



## PARRY SOUND AREA LAKE SUMMARIES



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### Doe Lake

*Created: April 03*

*Revised: June 03*

#### **Location:**

**MNR District:**..... Parry Sound  
**Geographic Township:** ..... Ryerson, McMurrich, Armour & Perry  
**Municipal Township:** ..... Ryerson, McMurrich/Monteith, Perry & Burk's Falls  
**Watershed:** ..... Magnetawan River  
**Angling Division:** ..... 15

#### **Basin and Terrain Characteristics:**

**Lake Survey Year:** ..... 1972  
**Surface Area:**..... 1,187.9 hectares  
**Maximum Depth:** ..... 22.9 meters  
**Mean Depth:** ..... 5.9 meters  
**Perimeter:** ..... 34.3 km  
**Island shoreline:** ..... 1.4 km  
**Littoral Zone:** ..... 65%  
**Thermal Regime:** ..... Cool  
**Shoreline Development:** ..... 175 Cottages, 11 Resorts  
**Access Points:** ..... Road  
**Water Level:** ..... Regulated – Watts Dam  
**Crown Land:** ..... 0% 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:** 2.1 meters  
**Colour:** Yellow Brown

**Dissolved Oxygen:****Alkalinity:** 17.1 mg/l - Level 3 Moderately Sensitive (MOE, 1989)**pH:** 6.0**Total Phosphorus:** Average 0.004 mg/l main lake, 0.008 to 0.016 mg/l south end**M.E.I.:** 4.3

**“Guide to eating fish”:** Restrictions on walleye, smallmouth bass and Northern pike. Refer to the current “Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish”.

**Fisheries:**

**Game Fish Species:** Whitefish (1988), Northern Pike (1998), Smallmouth Bass (1998), Yellow Perch (1988), Walleye (1998), Rock Bass (1998), Lake Trout (1963)

**Other species present:** Cisco (1998), Brown Bullhead 1998), Pumpkinseed (1998), Burbot (1958), White Sucker (1998)

**Exotic Species:**

**Stocking Record:** 1971 Smallmouth Bass 10,000 fingerling  
1970 Smallmouth Bass 7,000 fingerling  
1963 Lake Trout 2,000 yearling  
1962 Lake Trout 1,000 yearling  
1960 Lake Trout 1,000 yearling  
1959 Lake Trout 1,000 yearling  
1958 Lake Trout 1,000 yearling  
1957 Lake Trout 2,000 fingerling  
1956 Lake Trout 2,000 yearling  
1955 Walleye 150,000 eggs  
1955 Lake Trout 1,000 3 month  
1955 Smallmouth Bass 200 fingerling  
1954 Lake Trout 2,000 yearling  
1954 Smallmouth Bass 300 fingerling  
1953 Smallmouth Bass 300 fingerling  
1953 Smallmouth Bass 250 fingerling  
1953 Walleye 200,000 egg  
1953 Lake Trout 3,000 (?)  
1952 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerling  
1952 Lake Trout 2,000 fingerling  
1952 Walleye 200,000 egg  
1951 Smallmouth Bass 300 fingerling  
1951 Lake Trout 3,000 fingerling  
1951 Walleye 4500,000 egg  
1950 Smallmouth Bass 400 fingerling  
1949 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerling  
1948 Walleye 500,000 fry  
1948 Smallmouth Bass 1,000 fingerling  
1947 Walleye 500,000 fry  
1947 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1946 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerling  
1946 Walleye 300,000 egg  
1945 Smallmouth Bass 10,000 fry  
1945 Walleye 1,000,000 egg

1944 Walleye 500,000 egg  
1943 Smallmouth Bass 10,000 fry  
1943 Walleye 250,000 fry  
1942 Walleye 250,000 fry  
1942 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1941 Walleye 200,000 fry  
1941 Smallmouth Bass 1,000 fingerling  
1940 Walleye 320,000 fry  
1940 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fingerling  
1939 Walleye 100,000 fry

