



## PARRY SOUND AREA LAKE SUMMARIES



Brought to you compliments of:

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](http://www.gordpollock.com) Email: [gord@gordpollock.com](mailto:gord@gordpollock.com)

### Buck Lake

*Created: June 03*

*Revised: Feb. 04 (EM)*

#### **Location:**

MNR District:..... Parry Sound  
Geographic Township: ..... Stisted, McMurrich  
Municipal Township: ..... McMurrich/Monteith  
Watershed: ..... North Muskoka River  
Angling Division: ..... 15

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

Lake Survey Year: ..... 1973  
Surface Area:..... 265.7 hectares  
Maximum Depth: ..... 23.5 meters  
Mean Depth: ..... 9.9 meters  
Perimeter: ..... 11.3 km  
Littoral Zone: ..... 35%  
Shoreline Development: ..... 54 Cottages, 1 Resort  
Access Points: ..... Road  
Water Level: ..... Not regulated (i.e. no dams)  
Crown Land: ..... 0% Shoreline

#### **Water Quality:**

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

**Secchi reading:** 1.6 meters

**Colour:** Yellow Brown  
**Alkalinity:** 13.7 mg/l – Level 3 Moderately Sensitive (MOE, 1989)  
**pH:** 6.25  
**M.E.I.:** 2.0

**“Guide to eating fish”:** Restrictions for Smallmouth, Largemouth Bass and Northern Pike, refer to the current “Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish”.

## **Fisheries:**

**Game Fish Species:** Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Walleye, Black Crappie (first documented 2002)

Brook Trout have been reported present, but probably remnants from Buck Creek to the north.

**Other species present:** Cisco, White Sucker, Common Shiner, Brown Bullhead, Horney Head Chub, Pumpkinseed

**Introduced Species:** Lake trout and rainbow trout have been stocked in the past on a *Put-Grow-Take* basis. They are no longer present in the lake. It is unknown if early smallmouth bass plantings were supplemental or introductory stocking events.

**Stocking Record:** 2001 Walleye 1,000 5 month (Private)  
2000 Walleye 1,025 5 month (Private)  
1999 Walleye 11,000 3 month (Private)  
1998 Walleye 500 5 month (Private)  
1998 Walleye 5,000 3 month (Private)  
1971 Lake Trout 6,000 yearling  
1970 Lake Trout 7,000 yearling  
1969 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fingerling  
1967 Smallmouth Bass 10,000 fingerling  
1965 Rainbow Trout 4,000 yearling  
1964 Rainbow Trout 4,000 yearling  
1963 Rainbow Trout 5,000 yearling  
1963 Lake Trout 1,000 yearling  
1963 Smallmouth Bass 70 adult  
1962 Lake Trout 1,000 yearling  
1961 Lake Trout 1,000 yearling  
1960 Smallmouth Bass 1,000 fingerling  
1960 Lake Trout 1,000 yearling  
1959 Smallmouth Bass 1,100 fingerling  
1958 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerling  
1958 Lake Trout 2,000 yearling  
1957 Lake Trout 2,000 fingerling  
1956 Lake Trout 3,000 yearling  
1955 Smallmouth Bass 200 fingerling  
1955 Lake Trout 2,000 (?)  
1954 Smallmouth Bass 155 5 to 11 inch  
1954 Lake Trout 1,700 yearling  
1953 Smallmouth Bass 300 fingerling

1953 Lake Trout 2,000 fingerling  
1952 Smallmouth Bass 30 adult  
1951 Smallmouth Bass 500 fingerling  
1950 Smallmouth Bass 400 fingerling  
1948 Smallmouth Bass 1,000 fingerling  
1947 Smallmouth Bass 1,000 (?)  
1940 Brook Trout 1,200 yearling  
1939 Brook Trout 3,200 yearling

## Summary of Fisheries Studies / Reports:

McIntyre, E. 2002. Buck Lake **Synoptic Trapnet Survey**, September 2002

A synoptic trapnet survey was conducted on Buck Lake (Geographic Townships of McMurrich and Stisted) during September of 2002. Purpose of the survey was to assess the status of the near-shore fish community and to evaluate survival success of recent experimental walleye plantings.

We compared results with 18 other lakes similarly and recently (since 1994) surveyed in the Parry Sound Area. Relative to our comparative lakes database, Buck Lake had the lowest over-all fish productivity as measured by *Catch-Per-Unit-Effort by weight (CUE-wt)* for all species combined.

Virtually all the fish caught in this survey were top-predator game fish. We interpret the complete absence of non-game and forage fish species as a negative indicator of an unusual and unbalanced fish community. (Typically unbalanced fish communities are dominated by less desirable coarse and non-game fish species.)

Relative abundance indices for smallmouth bass were 'well below average' and for northern pike 'about average'. Indices of walleye abundance were 'below average'. Considering the walleye population is the result of recent experimental plantings, we considered it inappropriate to make direct comparisons with surveyed lakes containing natural, self-sustaining walleye populations. We surmised that probably 21 out of 22 walleye we captured were from experimental plantings made between 1998 and 2001. We considered the observed abundance of planted walleye to be indicative of highly successful plantings in terms of survival, but it is premature to comment on whether or not these plantings may eventually lead to a natural, self-sustaining walleye population of any consequence.

This survey represents the first record of black crappie being present in Buck Lake. We consider this a negative development with respect to promoting a natural, self-sustaining walleye population in the lake.

## Management Prescription:

- Manage as a natural, self-sustaining walleye, pike, crappie, largemouth bass and smallmouth bass fishery.
- No exceptions to fishing regulations.