



PARRY SOUND AREA LAKE SUMMARIES



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Ahmic Lake

Revised: , June 2003, Oct. 2001, Ap. 2001

Location:

MNR District:..... Parry Sound
Geographic Township: Croft, Ryerson, Chapman and Spence
Municipal Township: Magnetawan
Watershed: Magnetawan River
Angling Division: 15

Basin and Terrain Characteristics:

Lake Survey Year: 1971
Surface Area:..... 1567 hectares (3917 acres)
Maximum Depth: 27.1 meters (89 feet)
Mean Depth: 8.1 meters (17 feet)
Perimeter: 69.7 km.
Island shoreline: 9.8 km.
Littoral Zone: 47% (zone of light penetration to bottom)
Thermal Regime: Cool
Shoreline Development: High
Access Points: 2 public; numerous private
Water Level: Inflow Regulated by OMNR dam/lock at village of Magnetawan
and outflow regulated by OMNR dams – Feigen’s Dam and
Kneofli Dam adjacent to Hwy 124
Crown Land: 5% of shoreline

Water Quality:

(Parameters pertain to fisheries habitat only. For information on potability of water or contaminants, contact Min. of Health and Min. of Environment.)

Secchi reading: 3.5 meters (1971 data); 2.2 – 3.8 metres (MOE, 1998)

Colour: yellow brown

Dissolved Oxygen: good

Alkalinity: 13.7 – 20.5 mg/l (1971); Level 3 – Moderately Sensitive (MOE, 1989)

pH: 6.0 – 6.5 (normal)

Total Phosphorus: 0.01 ± 0.005 mg/l (MOE “Lake Partner Program” 1998 data)

M.E.I.: 3.3

“Guide to eating fish”: Restrictions on walleye, bass and perch consumption refer to the current Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish.

Fisheries:

Game Fish Species: Lake Whitefish, Northern Pike, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, Yellow Perch.
(Note: In 2001, Black Crappie reported present in Beaver and Crawford Lakes – connected to Ahmic Lake. Confirmed present in Ahmic Lake in 2002.)

Other species present: Cisco, White Sucker, Brown Bullhead, Burbot, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smelt

Exotic Species: Zebra Mussel (viligers) and spiny water flea reported in 1998.

Stocking Record: 1991 Walleye 12,243 2 month
1990 Walleye 22,895 2 month
1988 Walleye 13,270 2 month
1987 Walleye 2,338 fingerling

- 8,450 Smallmouth bass fingerlings stocked between 1922 and 1960. Unknown if these were introductory plantings or supplemental.
- 50,000 walleye fry and 950,000 walleye eyed eggs stocked between 1921 and 1954.
- Rainbow trout stocked between 1959 and 1964.
- Lake trout planted between 1924 and 1930. Unsuccessful introduction.

Stress Type: Invasive Species (98)

Use Type: Snowmobile Trail, Recreation, Recreational Fishing, Tourism Based Industry (3)

Summary of Fisheries Studies / Reports:

McIntyre, E. 2002. 2002 Annual **CFIP report** for Almaguin Fish Improvement Association – **Index walleye spawners and egg culture program** – Magnetawan River (Ahmic Lake, Cecebe Lake and Poverty Bay) 6p.

- 150 walleye captured in two successive nights of fishing effort using an 8' trapnet
- 3 black crappie captured (first conclusive documentation of species presence)
- Fry planting 657,700 Ahmic and Cecebe Lakes

McIntyre, E. 2001. 2001 Annual C.F.I.P. Report for the Almaguin Fish Improvement Association – **Walleye Index Spawners and Culture Program**, Magnetawan River (Ahmic Lake, Cecebe Lake and Poverty Bay)

- 385 walleye captured in two successive nights of fishing effort using an 8' trapnet
- Mean length of male walleye – 55 cm; females – 66 cm.
- Fry planting locations & number: Ahmic Lake – 100,000 fry; Cecebe – 100,000; Poverty Bay – 100,000

McIntyre, E. 2000. Annual C.F.I.P. Report for the Almaguin Fish Improvement Association – **Walleye Culture Program** – Magnetawan River (Ahmic, Cecebe and Poverty Bay) 4 p. + addendum and maps

- 715 walleye captured in three successive night of fishing effort using an 8' trapnet
- Mean length of male walleye: - 53.4 cm.; females – 64.1 cm.
- Approximately 1.5 million fry planted at 28 locations in Ahmic Lake, Cecebe Lake and Poverty Bay.

McIntyre, E 1998. Ahmic Lake **Walleye Spawning Population Assessment**

- Conducted at the Village of Magnetawan during the Spring of 1998
- Walleye C.U.E. – 206 per net night
- Note: Age class gap observed in years 2 – 6 (1992 – 1996)

OMNR, 1993. Unreported by analyzed data (Creesys Summary) for presumed random, roving **creel survey** conducted on Ahmic Lake during the **summer of 1993**.

