

Natural. Valued. Protected.

Lake Fact Sheet – Parry Sound District Bear Lake

Location:

MNR District: Parry Sound
Geographic Township: Monteith
Municipal Township: McMurrich/Monteith
Watershed: Seguin River
Fisheries Mgmt Zone: 15

Basin and Terrain Characteristics:

Lake Survey Year: 1975
Surface Area: 325 hectares
Maximum Depth: 6.7 meters
Mean Depth: 2.3 meters
Perimeter: 14.2 km
Island shoreline: 0.8 km
Littoral Zone: 99%
Shoreline Development: 79 Cottages, 1 Resort (at time of 1975 survey)
Access Points: Road
Water Level: Not Regulated (i.e. no dams)
Crown Land: 0% Shoreline

Water Quality:

Secchi reading: 2.3 meters
Colour: Yellow/Brown
Alkalinity: 6.8 mg/l - Level 2 Extremely Sensitive (MOE, 1989)
pH: 6.0 - 6.5
M.E.I.: 8.2

“Guide to eating fish”: Restrictions on Smallmouth Bass and Northern Pike consumption. Refer to the current “Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish” available electronically at: www.ene.gov.on.ca.

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Fisheries:

Game Fish Species: Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass, Yellow Perch, Northern Pike, Walleye

Other species present: White Sucker, Pumpkinseed, Iowa Darter, Brown Bullhead, Johnny Darter, Golden Shiner

Stocking Record: The lake is not currently being stocked.

1987 Largemouth Bass 146 adults
1973 Smallmouth Bass 10,000 fingerlings
1970 Largemouth Bass 5,000 fry
1963 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fingerlings
1961 Smallmouth Bass 3,000 fingerlings
1958 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerlings
1954 Smallmouth Bass 75 6 to 11 inch
1952 Smallmouth Bass 300 fingerling
1951 Smallmouth Bass 250 fingerlings
1950 Smallmouth Bass 400 fingerlings
1949 Walleye 200,000 eggs
1945 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerlings
1943 Smallmouth Bass 10,000 fry

Summary of Fisheries Studies / Reports:

McIntyre, E. 2001 **Synoptic Trapnet Survey Report**

- Bear Lake fish community in excellent condition dominated by walleye and northern pike
- Walleye reproduction and recruitment are excellent
- Walleye adult mortality appears to be very high
- Low abundance of smallmouth bass; Conclusion - sub-optimal habitat conditions
- 1987 introduction of sm. bass to create a self-sustaining population appears to be a failure

Boudreau, T.A. 1987. **Largemouth bass introductions** made in the Parry Sound District – 1987.

- Sept. 9 – 11, 1987, 146 adult and juvenile largemouth bass transferred from Axe Lake

Black, R. 1986. **Bear Lake Trapnet Survey**, July 1986.

- Northern Pike at low to moderate numbers and heavily exploited
- Smallmouth Bass populations depressed and 1980 and 1982 year classes are weak although 1979 year class is strong.
- Recommends stocking 100, 25 to 35 cm largemouth bass as the lake has excellent potential for self-sustaining population

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Management Prescription:

This lake is being managed as a natural, self-sustaining walleye, bass and pike fishery. Generic sport fishing regulations for FMZ-15 apply; there are no exception regulations.

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Refer to Lake Fact Sheet Interpretation document for explanation of content.

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