**Stress Type:**

**Use Type:** Recreation, Recreational Fishing, Snowmobile Trail, Tourism Based Industry

### Summary of Fisheries Studies / Reports:

McIntyre, E. 1998 1998 Doe Lake **Synoptic Trap-net Survey Report**

- Survey consisting of 33-8' trapnet sets was conducted on Doe Lake during the late summer of 1998. Similar surveys have previously been conducted in 1982 and '88.
- Over-all fish productivity (35.8 kg. of fish per net night) was exceptionally high relative to similar surveys previously conducted in the Parry Sound Area.
- Walleye and smallmouth bass were dominant in the fish community. These species comprised 35 and 31% of the total catch biomass respectively.
- All indices (CUE-no, CUE-wt; size and age class distribution; growth rate) point to an exceptionally healthy and robust walleye population; largely similar to results observed in previous studies.
- Smallmouth bass have experienced considerable expansion between this and previous studies.
- Catch-Per-Unit-Effort (CUE) in terms of both number and biomass for smallmouth bass indices point to a healthy and robust population.
- Indices of northern pike population indicate that the population has remained stable between surveys.

McIntyre, E. 1996 **Fisheries Site Inspection Report**

- Regulated water regime should favour walleye reproduction.
- Try to minimize the drop in water level during walleye incubation.
- Recommends, to the extent possible, the water level be reduced to 295.00 decreasing to 294.5 until May 31<sup>st</sup> then dropping to the 293.96 maintenance level.
- Possible suitable shoreline spawning shoals rehabilitation opportunity exists.
- Recommends completing spawning shoals reconnaissance to pinpoint spawning beds

Sober, L.L. 1989 Results of the **Doe Lake Creel May 21 – Sept. 28, 1988**

- Intensive, random, roving, stratified creel design – 5 areas

- Estimated total angling effort: 33,152 angler hours. This represents very intense fishing pressure of 27.9 angler hours per hectare for only a 4-month period.
- Estimated catch: walleye 6564, smallmouth bass 765, northern pike 561
- Estimated harvest: walleye 2,964, smallmouth bass 246, northern pike 279
- Observed EUC (effort per unit catch): walleye 5.4, smallmouth bass 3.6, n. pike 8.4
- Observed EUH (effort per unit harvest): walleye 10.7, smallmouth bass 10.7, pike 18.1
- Walleye harvest estimate of 1,636 kg exceeded recommended annual yield by 1.6 times. Annual mortality estimated at 42.6%. Both parameters (and fishing pressure) point to high potential of over-exploitation.

Sober, L.L. 1988 **Results of a trap netting project** conducted on Doe Lake August 9-31 1988

- Trapnet survey consisting of 60-overnight sets using 4, 6 and 8' trapnets.
- Total catch weight of 1,556 kg. comprised of: 29% brown bullhead, 26% walleye, 16% common white sucker, 12% smallmouth bass, 7% pumpkinseed, 5% northern pike and 5% other.
- Walleye abundance was exceptionally high. Size class structure of walleye sample indicates good recruitment with sustainable levels of mortality.
- CUE-no values for 33-8' trapnet sets: walleye 13.4, smallmouth bass 7.1, northern pike 0.7, brown bullhead 31.5, common white sucker 5.3, pumpkinseed 10.0, rock bass 6.2
- There was no significant change in species abundance between this and the 1982 trap net survey.

Rivers, B. 1988 **Doe Lake Spring Walleye**

- Magazine article providing a lake summary and spring walleye fishing locations.

MacMillan, M.A. 1985 **Results of a trap and gillnetting program** conducted on Doe Lake (McMurrich, Ryerson, Armour Townships), August 8 to 20, 1982.

- Trapnet survey consisting of 27-overnight sets using 4, 6 and 8' trapnets; also 4-overnight gillnet sets using 'standard lake survey gill nets'
- From trapnets: Total catch weight of 343.7 kg comprised of 37.1% walleye, 21.9% brown bullhead, 19% smallmouth bass, 11.6% common white sucker, 5.2% northern pike, other 5%.
- CUE-no values for 10-8' trapnet sets: walleye 12.3, smallmouth bass 6.2, northern pike 0.8. These indices of relative abundance suggest Doe Lake supports a good population of walleye and smallmouth bass.
- Walleye mean age 3.8 years. Age class structure of walleye and northern pike indicates these populations are largely comprised of young fish and these populations may be subject to heavy exploitation.

### **Management Prescription:**

Manage as a cool water fishery.

