

*Natural. Valued. Protected.*

Lake Fact Sheet – Parry Sound District

# Clearwater Lake

Location	
Official Name: .....	Clearwater Lake
County/District: .....	Muskoka
Municipality: .....	Town of Gravenhurst
Lat./Long: .....	44.8072 N 79.2436 W
Topographic Map (1:50,000): .....	31D14
Local Names: .....	
Geographic Twp: .....	Morrison
MNR Admin. Area: .....	Bracebridge
UTM (NAD83): .....	17 638894 4963036
Drainage Basin: .....	Severn River

Physical Features		
Surface Area (ha): .....	70	Maximum Depth (m): .....
Elevation (m asl): .....	259	Perimeter (km): .....
Volume (10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ): .....	705	Watershed (km <sup>2</sup> ): .....
		(excludes area of lake)
		Mean Depth (m): .....
		Island Shoreline (km): .....
		Water Clarity (m): .....

Land Use and Development	
Crown Land (%): .....	60
Provincial Parks: .....	Kahshe Lake Barrens Conservation Reserve
Shoreline Development: .....	moderate; shoreline residential
Access: .....	private
Water Level Management: .....	not regulated

Fish Species	
Major Fish Species: .....	lake trout (I 1956), smallmouth bass, largemouth bass (I)
Other Fish Species: .....	cisco (lake herring), brown bullhead, rock bass (I), Iowa darter, pumpkinseed, yellow perch, sculpin
Other Species: .....	spiny water flea (I (2006))

Notes: E: extirpated, I: introduced – intentional or accidental, O: occasional, R: remnant, S: currently stocked, ?: status uncertain, 2009: year of first record or introduction if known, blank: presumed native

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### Fisheries Management

<i>Fisheries Management Zone:</i> .....	15
<i>Designation for Lake Trout Management:</i> .....	designated; natural reproduction; at development capacity
<i>Fishing Regulation Exceptions:</i> .....	lake trout open 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat in May – Sept. 30
<i>Current Stocking:</i> .....	none
<i>Historic Stocking (last year stocked):</i> .....	lake trout (1975)
<i>Contaminants (species tested):</i> .....	lake trout, smallmouth bass
<i>Assessment:</i>	<i>Completed Projects:</i>
	1955 lake survey
	1964 lake survey
	1971 lake survey
	1983 lake trout assessment and contaminant sampling
	1985 lake trout spawning assessment
	1998 Spring Littoral Index Netting (lake trout)

### Synopsis

The original Biological Survey completed in 1955 indicates that lake trout were not native to Clearwater Lake. It was recommended at that time that a lake trout introduction be attempted. Lake trout were stocked in the following year, and this continued until 1975 at which time the lake was removed from the stocking list because of concerns over public access. The stocking was successful in establishing a naturalized self-sustaining population. Results from a recent SLIN in 1998 suggest the lake trout population is small and comprised mainly of large, naturally-reproduced adults. The absence of small lake trout may be the result of poor recruitment due to limited juvenile habitat and competition/predation with the lake herring population.

The water quality in Clearwater Lake is adequate to support a lake trout population. The oxygen-temperature profile indicates that there is a considerable amount of habitat that is suitable for lake trout during the summer months.

No creel surveys have ever been completed on Clearwater Lake. A 1983 Lake Trout Assessment Report indicated that exploitation levels were light on the basis of conversations with anglers. Conversations with cottagers in the summer of 1994 indicated that this trend continued. However, given the small size of the lake and limited habitat, the lake trout population is not able to sustain much harvest. Beginning in 2010, winter fishing for lake trout will be prohibited in order to help maintain some resilience in the population.

Updated: September 2009

Refer to Lake Fact Background Information document for explanation of content.

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