



## PARRY SOUND AREA LAKE SUMMARIES



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### Issabella Lake

*Created: October 03*

*Revised:*

#### **Location:**

**MNR District:**..... Parry Sound

**Geographic Township:** ..... Christie

**Municipal Township:** ..... Seguin

**Watershed:** .....

**Angling Division:** ..... 15

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

**Lake Survey Year:** ..... 1971

**Surface Area:**..... 178.9 hectares

**Maximum Depth:** ..... 14.6 meters

**Mean Depth:** ..... 5.9 meters

**Perimeter:** ..... 11.9 km

**Island shoreline:** ..... 2.1 km

**Littoral Zone:** ..... 65%

**Thermal Regime:** ..... Cool

**Shoreline Development:** ..... 60 Cottages (1974)

**Access Points:** ..... Road (Public)

**Water Level:** ..... Regulated – Influenced by control dams

**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:** 3.1 meters

**Colour:** Yellow/Brown

**Dissolved Oxygen:****Alkalinity:** 20.5 – Level 3 Moderately Sensitive (MoE, 1989)**pH:** 6.0**Total Phosphorus:****M.E.I.:** 3.5

**“Guide to eating fish”:** Restrictions for Walleye and Northern Pike refer to the “Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish”.

**Fisheries:**

**Game Fish Species:** Northern Pike (1971), Smallmouth Bass (1984), Yellow Perch (1984), Walleye (1987), Largemouth Bass (1983), Lake Trout (1981, Anecdotal)\*, Rainbow Trout (2000)

\* - Most likely flushed from Little Seguin (Duck) Lake

**Other species present:** Whitefish, Cisco, Rainbow Smelt (1983), White Sucker (1984), Log Perch (1983), Rock Bass (1984), Pumpkinseed (1984), Brown Bullhead (1984)

**Exotic Species:** Spiny Water flea (1993)

**Stocking Record:** 2000 Rainbow Trout 2,000 8 to 10 inch  
1995 Walleye 14,053 5 month fingerling  
1988 Walleye 10,370 3 month fingerling  
1979 Walleye 2,000,000 eyed eggs  
1957 Smallmouth Bass 300 fingerling  
1955 Walleye 150,000 eyed eggs  
1955 Smallmouth Bass 200 fingerling  
1953 Smallmouth Bass 400 fingerling  
1953 Walleye 300,000 eyed eggs  
1952 Walleye 200,000 eyed eggs  
1951 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1951 Walleye 200,000 eyed eggs  
1950 Smallmouth Bass 400 fingerling  
1949 Walleye 200,000 eyed eggs  
1948 Walleye 200,000 fry  
1947 Walleye 210,000 fry  
1944 Walleye 200,000 eyed eggs  
1943 Walleye 100,000 fry  
1941 Walleye 100,000 fry  
1941 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1940 Walleye 300,000 fry  
1939 Smallmouth Bass 5,000 fry  
1939 Walleye 300,000 fry

**Stress Type:** Invasive species, Water Draw-down

**Use Type:** Recreation, Recreational Fishing, Community Fishery

**Summary of Fisheries Studies / Reports:**

McIntyre, E. 2001 Parry Sound Area 2001 Fall **Walleye Index Netting** (FWIN) Interim Report

- In comparison to other sampled Parry Sound lakes, Isabella has a low abundance of Walleye, a average abundance of Northern Pike and a high abundance of Smallmouth Bass

Blythe and Associates 1998 **Synoptic Trapnet Survey**

- White sucker represented the largest percentage of biomass caught (38.4%) followed by smallmouth bass (27.4%), Northern pike (23.6 %), Rock Bass (4.0%), Walleye (3.4%), Brown Bullhead (2.7%) and Pumpkinseed (0.32%).
- Northern Pike, Rainbow Smelt, Yellow Perch and Rock Bass introductions likely impacting walleye populations.
- Report author recommends discontinuing walleye stocking, consider managing as a smallmouth bass and northern pike fishery, consider a lake stewardship program to address nutrient loading and reassess lake in 5 to 7 years.

Furchner, B. 1984 Isabella Lake **Electroshocking Report**

- Electroshocking was conducted along the near-shoreline covering approximately 70% of the total shoreline.
- No walleye were captured.
- Low oxygen levels observed below 8m in depth

Hoyle, J. 1983 **Walleye Assessment**

- Although walleye comprised the highest percentage of biomass caught an absence of younger fish may indicate a lack of spawning success.

Kujula, K. H. 1981 **Pickrel History and Management** in Isabella Lake and the **Probable Influence of Acidification**

- Trapnetting indicated age classes from 4 to 13 are present in the lake indicating spawning successful spawning has occurred but abundance is low.
- The author attributes poor reproduction likely due the low PH in the spawning sites.
- Enhancement work to date has included silt removal, rubble and limestone placement and lowering of the spawning beds.

MNR Raw Data on File: **Intensive Creel Survey** 1963, 1972, 1977 & 1978

- 1978 – 2 man hours yielded 0 fish: pike sought
- 1977 – ½ man hours yielded 0 fish: pike sought
- 1972 – 18 man hours yielded 0 fish: pickerel sought
- 1963 – 16 man hours yielded 8 pickerel & 1 smallmouth bass fish

**Management Prescription:**