

*Natural. Valued. Protected.*

Lake Fact Sheet – Parry Sound District

# Loon Lake

Location	
<i>Official Name:</i> ..... Loon Lake	<i>Local Names:</i> ..... Pevensey Lake
<i>County/District:</i> ..... Parry Sound	<i>Geographic Twp:</i> .....Proudfoot
<i>Municipality:</i> ..... Town of Kearney	<i>MNR Admin. Area:</i> .....Bracebridge
<i>Lat./Long:</i> .....45.669 N -79.219 W	<i>UTM (NAD83):</i> ..... 17 638714 5058771
<i>Topographic Map (1:50,000):</i> .....31E11	<i>Drainage Basin:</i> ..... Magnetawan River

Physical Features		
<i>Surface Area (ha):</i> .....156	<i>Maximum Depth (m):</i> ..... 26.2	<i>Mean Depth (m):</i> .....7.1
<i>Elevation (m asl):</i> .....412	<i>Perimeter (km):</i> ..... 8.0	<i>Island Shoreline (km):</i> .....0.1
<i>Volume (10<sup>4</sup> m<sup>3</sup>):</i> .....1108	<i>Watershed (km<sup>2</sup>):</i> ..... 37 (excludes area of lake)	<i>Water Clarity:</i> .....6.5

Land Use and Development	
<i>Crown Land (%):</i> ..... 10	<i>Provincial Parks:</i> ..... none
<i>Shoreline Development:</i> .....high; shoreline residential	
<i>Access:</i> .....public; informal launch with limited parking at dam	
<i>Water Level Management:</i> .....regulated; water level is controlled by MNR-owned and operated dam. .....Flows and levels are governed by the Magnetawan River ..... Water Management Plan (draft 2009)	

Fish Species	
<i>Major Fish Species:</i> ..... lake trout, brook trout (R), round whitefish, yellow perch, .....smallmouth bass (I), burbot, white sucker	
<i>Other Fish Species:</i> ..... creek chub, rainbow smelt (I 2012)	
<i>Other Species:</i> .....	

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; put-grow-take; at development capacity
<i>Fishing Regulation Exceptions:</i> .....	No lake-specific exceptions (2009)
<i>Current Stocking:</i> .....	None; lake trout stocking was suspended after 2005 plant ..... to assess ability to support self-sustaining population
<i>Historic Stocking (last year stocked):</i> .....	brook trout (1964); lake trout (2005)
<i>Contaminants (species tested):</i> .....	lake trout
<i>Assessment:</i>	<b>Completed Projects:</b>
	1969 lake survey
	1982 lake trout assessment
	1982 contaminant sampling
	1984 lake trout spawning observations and shoal mapping
	1991 winter creel survey
	1993 lake trout spawning observations
	2004 Spring Littoral Index Netting (lake trout)
	Dissolved oxygen profiles are collected on a regular basis

### Synopsis

Loon Lake provides fair habitat for lake trout in that, although the average late summer hypolimnetic dissolved oxygen is fairly good, the volume of deep water nursery habitat is limited. Lake trout stocking began in 1974, presumably due to a limit amount of natural recruitment occurring.

The 1982 assessment found that 70% of lake trout were of hatchery origin and continuation of lake trout stocking was recommended. It was believed that most natural trout were emigrants from Grass Lake, although there is no direct evidence of movement between the two lakes.

In contrast, the 2004 SLIN captured 10 lake trout of which only two were marked. It seemed unlikely that emigration of that magnitude from Grass Lake could be occurring; or if it was, then perhaps the lakes should be managed as a single unit. Regardless, there seems to be a significant presence of naturally reproduced fish. Further, the water quality is reasonable; close to the 7 ppm dissolved oxygen criterion, such that fair to good natural recruitment should be possible. Based on these results, it was decided to temporarily suspend supplemental stocking, which may be having a negative impact on the natural fish, until further information could be collected.

An anecdotal report was received in 2012 that rainbow smelt are present in the lake. The report was verified in 2014. The illegal introduction of smelt is unfortunate in that it may impact reproduction of lake trout and round whitefish through predation on or competition with the young of both species.

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Management recommendations for Loon Lake include:

1. Conduct tagging to determine the degree of movement and population affiliation between Loon and Grass Lake.
2. Suspend supplemental stocking.
3. Consider a regulation change that will provide enhanced protection to the native population but also recognizes the distribution of angling effort on nearby lakes.
4. Maintain the current position that Loon Lake is 'at-capacity' based on late summer dissolved oxygen levels.
5. Monitor the abundance of naturally reproduced lake trout
6. Change lake trout population designation to 'natural' if it is determined that the population is able to sustain itself.

Updated: 2014

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

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