Lake Fact Sheet – Parry Sound District

Bass Lake

Location

Official Name:	Bass Lake	*Local Names:*	
County/District:	Muskoka	*Geographic Twp:*	Ryde
Municipality:	Town of Gravenhurst	*MNR Admin. Area:*	Bracebridge
Lat./Long:	44.871 N 79.208 W	*UTM (NAD83):*	17 641547 4970257
Topographic Map (1:50,000):	31D14	*Drainage Basin:*	Kahshe River

Physical Features

Surface Area (ha):	37	*Maximum Depth (m):*	4	*Mean Depth (m):*	2
Elevation (m asl):	252	*Perimeter (km):*	4	*Island Shoreline (km):*	0
Volume (10^4 $m^{3:}$):	67	*Watershed (km^2):* (excludes area of lake)	17	*Water Clarity (m):*	1.7

Land Use and Development

Crown Land (%):	0	*Provincial Parks:*	none
Shoreline Development:	moderate; shoreline residential		
Access:	public; access from public launches on Kahshe Lake		
Water Level Management:	not regulated		

Fish Species

Major Fish Species: black crappie (I), walleye, smallmouth bass (I), largemouth bass (I) northern pike (I), brook trout (O)

Other Fish Species: rock bass (I), pumpkinseed, bluntnose minnow, grass pickerel, golden shiner brown bullhead, white sucker, blacknose shiner, yellow perch

Other Species:

Notes: E: extirpated, I: introduced – intentional or accidental, O: occasional, R: remnant, S: currently stocked, ?: status uncertain, 2009: year of first record or introduction if known, blank: presumed native

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Fisheries Management

Fisheries Management Zone: 15

Designation for Lake Trout Management: ..... not designated

Fishing Regulation Exceptions ..... no lake-specific exceptions

Current Stocking: ..... none

Historic Stocking (last year stocked): ..... smallmouth bass (1948)

Contaminants (species tested): ..... not tested; results for Kahshe Lake can be used

Assessment: Completed Projects:

1975	lake survey
2009	walleye spawning trap netting (Kahshe and Bass Lakes)

Synopsis

Bass Lake is connected to Kahshe Lake by a navigable channel at Houseys Rapids. The fish communities of the lakes are similar and there is some movement of fish between the two lakes. The Kahshe Lake fact sheet should be consulted for more information.

The 2009 netting survey found that walleye, pike and probably crappie move seasonally into Bass Lake and its tributaries to spawn and to take advantage of the slightly warmer spring water temperature. It is doubtful that large numbers of either species, except for possibly crappie, would stay in Bass Lake through the summer months. Walleye tagged in Bass Lake in the spring were caught throughout Kahshe Lake the following summer. A former walleye spawning site (once a spring sanctuary) on the Gartersnake River, one of the two main tributaries has fallen into disuse due to several blockages between the spawning site and the lake. Despite this, the walleye population in Kahshe Lake seems to be sustaining itself, if not improving in recent years.

Two brook trout were caught in the 1975 survey. It is thought that they originated from the tributary streams. The water quality and resident fish community of the lake are hostile to trout and their occurrence is considered accidental.

Grass Pickerel have been documented in Bass Lake. The species is a small member of the pike family, generally growing to only about 20 cm long. Populations occur elsewhere in the lower Severn River basin as well.

Updated: January 2016

Refer to Lake Fact Background Information document for explanation of content.

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