



PARRY SOUND AREA LAKE SUMMARIES



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Gord Pollock, Broker

Century 21 Granite Properties Ltd Brokerage
33 James Street, Parry Sound, Ontario P2A 1T6

Business: 705-746-2158 , Fax: 705-746-4746

Residence: 705-746-4816 , Cell: 705-774-0955

Website: www.gordpollock.com Email: gord@gordpollock.com

Harris Lake (Wallbridge)

Created: October 03

Revised:

Location:

MNR District:..... Parry Sound
Geographic Township: Wallbridge, Harrison & Burton
Municipal Township: Unincorporated
Watershed:
Angling Division: 15

Basin and Terrain Characteristics:

Lake Survey Year: 1969
Surface Area:..... 363.4 hectares
Maximum Depth: 18.3 meters
Mean Depth: 4.3 meters
Perimeter: 44.4 km
Island shoreline: 4.2 km
Littoral Zone: 77%
Thermal Regime: Cool
Shoreline Development: 175 Cottages (1985)
Access Points:
Water Level: Outlet Dammed
Crown Land: 66% 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: 3.3 meters (1973)
Colour: Yellow/Brown

Dissolved Oxygen:**Alkalinity:** 27.4 mg/l - Level 3 Moderately Sensitive (MoE, 1989)**pH:** 5.9 (1996)**Total Phosphorus:** 12.5 ug/l (MoE, 1987)**M.E.I.:** 9.4

“Guide to eating fish”: Restrictions for Largemouth Bass. Refer to the current “Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish”.

Fisheries:

Game Fish Species: Smallmouth Bass (2000), Walleye (2000), Lake Whitefish (2000), Northern Pike (2000), Largemouth Bass (1994)

Other species present: Cisco (2000), White Sucker (2000), Rock Bass (1998), Yellow Perch (1994), Burbot (1961), Brown Bullhead (2000), Pumpkinseed (2000)

Exotic Species: Zebra Mussel (1998)

Stocking Record: 1998-00 Walleye 3,000,000 eyed eggs
1971 Smallmouth Bass 1,000 fingerling
1963 Smallmouth Bass 2,000 fingerling
1961 Smallmouth Bass 1,000 fingerling
1953 Smallmouth Bass 300 fingerling
1953 Walleye 200,000 eyed eggs
1952 Smallmouth Bass 600 fingerling
1949 Smallmouth Bass 400 fingerling
1948 Walleye 200,000 eggs
1948 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerling
1947 Walleye 200,000 eyed eggs
1947 Smallmouth Bass (?)
1945 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerling

Stress Type: Invasive Species

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

Summary of Fisheries Studies / Reports:

McIntyre, E. 2001. 2001 Annual **CFIP Report** Harris Lake and South Magnetawan River Cottage Association Walleye Culture Program

- Commencing April 23, 2001, a 6' trapnet was set by Association members at the same site as the previous three years. The location is indicated on Figure 1, in an area locally known as “Pike Alley”, about 800 meters northeast of the CNR railway trestle in Burton Township.
- Walleye spawn was stripped from ripe females and fertilized on site with ripe males present in the daily catch. Egg collection and fertilization methods were according to the Ministry's *Walleye Culture Manual*. Walleye eggs were incubated at the Association's fish hatchery located at Harris Lake Marina.

- The Association reported collecting 1,605,000 walleye eggs and planting that amount as newly hatched fry at nine sites

McIntyre, E. 2000. 2000 Annual **CFIP Report** Harris Lake and South Magnetawan River Cottage Association Walleye Culture Program

- Commencing April 15, 2000, a 6' trapnet was set by Association members at the same site as the previous two years. The location is indicated on Figure 1, in an area locally known as "Pike Alley", about 800 meters northeast of the CNR railway trestle in Burton Township.
- Walleye spawn was stripped from ripe females and fertilized on site with ripe males present in the daily catch. Egg collection and fertilization methods were according to the Ministry's *Walleye Culture Manual*. Walleye eggs were incubated at the Association's fish hatchery located at Harris Lake Marina.
- The Association reported collecting 415,000 walleye eggs and planting that amount as newly hatched fry at four sites.

McIntyre, E. 1997 **South Magnetawan River** (Harrison, Wallbridge, Burton and Brown Townships) **Synoptic Trapnet Survey Report** June & July 1994.

- 80 trapnet sets on S. Branch of Magnetawan R.
- % of total catch biomass of 655 kg: walleye – 18.9%; smallmouth bass - 16%; largemouth bass - 2.9%; northern pike - 12.1%
- relative abundance indices (CUE) low for all species and similar to those observed on Harris Lake
- bio-sampling analysis suggests sustainable levels of reproduction and moderate levels of mortality

McIntyre E. & B. Brown, 1997 Harris Lake **Synoptic Trapnet Survey Report**, 1994

- 54 trapnet sets on Harris Lake portion of the S. Magnetawan
- common white sucker comprised 50% of the netted biomass
- walleye, small mouth bass, largemouth bass, and northern pike comprise 14.4%, 4.7%, 7.1% and 7.2% respectively
- walleye CUE low at 1.9 ± 1.1 walleye per 8 foot trapnet night
- smallmouth bass CUE low at 1.4 ± 1.1 walleye per 8 foot trapnet night
- largemouth bass and northern pike CUEs moderate at 4.8 ± 3.3 and 2.8 ± 3.3 fish per 6 foot trap net night
- although in low numbers, game fish populations appear stable and sustainable as indicated by size distribution which shows moderate levels of exploitation and consistent albeit low levels of productivity

Environmental Report, 1996 **Environmental Committee** of Harris Lake & South Magnetawan Cottagers Association

- 130 (74%) of 175 dwellings inspected by MOE had substandard septic systems. Water

quality rated Level 2 by MOE but was Level 1 fifteen years previous. Water quality degradation primarily attributed to washing.

MNR 1988 Letter to File

- Several private individuals spent 15 hours cleaning spawning beds with fire pumps. Exact location is not specified.

McIntyre, E. 1987 Summary report of an **investigation of a walleye spawning site** on the south branch of the Magnetawan River (Brown Township)

- Description of hydrology and influences of existing and potential water control structures in the vicinity of the Magnetawan River between Miner and Trout Lakes. Photos and description of walleye spawning site at Crooked Rapids on the South Magnetawan River.

MNR 1960 – 1976 Intensive Creel Survey

- 1976 - 7.5 rod hours yielded 1 northern pike; walleye sought
- 1975 - 10.0 rod hours yielded 0 fish; anything sought
- 1974 - 22 rod hours yielded 4 northern pike & 1 largemouth bass; anything sought
- 1973 - 12 rod hours yielded 1 smallmouth bass & 1 yellow perch; anything sought
- 1967 - 24 rod hours yielded 1 northern pike
- 1966 - 142.5 rod hours yielded 10 northern pike & 12 walleye
- 1965 - 24 rod hours yielded 7 smallmouth bass and 7 northern pike
- 1963 - 12 rod hours yielded 1 walleye
- 1962 - 136 rod hours yielded 15 northern pike and 11 smallmouth bass
- 1960 - 72 rod hours yielded 1 northern pike and 8 walleye

Management Prescription: