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Lake Fact Sheet – Parry Sound District

Pickrel Lake

Location	
<i>Official Name:</i>Pickrel Lake	<i>Local Names:</i> Armour Lake
<i>County/District:</i> Parry Sound	<i>Geographic Twp:</i>Armour and Proudfoot
<i>Municipality:</i> Township of Armour	<i>MNR Admin. Area:</i> Bracebridge
<i>Lat./Long:</i>45.6831 N -79.3050 W	<i>UTM (NAD83):</i> 17 631995 5060231
<i>Topographic Map (1:50,000):</i>31E11	<i>Drainage Basin:</i> North Magnetawan River

Physical Features		
<i>Surface Area (ha):</i>520	<i>Maximum Depth (m):</i>38	<i>Mean Depth (m):</i>8.5
<i>Elevation (m asl):</i>320	<i>Perimeter (km):</i>14.8	<i>Island Shoreline (km):</i>0
<i>Volume (10⁴ m³):</i>4420	<i>Watershed (km²):</i>260 (excludes area of lake)	<i>Water Clarity:</i>2.9

Land Use and Development	
<i>Crown Land (%):</i> 6	<i>Provincial Parks:</i> none
<i>Shoreline Development:</i>	Moderate; shoreline residential, commercial resorts
<i>Access:</i>	Public; there are public access points but they are not developed; small boat access is possible. Access is available through resorts.
<i>Water Level Management:</i>	Not regulated

Fish Species	
<i>Major Fish Species:</i>	walleye (I 1939), northern pike (I 1953), cisco (lake herring), smallmouth bass (I 1941), brook trout (E)
<i>Other Fish Species:</i>	brown bullhead, yellow perch, burbot, pumpkinseed, rock bass (I 2007), white sucker, golden shiner, bluntnose minnow, trout-perch
<i>Other Species:</i>	spiny water flea (2011)

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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Pickereel Lake

Fisheries Management

<i>Fisheries Management Zone:</i>	15
<i>Designation for Lake Trout Management:</i>	not designated
<i>Fishing Regulation Exceptions:</i>	North Magnetawan River – Armour, Proudfoot and Strong Twps., from the bridge between Lots 30 and 31 in Strong Twp. to Pickereel Lake; fish sanctuary – no fishing from Apr. 1 – Fri. before 3rd Sat. in May
<i>Current Stocking:</i>	None
<i>Historic Stocking (last year stocked):</i>	smallmouth bass (1965), walleye (1955)
<i>Contaminants:</i>	Species tested: northern pike, walleye, smallmouth bass
<i>Assessment:</i>	Completed Projects:
	1962 biological survey
	1973 lake survey
	1982 contaminant sampling
	1988 walleye population assessment (trap netting)
	1991-92 walleye spawning observations
	2007 Fall Walleye Index Netting
	2011 Broad-scale Monitoring

Synopsis

The composition of the native fish community of Pickereel Lake is not well documented. Brook trout probably occurred and may have been the only major sport fish species native to the lake. Walleye were introduced beginning in 1939. The habitat is well suited to walleye in the form of relatively low water clarity due to large amounts of dissolved carbon originating from the large watershed. Walleye are now the dominant sport fish species in the lake. Assessments in 1988 and 2007 found a healthy walleye population with a good range of sizes and ages represented. Walleye growth is quite slow for smaller fish but they do have the potential to grow to large sizes due to the presence of an abundant population of small cisco. Fishing effort and harvest have never been quantified, but are thought to be moderate, due, in part, to the poorly developed public access.

Pickereel Lake has been randomly chosen as a 'fixed' lake for the provincial Broad-scale Monitoring program. Sampling of a multitude of parameters is planned to contribute to the long term monitoring of walleye lakes in FMZ 15. Detailed results will be reported in FMZ data and interpretive reports at the end of each five year cycle. A sampling bulletin is available.

Several species not previously documented were caught in the lake in 2011. Golden shiner, bluntnose minnow and trout-perch as probably native. The spiny water flea is an invasive zooplankton species that has a major impact on the native zooplankton community.

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Updated: 2012

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

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