- Observed (surveyed) fishing effort: 1,507 angler hours
- Estimated total fishing effort: 12,458 angler hours (7.9 angler hours / hectare; moderate pressure)
- Estimated Catch: walleye – 40, n. pike – 306, smallmouth bass – 3,040, largemouth bass – 367, perch – 1507, brown bullhead – 54, rock bass – 1468, pumpkinseed – 239, yellow.
- Estimated Harvest: walleye – 33, n pike – 33, smallmouth bass – 811, largemouth bass – 130, yellow perch – 889.

Summary of raw data relating to **walleye index spawners** program at the Village of Magnetawan

- 1993 – Effort: 1 net night (8' trapnet) ; Catch: 553 walleye
- 1992 – Effort: 2 “ ; Catch: 1,163 walleye
- 1991 – Effort: 1 “ ; Catch: 643 walleye
- 1990 – Effort: 1 “ ; Catch: 190 walleye
- 1989 – Effort: 6 “ ; Catch: 55 walleye
- 1988 – Effort: 1 “ ; Catch: 525 walleye
- 1987 – Effort: 6 “ ; Catch: 799 walleye

Sober, L.L. 1988. **Trap net survey** of the Ahmic Lake Fish Community conducted June 30 – July 22, 1987.

- Walleye C.U.E. 6.6 fish per net night (49 - 8' trapnet sets) (abundance slightly above average)
- Walleye year class structure showed variable recruitment
- Presence of smelt may be constraining walleye production
- Smallmouth bass C.U.E. – 3.7 fish per net night (8' trapnet) (abundance slightly below average)

Paus, R.M. 1984. 1983 Inland Lake Fishery Assessment Program: **Trap and Gill Netting Results** from Ahmic Lake, June 13 – June 30.

- Walleye C.U.E. – 5.6 per net night (8' trapnets) (abundance – average)
- Smallmouth bass C.U.E. – 2.8 per net night (abundance – below average)
- Catch composition of all trap nets by weight: walleye – 64.1%, northern pike – 6.1%, smallmouth bass – 11.9%, common white sucker – 9.2%, other – less than 9%.
- Mean age of walleye – 7.8 yrs.; sample size: 187
- Mean age of smallmouth bass – 5.9 yrs; sample size: 157

MacMillan, M.A. 1985. The **1983 Summer Creel Census** on Ahmic Lake, Neighick and Crawford Lakes, Parry Sound District.

- Creel period: May 21 – Sept. 30, 1983
- Estimated 30,935 rod hours of total angler effort expended. 44% occurred in July.
- Smallmouth bass E.U.C. 1.7 angler hours E.U.H. 5.6 angler hours
- Walleye E.U.C. 75.0 angler hours E.U.H. 131.3 angler hours
- Pike E.U.C. 18.3 angler hours E.U.H.
- (E.U.C. – “Effort per unit Catch”; E.U.H. – “Effort per unit Harvest (Kept)”)
- Estimated harvest: 3575 smallmouth bass (1598 kg.)
162 walleye (228 kg.)
545 northern pike (436 kg.)
1821 yellow perch (191 kg.)
951 ‘other’ species

Kujala, K.H. 1980. **Renovation of Magnetawan Village Pickerel Spawning Areas** – Parry Sound District.

- Spawning bed enhancement work conducted at Magnetawan dam by Junior Rangers during the summer of 1979.

OMNR, 1971. **Creel census 1971** (found on Ahmic Lake file).

- Creel period: June – Sept. 1971.
- 911.5 walleye angler hours surveyed – 47 walleye caught for E.U.C. of 19.4 angler hours per walleye.
- 465.0 ‘bass’ angler hours surveyed – 159 ‘bass’ caught for E.U.C. of 2.9 angler hours per ‘bass’.
- 515.5 ‘other’ angler hours surveyed – 80 ‘other’ fish species caught for E.U.C. of 6.4 angler hours per ‘other’ species caught.

Walden, F.A. 1949. **Management of the Fishery of the Magnetawan River System –**
Limnology and Fisheries Management of Ahmic Lake. Parry Sound Forest
District Biological Studies Number 2. 49 p.

- This report is too extensive to be adequately summarized here. Contents include Introduction, Geography, Physiography and Geology, Biological survey, Biological Characteristics and Fishery. Report available at Parry Sound District Office, Parry Sound Area fisheries files – Binder “A” – Fish Survey reports.

Management Prescription:

Manage as a natural, self-sustaining warm and cool-water fishery (walleye, bass, pike). No rehabilitation or special regulations required at this time.