

*Natural. Valued. Protected.*

Lake Fact Sheet – Parry Sound District

# Poverty Bay

**Location:**

**MNR District:** ..... Parry Sound  
**Geographic Township:** ..... Croft  
**Municipal Township:** ..... Magnetawan  
**Watershed:** ..... Magnetawan River  
**Fisheries Mgmt Zone:** ..... 15

**Basin and Terrain Characteristics:**

**Lake Survey Year:** .....  
**Surface Area:** ..... 77.8 hectares (1985)  
**Maximum Depth:** .....  
**Mean Depth:** .....  
**Perimeter:** .....  
**Island shoreline:** .....  
**Littoral Zone:** .....  
**Shoreline Development:** .....  
**Access Points:** ..... Public access by road  
**Water Level:** ..... Not Regulated; however does receive flow from OMNR dams immediately upstream. Waterway subject to considerable seasonal fluctuation

**Water Quality:**

**Secchi reading:**  
**Colour:**  
**Alkalinity:**  
**pH:**  
**Total Phosphorus:**  
**M.E.I.:** ..... 9.2 (1985)

**“Guide to eating fish”:** Fish in watersheds draining into Georgian Bay generally have high levels of mercury. This is due to natural, high background levels of mercury present in the watershed – not man-made contamination. A precautionary approach to fish consumption is recommended. We recommend you search the guide for an alternate area in your watershed (i.e. Magnetawan River) and apply those consumption guidelines to Poverty Bay. Extra caution should be exercised by women of child-bearing age and for children.

The *Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish* is available electronically at: [www.ene.gov.on.ca](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca).

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### Fisheries:

**Game Fish Species:** Walleye, Northern Pike, Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass, Burbot, Yellow Perch

**Other species present:** White Sucker, Brown Bullhead, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass

**Introduced Species:**

**Stocking Record:** The lake is not currently being stocked.

### Summary of Fisheries Studies / Reports:

#### McIntyre, E. 1999 **Synoptic Trapnet Survey**

- The catch averaged 13.31 kilograms of fish per net set. This level of productivity is considered “average” relative to similar synoptic trapnet surveys conducted throughout the Parry Sound Area.
- Game fish (walleye, northern pike, smallmouth and largemouth bass) comprised approximately 70% of the total catch weight of 98.285 kilograms. Coarse fish (common white sucker and brown bullhead) comprised approximately 29% and pan fish (pumpkinseed and rock bass) 1%. This catch composition is also “average” for similar Parry Sound Area surveys.
- Even though the catch was dominated by smallmouth bass in terms of number (37.5%), the biomass or weight of walleye (19.6%), smallmouth bass (30.6%), largemouth bass (22.2%) and white sucker (22.4%) in the catch were fairly similar.
- Community composition appears to have changed considerably since the last synoptic trapnet survey conducted in 1979. Largemouth bass were non-existent in the 1979 survey, but a major component of the catch in 1999. Rock bass were also common in 1999 but absent in the 1979 survey. Conversely, yellow perch were common in the 1979 survey but absent in 1999. A single burbot was also caught in 1979 but none in this survey.
- Walleye abundance in Poverty Bay is low (C.U.E. 2.3 walleye per trapnet set) relative to 25 similar surveys conducted in the Parry Sound Area (average walleye C.U.E. 4.1). Walleye abundance may have decreased marginally relative to the 1979 survey. Differences in methodology prevent direct comparisons between the two studies however. Biosampling data indicate ‘fair’ levels of recruitment in recent years.
- Smallmouth bass abundance is among the highest in the Parry Sound Area (C.U.E. 13.1). Recruitment levels are very high and the population appears in ‘excellent’ condition. Although not directly comparable, there appears to be a considerable increase in the number of smallmouth bass relative to the 1979 survey.
- Largemouth bass abundance is ‘good’; also with ‘good’ recruitment levels.
- Northern pike abundance is ‘very low’ and probably down from those observed in 1979.

#### MNR 1979 **Synoptic Trapnet Survey**

- The survey utilized 4 and 6 foot trapnets for a total of 16 sets.
- Raw data on file which is not directly comparable to current synoptic trapnet methods.

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### Management Prescription:

- Manage as a natural, self-sustaining bass, pike and walleye fishery
- No exceptions to Sport Fishing Regulations – See Map C in Regulation Summary

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Refer to Lake Fact Sheet Interpretation document for explanation of content.

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