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Lake Fact Sheet – Parry Sound District

Clear Lake

Location

Official Name:	Clear Lake	Local Names:	Schamerhorn Lake
County/District:	Parry Sound	Geographic Twp:	Perry
Municipality:	Township of Perry	MNR Admin. Area:	Bracebridge
Lat./Long:	45.505 N -79.261 W	UTM (NAD83):	17 635841 5040554
Topographic Map (1:50,000):	31E11	Drainage Basin:	Magnetawan River

Physical Features

Surface Area (ha):	110	Maximum Depth (m):	28	Mean Depth (m):	7.9
Elevation (m asl):	351	Perimeter (km):	8.4	Island Shoreline (km):	1.5
Volume (10 ⁴ m ³):	869	Watershed (km ²):	2.6	Water Clarity (m):	5.4
		(excludes area of lake)			

Land Use and Development

Crown Land (%):	10	Provincial Parks:	none
Shoreline Development:	Intense; shoreline residential		
Access:	public; boat launch is located off of Hwy 592		
Water Level Management:	not regulated		

Fish Species

Major Fish Species:	lake trout (E), burbot, splake (S), smallmouth bass (I), brook trout (R), northern pike (I 2009), largemouth bass (I 2018)
Other Fish Species:	rock bass (I 2010), brown bullhead, yellow perch, white sucker, pumpkinseed, rainbow smelt (I)
Other Species:	spiny water flea (I 2010)

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>	not designated
<i>Fishing Regulation Exceptions:</i>	no lake-specific exceptions
<i>Current Stocking:</i>	splake; put-grow-take – no natural reproduction expected;stocked every second year with yearlings
<i>Historic Stocking (last year stocked):</i>	brook trout (1952), smallmouth bass (1960), lake trout (1976), rainbow trout (2002)
<i>Contaminants (species tested):</i>	none
<i>Assessment:</i>	<i>Completed Projects:</i>
	1971 Lake survey
	1980 lake trout assessment
	1985 summer creel survey
	1985 splake stocking assessment
	2010 splake stocking assessment
	2012 splake stocking assessment
	2013 winter creel survey

Synopsis

Clear, or Schamerhorn Lake as it is locally known, is a small coldwater lake in Perry Township. Lake trout were native to the lake but the deep water habitat has probably always been marginal and the population small. Changes to the fish community, stocking, exploitation and possibly other stresses have probably extirpated the population.

Lake trout and splake stock assessments in the 80's resulted in the capture of only two lake trout of which at least one was the result of the stocking program. Rainbow trout and splake stocking in recent years appear to have had only marginal success. Creel data collected in the 80's suggest the majority of the fishing pressure is from summer bass fisherman with a few anglers setting up ice-huts and winter-fishing for trout.

The 2010 assessment caught only one splake, a large individual, confirming the stocking success has been marginal.

The 2010 project detected two new species in the aquatic community, rock bass and spiny water flea. A third species, northern pike, has been reported but none were caught in the test nets (nets did not target shallow water areas where pike, at least smaller individuals, most commonly). All three species can have a major impact on the food web and fish community structure.

In response to the 2010 assessment splake were stocked in the fall of 2011, instead of the spring in the hope that the larger fish size and stocking when warm water predators are becoming inactive would improve catches. Indeed, the 2012 assessment yielded much higher catches of splake. Subsequently, the 2013 winter survey recorded much increased fishing effort with as many as 9 huts being present and anglers reported much improved catches.

The lake is currently being managed as a put-grow-take splake fishery with standard open seasons and catch limits.

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In 2018, an angler reported catching largemouth bass in the lake. The report has not been verified.

Updated: 2019

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

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