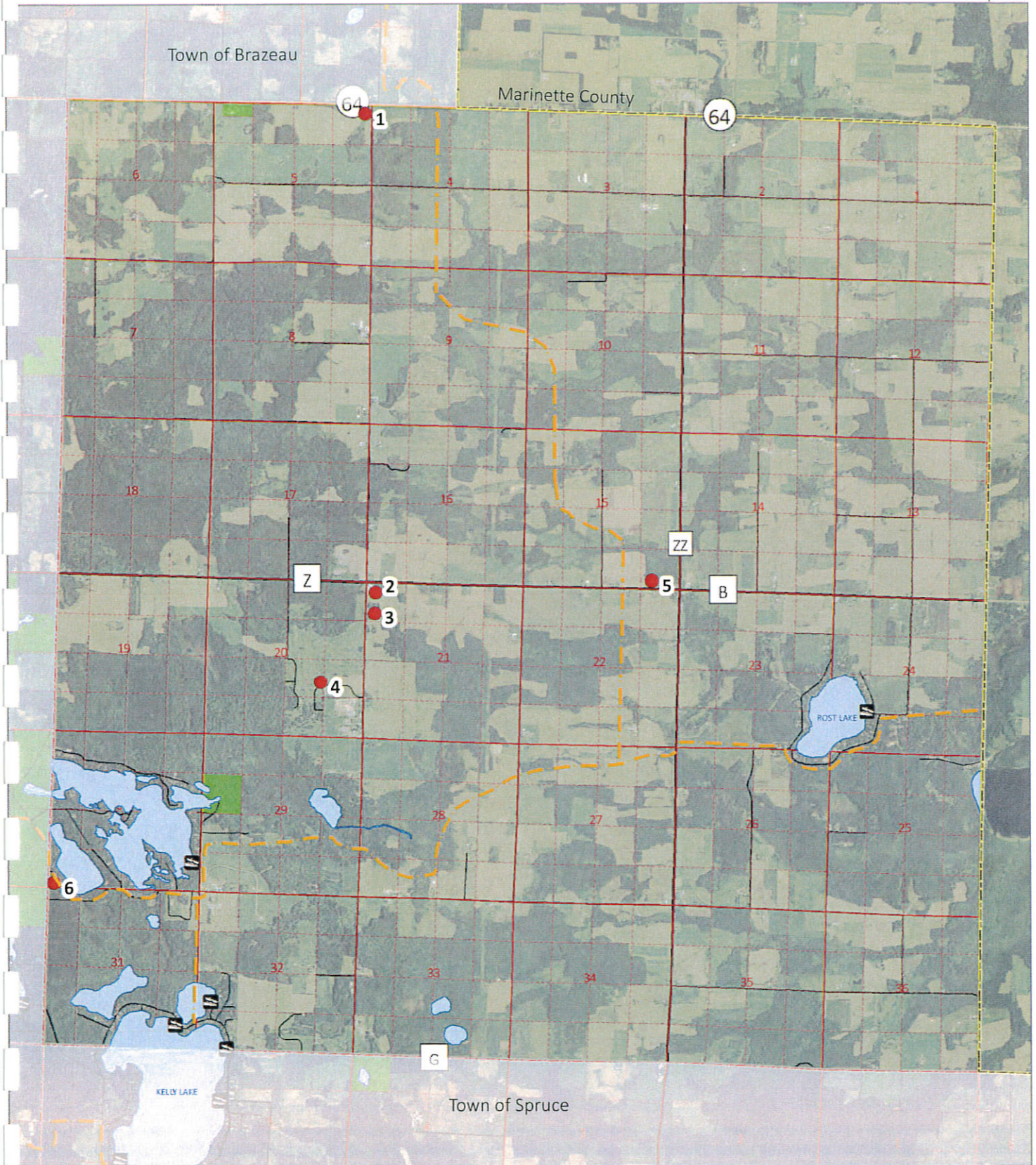
Public and Community Facilities Town of Brazeau (North Half) Oconto County, Wisconsin

Public Facilities

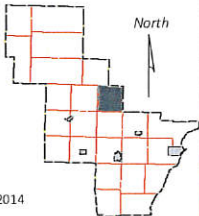
- 1 - Brazeau Rescue Squad
- 7 - Walking Pathway
- ATV Parking
- Boat Landing
- ▲ Primitive Campsite

Legend

- County Boundary
- City/Village Boundary
- Township Boundary
- Public Land
- Lakes and Rivers
- 1/4-1/4 Section Line
- Section Line
- Railroad
- Federal Highway
- State Highway
- County Highway
- Local Roads
- ATV Route
- Snowmobile Route



This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as such. This map contains a compilation of records, information, and data to be used for reference purposes only. Oconto County is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.
Source: Oconto County Planning; 2014



Public and Community Facilities Town of Brazeau (South Half) Oconto County, Wisconsin

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| ● 1 - Brazeau Rescue Squad | ● 4 - Parkway Golf Course | ■ ATV Parking |
| ● 2 - Brazeau Town Hall | ● 5 - Klondike Memorial Field | ■ Boat Landing |
| ● 3 - Brazeau Fire Department | ● 6 - Lake Park | ▲ Primitive Campsite |

Legend

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| ■ County Boundary | — Railroad |
| ■ City/Village Boundary | — Federal Highway |
| ■ Township Boundary | — State Highway |
| ■ Public Land | — County Highway |
| ■ Lakes and Rivers | — Local Roads |
| — ¼-¼ Section Line | — ATV Route |
| — Section Line | — Snowmobile Route |