



## PARRY SOUND AREA LAKE SUMMARIES



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### Shawanaga Lake

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*Revised:*

#### **Location:**

**MNR District:**..... Parry Sound  
**Geographic Township:** ..... Hagerman, Ferguson & East Burpee  
**Municipal Township:** ..... Whitestone & McDougall  
**Watershed:** ..... Shawanaga River  
**Angling Division:** ..... 15

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

**Lake Survey Year:** ..... 1975  
**Surface Area:**..... 220 hectares  
**Maximum Depth:** ..... 17.7 meters  
**Mean Depth:** ..... 5.8 meters  
**Perimeter:** ..... 23.7 km  
**Island shoreline:** ..... 2.4 km  
**Littoral Zone:** ..... 60%-  
**Thermal Regime:** ..... Cool  
**Shoreline Development:** ..... 35 Cottages, One Resort  
**Access Points:** ..... Road (Public)  
**Water Level:** ..... Not Regulated  
**Crown Land:** ..... 80% 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:** 3.8 meters (1996)  
**Colour:** Yellow/Brown

**Dissolved Oxygen:****Alkalinity:** 6.8 mg/l - Level 3 Moderately Sensitive (MoE, 1989)**pH:** 7.0**Total Phosphorus:** 8.5 ug/l (MoE, 1993)**M.E.I.:** 4.8**“Guide to eating fish”:** No Information**Fisheries:****Game Fish Species:** Walleye (1979), Smallmouth Bass (1998), Lake Trout (1983), Northern Pike (1998), Yellow Perch (1983), Largemouth Bass (1998)**Other species present:** Cisco (1983), White Sucker (1998), Rock Bass (1998), Pumpkinseed (1998), Iowa Darter, Johnny Darter, Brown Bullhead (1961)**Exotic Species:****Stocking Record:** 1979 Northern Pike 131 adults  
1959 Walleye 1,215 fingerling  
1959 Walleye 955 fingerling  
1958 Walleye 50 fingerling  
1956 Walleye 600,000 eyed eggs  
1954 Walleye 1,000,000 eggs  
1954 Lake Trout 1,500 yearlings.  
1953 Walleye 1,000,000 eggs  
1952 Walleye 1,000,000 eggs  
1951 Walleye 300,000 eggs  
1951 Smallmouth Bass 300 fingerling  
1950 Walleye 300,000 eggs  
1950 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1949 Walleye 200,000 eggs  
1948 Walleye 200,000 fry  
1947 walleye 200,000 fry  
1947 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1946 Walleye 150,000 eyed eggs  
1946 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerling  
1945 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1944 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1944 Smallmouth Bass 800 fingerling  
1944 Walleye 250,000 eyed eggs  
1943 Smallmouth Bass 1,000 fingerling  
1943 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1943 Walleye 250,000 fry  
1942 Walleye 300,000 fry  
1941 Walleye 200,000 fry  
1941 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1941 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1940 Walleye 300,000 fry  
1940 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1939 Walleye 100,000 fry  
1939 Smallmouth Bass 100 5 - 8”

**Stress Type:**

**Use Type:** Recreation, Recreational Fishing

**Summary of Fisheries Studies / Reports:**

Palmer, Thompson & McIntyre 1999 Shawanaga Lake **Synoptic Trap-net Survey Report 1998**

- A synoptic trap net survey consisting of eleven 8' trap-net sets was conducted on Shawanaga Lake from July 27 - 31, 1998.
- Northern Pike dominated the near-shore fish community, comprising approximately 67% of the total fish biomass caught in the survey. Smallmouth bass, pumpkinseed, largemouth bass, common white sucker, and rock bass comprised 20%, 8%, 2%, 2% and 1% respectively of the total catch weight of 116.7 kilograms.
- The Catch-Per-Unit-Effort (CUE) for northern pike was  $3.0 \pm 3.93$  (95% confidence interval); the highest for any synoptic trap-net survey conducted in the Parry Sound Area from 1982 - 1998. Smallmouth bass CUE was  $3.6 \pm 2.07$  (95% c.i.); slightly below the average (4.1) for numerous (N=25) similar surveys conducted in the Parry Sound Area. The CUE for largemouth bass was  $0.4 \pm 0.34$  (95% c.i.), suggesting this species is of low abundance.
- The northern pike population appears very healthy and robust; a clear indication that the 1979 introduction of northern pike has been highly successful. Although smallmouth bass abundance is 'moderate', the population appears healthy with successful reproduction and recruitment as well as a satisfactory representation of older age fish.
- Insufficient data was collected to comment on the status of the largemouth bass population.

Hoyle, J. 1983 **Northern pike assessment** - Shawanaga Lake, Hagerman Township. OMNR

- Gear/Effort: 3 - 4' trap nets, 1 - 6' trap net (total 16 trap net sets), and 4 gill nets sets
- Trap Net Catch: 162 rock bass; 89 pumpkinseed; 6 smallmouth bass; 4 largemouth bass; 20 white sucker; 3 (+2 caught in wing) northern pike. Biomass: white sucker 33%; rock bass 25%; pumpkinseed 17%; northern pike 15%.
- Gill net catch: 37 white sucker; 45 rock bass; 2 yellow perch; 10 pumpkinseed; 1 smallmouth; 120 cisco
- All pike were large and deemed to be from original 1979 planting. Absence of reproduction suggests at this time, that self-sustaining pike population has not been established.

Baldwin, R.W. 1979. **Introduction of northern pike** to Shawanaga Lake, Hagerman Twp. Parry Sound District 1979.

- Details the planting (transfer) of 132 adult northern pike to Shawanaga Lake in 1979.

Thurston, L.D.W. 1978. **Comparison of eight bass fisheries** in the Parry Sound Forest District.

- 21 net nights (18 net locations) of fishing effort - all 4' trap nets
- Catch: 10 largemouth bass; 67 smallmouth bass; 26 pumpkinseed; 162 rock bass; 5 brown bullhead; 35 yellow perch; 1 walleye; 179 white sucker

- Thurston attributed the small population of smallmouth bass to inadequate spawning habitat, a lack of food and cover and morphology of the lake with its small littoral area.

**Management Prescription:**