# Broad-scale Monitoring Bulletin
## GURD LAKE – ZONE 15

### Gurd Lake Facts

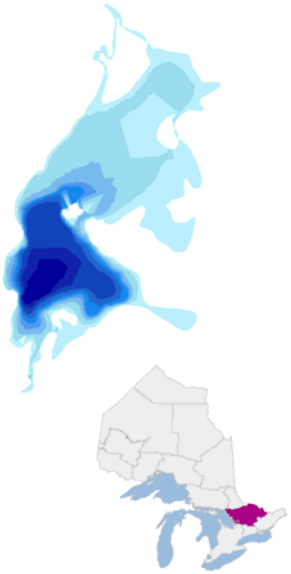
District of Parry Sound

Surface Area: 97 ha

Maximum Depth: 6 m

Average Depth: 2 m

Water Clarity: 2.2 m



### Monitoring Activities

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

### Netting Summary

Netting dates: July 7 – 8, 2011

Netting days: 2

Number of net sets: 14

Number of fish species caught: 10

### Fish Netting Results

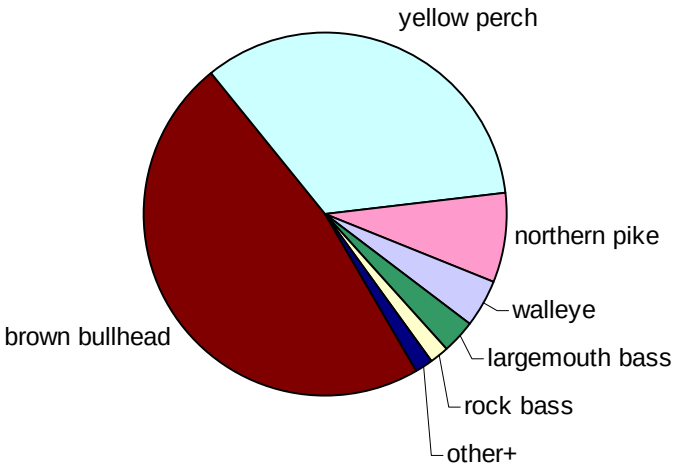
Fish populations were surveyed using large and small mesh nets to provide information on fish species present and their characteristics, such as growth, age and abundance. The catch data below show that 8 species were surveyed in large mesh nets. Additional fish species observed in small mesh nets were bluntnose minnow and golden shiner.

| Fish species | Total Catch % | Maximum Length cm | Minimum Length cm | Average Length cm |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| brown bullhead | 48 | 30.5 | 15.1 | 25.4 |
| yellow perch | 34 | 33.8 | 13.2 | 16.5 |
| northern pike | 8 | 83.9 | 22.0 | 48.4 |
| walleye | 4 | 59.7 | 18.9 | 46.6 |
| largemouth bass | 3 | 46.0 | 37.2 | 41.0 |
| rock bass | 2 | 20.2 | 15.8 | 18.0 |
| white sucker+ | <1 | 58.2 | 53.9 | 56.0 |
| pumpkinseed+ | <1 | 14.4 | 9.5 | 12.0 |

### 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.

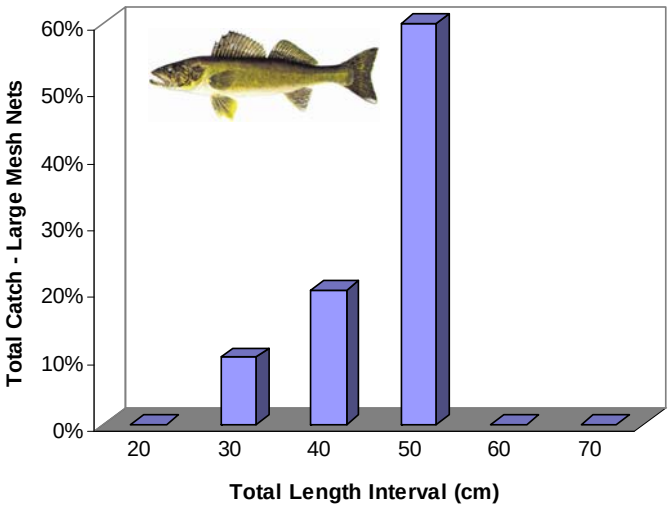
**Proportion of Fish Caught in Large Mesh Nets**



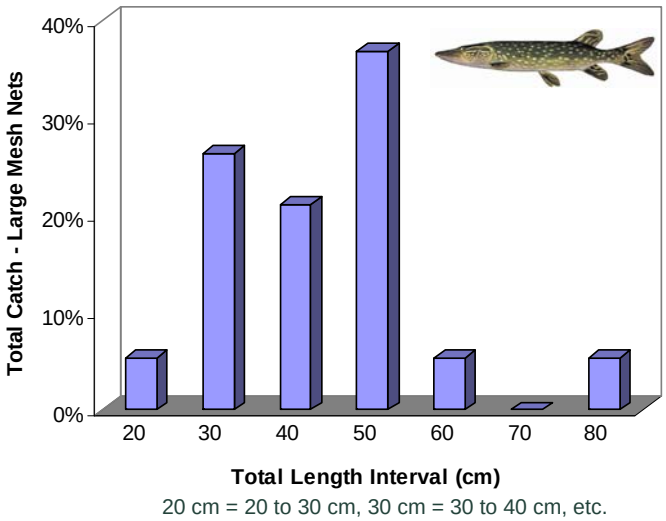

**ontario.ca/fishing**

Ontario

**Length Distribution of Walleye**




**Length Distribution of Northern Pike**




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

The size of walleye ranged from 19 to 60 cm (from a total of 10 fish) and the size of northern pike ranged from 22 to 84 cm (from a total of 20 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 September 2011. Lake is considered a cool-water lake that can support cool and warm-water fish species such as walleye and northern pike.

**Invasive Species**

Invasive species were monitored using plankton nets and observations made by field crews. Historically, there have been no reported occurrences of invasive species in Gurd Lake. 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.**