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Lake Fact Sheet – Parry Sound District

Rebecca Lake

Location

Official Name: Rebecca Lake Local Names:
 County/District: Muskoka Geographic Twp: Sinclair
 Municipality: Township of Lake of Bays MNR Admin. Area: Bracebridge
 Lat./Long: 45.4306 N 79.0353 W UTM (NAD83): 17 653685 5032660
 Topographic Map (1:50,000): 31E06 Drainage Basin: Big East River

Physical Features

Surface Area (ha): 213 Maximum Depth (m): 29 Mean Depth (m): 8
 Elevation (m asl): 356 Perimeter (km): 13.6 Island Shoreline (km): 0.4
 Volume ($10^4 m^3$): 1700 Watershed (km^2): 34.3 Water Clarity (m): 4.2
 (excludes area of lake)

Land Use and Development

Crown Land (%): 5 Provincial Parks: none
 Shoreline Development: high; commercial resort, shoreline residential,
 Access: public; via boat from informal launch on Bella Lake on Fieldale Rd
 Water Level Management: not regulated

Fish Species

Major Fish Species: lake trout (S), lake whitefish, brook trout (E?), smallmouth bass (I), burbot
 Other Fish Species: rainbow smelt (I 1967), white sucker, pumpkinseed, cisco, brown bullhead
 yellow perch, rock bass (I)
 Other Species: spiny water flea (I 2004)

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

Fisheries Management Zone: 15

Designation for Lake Trout Management: designated; put-grow-take; at development capacity

Fishing Regulation Exceptions lake trout open all year

Current Stocking: lake trout; put-grow-take – natural reproduction is not expected
..... stocked every second year with yearlings

Historic Stocking (last year stocked): brook trout (1969)

Contaminants (species tested): lake trout, smallmouth bass

Assessment:

Completed Projects:

1959	biological survey report
1971	lake survey
1982	lake trout population assessment
1985	lake trout spawning observations
1991	lake trout spawning observations
2005	Summer Profundal Index Netting (target lake trout)
2007	MOE contaminant sampling
2013	winter creel survey

Water chemistry profiles are collected on a regular basis

Synopsis

Lake trout and brook trout were probably the native sport fish species of Rebecca Lake.

The 1982 lake trout assessment concluded that water chemistry and biological properties were not suitable for supporting a lake trout fishery. It was recommended that lake trout should not be stocked. While it is true that there was no indication of natural recruitment, subsequent temperature-oxygen profiles indicate that there is sufficient habitat to support a put-grow-take population. Also, the low netting success for lake trout in 1982 may have been a result of the limited lake trout stocking in proceeding years. Since the lake was last stocked with lake trout in 1977 with only 67 fish and 1000 in 1965 it is no wonder the netting success was so poor. Accordingly, lake trout stocking resumed on Rebecca Lake in 1994 on a put-grow-take basis. The open season for lake trout was extended to open all year in 1999.

The 2013 winter survey found that fishing effort was moderately low and only one fishing hut was present. Despite the restrictive slot size limit, neighbouring Bella Lake received somewhat higher relative fishing effort reportedly due to real or perceived greater fishing success. Netting done on Bella Lake has found that a significant number of lake trout stocked into Rebecca Lake, emigrate to Bella Lake, potentially interacting with the native lake trout population.

Updated: 2014

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

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