Broad-scale Monitoring Bulletin
BUCK LAKE – ZONE 15

Buck Lake Facts

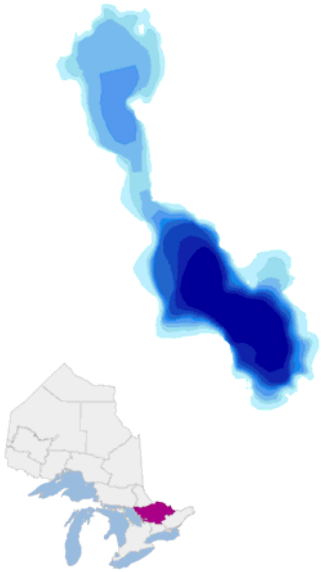
District of Parry Sound

Surface Area: 264 ha

Maximum Depth: 24 m

Average Depth: 10 m

Water Clarity: 1.3 m



Monitoring Activities

- ✓ Fish netting
- ✓ Fish contaminants
- ✓ Zooplankton
- ✓ Water chemistry
- ✓ Bathymetry
- ✓ Water temperature/dissolved oxygen
- ✓ Invasive Species

Netting Summary

Netting dates: July 4 – 7, 2011

Netting days: 4

Number of net sets: 22

Number of fish species caught: 9

About the Program

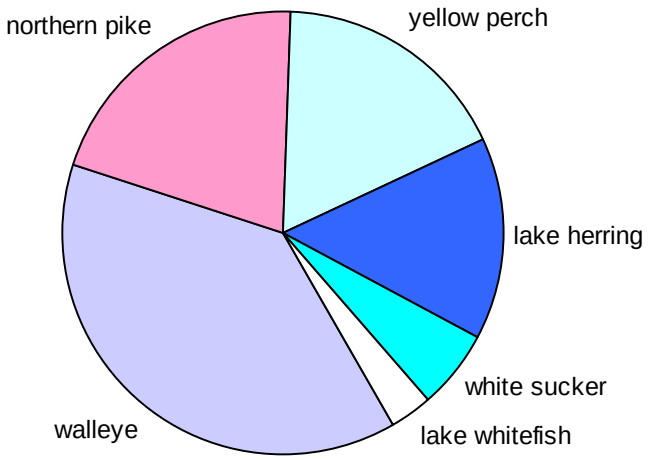
The Broad-scale Monitoring Program provides information for managing our fisheries effectively. This bulletin provides **a snapshot of the recent monitoring activities and netting results.** Netting is conducted using large and small mesh nets. Large mesh nets contribute information about fish species and small mesh nets describe the fish community. To learn more about the sampling program read *Broad-scale Monitoring Program: Monitoring the Health of Ontario Inland Lakes* or visit ontario.ca/fishing.

Fish Netting Results

Fish populations were surveyed using large and small mesh nets to provide information on fish species present and their characteristics, such as growth, age and abundance. The catch data below show that 6 species were surveyed in large mesh nets. Additional fish species observed in small mesh nets were black crappie, smallmouth bass, and pumpkinseed.

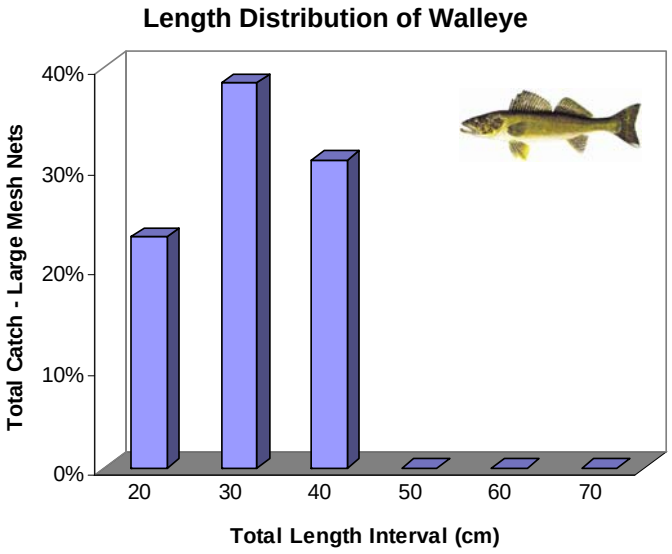
Fish species	Total Catch %	Maximum Length cm	Minimum Length cm	Average Length cm
walleye	38	43.8	18.9	33.5
northern pike	21	63.9	39.3	54.6
yellow perch	17	24.3	19.0	22.5
lake herring	15	31.3	16.9	21.1
white sucker	6	48.5	32.5	40.5
lake whitefish	3	56.6	56.6	56.6

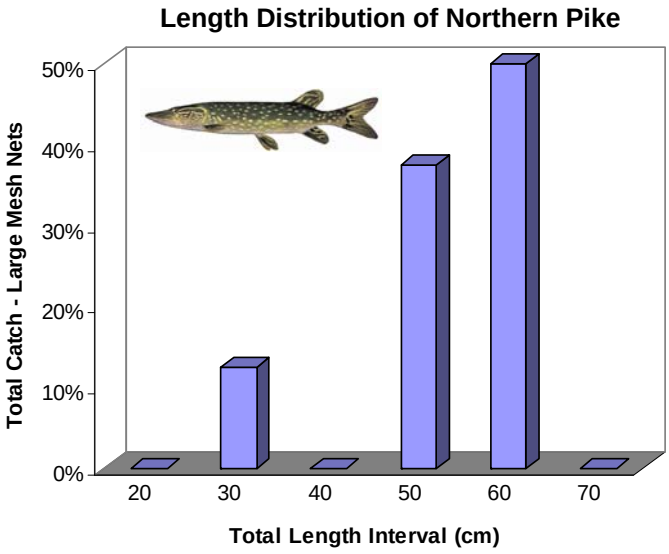
Proportion of Fish Caught in Large Mesh Nets



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Ontario





20 cm = 20 to 30 cm, 30 cm = 30 to 40 cm, etc.

The size of walleye ranged from 19 to 44 cm (from a total of 13 fish) and the size of northern pike ranged from 39 to 64 cm (from a total of 6 fish) in large mesh nets.

Water Chemistry and Temperature

Water samples were collected in May 2011 and sent to the Ministry of Environment for analysis. Water temperature, oxygen levels and water transparency were measured in July 2011. Buck Lake is considered a cool-water lake that can support fish species such as walleye, northern pike, and lake herring.

Invasive Species

Invasive species were monitored using plankton nets and observations made by field crews. Samples are currently being processed to determine if any new invasive species were detected through this sampling program. Any species new to Ontario or an invasive species that is a new record for a waterbody is reported to the Invading Species Hotline www.invadingspecies.com.

Fish Contaminants

Levels of contaminants in fish flesh (e.g. mercury, PCB's, mirex, organochlorine pesticides and other organic chemicals) will be reported in the *Guide to Eating Sport Fishing in Ontario* or visit ontario.ca/fishguide.

For more information please contact Ministry of Natural Resources at 1-800-667-1940, send an email to mnr.nric.mnr@ontario.ca or visit ontario.ca/fishing.