



PARRY SOUND AREA LAKE SUMMARIES



Brought to you compliments of:

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Whitestone Lake

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Revised:

Location:

MNR District:..... Parry Sound
Geographic Township: Hagerman & Croft
Municipal Township: Whitestone & Magnetawan
Watershed:
Angling Division: 15

Basin and Terrain Characteristics:

Lake Survey Year: 1974
Surface Area:..... 698.2 hectares
Maximum Depth: 19.2 meters
Mean Depth: 5.3 meters
Perimeter: 65.2 km
Island shoreline: 8.4 km
Littoral Zone: 64%
Thermal Regime: Warm
Shoreline Development: 287 Cottages, 4 Resorts (1974); 600 properties (1997)
Access Points: Road (Public)
Water Level: Not Regulated
Crown Land: 10% 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: 2.4 meters; 3.5 (1996); 3.6 – 3.8 (1998)
Colour: Yellow/Brown

Dissolved Oxygen:**Alkalinity:** 20.5 ug/l – Level 3 Moderately Sensitive (MoE, 1989)**pH:** 7.5; 6.4 – 6.7 (1998)**Total Phosphorus:** 10.0 to 12.0 ug/l (1998) a peak of 28 ug/l was observed in July 1998**M.E.I.:** 6.0

“Guide to eating fish”: Restrictions for smallmouth bass and walleye refer to the current “Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish”

Fisheries:

Game Fish Species: Northern Pike (1982, Unauthorized), Yellow Perch (1982), Smallmouth Bass (1982), Walleye (1998), Largemouth Bass (1982), Black Crappie (1986, Unauthorized), Lake Trout (1970)

Other species present: White Sucker (1982), Common Shiner, Bluntnose Minnow, Brown Bullhead (1982), Rock Bass (1998), Pumpkinseed (1998)

Exotic Species:

Stocking Record: 1997 Walleye 200 5 month RV clip
1996 Walleye 20,000 5 month RV clip
1970 Lake Trout 2,000 yearling
1956 Walleye 150,000 eggs
1954 Smallmouth Bass 200 fingerling
1954 Walleye 200,000 eggs
1953 Walleye 300,000 eggs
1951 Walleye 300,000 eggs
1950 Walleye 400,000 eggs
1948 Walleye 200,000 fry
1947 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry
1947 Walleye 200,000 fry
1946 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerling
1946 Walleye 300,000 eggs
1945 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry
1944 Walleye 500,000 fry
1944 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry
1943 Walleye 250,000 fry
1943 Smallmouth Bass 10,000 fry
1942 Walleye 500,000 fry
1942 Smallmouth Bass 10,000 fry
1941 Walleye 300,000 fry
1941 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry
1940 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry
1940 Walleye 300,000 fry
1939 Smallmouth Bass 100 5 to 8 inches
1939 Walleye 300,000 eggs
1938 Walleye 150 or 200 adult

Stress Type:

Use Type: Recreation, Snowmobile Trail, Recreational Fishing

Summary of Fisheries Studies / Reports:

MacDonald & Bard 1997 A Report of Whitestone Lake, The **Cottage Pollution Control Program**, Summer of 1997

- 454 properties sewage systems were inspected
- 23 sites failed inspection and there were a total of 60 potential problems
- The 23 failed inspections required action by the Ministry of Environment
- The problems discovered were generally in the older developments

McIntyre, E. 1997. **Progress report on the walleye (spawning adults) index-netting program** for Whitestone Lake, Spring 1996.

- Spring 1996 - Spawning, Index Trap-Net Project:
- Nil catch at Staley's Creek (walleye access blocked by beaver dam)
- At "Bridge Site"(Hwy 124) - CUE 27.6 walleye per net night
- Observed spawning population comprised of small fish
- 86% of the walleye sampled were less than 1.4 kg (3 pounds).
- Mean age of female spawner: 7.0 yrs; 5.7 yrs. for males.

MNR 1983. Raw Data on File: **Creel survey**

- A duplicate of the 1982 creel survey was also conducted in 1983.
- Total estimated effort: 26, 450 angler hours (37.9 angler hrs. / ha.; down considerably from 1982 but still exceptionally high fishing pressure)
- Harvest estimate: 1,010 northern pike, 1,118 smallmouth bass & 1,480 walleye.
- Fishing quality for species anglers (i.e. anglers fishing for specific species): Walleye: 11.1 angler hours to catch a walleye, Smallmouth bass: 4.6 angler hours to catch a bass & Northern Pike: 10.3 anglers hours to catch a pike
- (fishing quality had decreased substantially from previous year)

Thurston, L.D.W. 1983. **Results of a trap and gill net survey** conducted on Whitestone Lake (Hagerman Township) during the summer of 1982

- During the summer of 1982 a trap net (59 sets) and gill net (8 sets) study was conducted by the MNR.
- Species composition by weight in the trap net catch (432 kg. total) was: walleye 37%, smallmouth bass 25%, common white sucker 14%, northern pike 11%, rock bass 9% and other (y. perch, largemouth bass, brown bullhead and pumpkinseed combined) 4.5%. Community composition appeared to be healthy, - dominated by sport fish with moderate levels of intermediate predators and coarse fish species.
- Walleye C.U.E. was 11.2 fish per 8' trapnet set - in the top 25th percentile for lakes similarly surveyed in the Parry Sound Area (up to 2001)
- Mean age in the trap net catch were: walleye - 3.3 years, smallmouth bass - 4.8, northern pike - 1.6 years. The age class structure for walleye suggests heavy exploitation - few old fish, but good reproduction and recruitment - an abundance of young fish.
- Cisco (95%), walleye (2.4%) and common white sucker (2.6%) comprised the gill net catch of 48 kg.

McCrudden, C. and L. Thurston. 1984. **1982 open water creel census** Whitestone Lake – Hagerman Township.

- The creel estimated 39,250 angler hours of fishing effort (57.3 rod hours per hectare). (Exceptionally high fishing pressure.)
- Estimated Angler harvest: walleye - 2028 (1055 kg.), northern pike - 1262 (1058 kg.), smallmouth bass - 1513 (968 kg.) & yellow perch - 1357 (370 kg).
- The above harvests exceed the recommended yields by: northern pike 2.2 times, bass 2.6 times, walleye 1.7 times and yellow perch 1.5 times. This indicates a fishery in the early-intermediate stage of over-exploitation: high fishing effort and high yield.
- Effort per unit catch: (Exceptionally good fishing quality): Walleye - 8.48 anglers hours to catch a walleye, Smallmouth bass - 1.96 angler hours to catch a smallmouth bass & Northern pike - 3.76 angler hours to catch a northern pike

Kujula, K.H. 1974 **Cleaning pickerel spawning beds** in Parry Sound District 1973

- A spawning bed on Stanley's Creek was cleaned using fire pumps (approximately 600 square feet)

Management Prescription:

- Walleye catch limit of two (2) which must be less than 35.6 cm (14 in.) in length.