



SPARROW LAKE

District of Muskoka Morrison Township

PHYSICAL DATA			
LATITUDE	44° 49'	LONGITUDE	79° 22'
SURFACE AREA	2777 acres	VOLUME	39,518 acre feet
HEIGHT ABOVE SEA LEVEL	698 feet	PERIMETER	23 miles
MAXIMUM DEPTH	38.0 feet	MEAN DEPTH	14.2 feet

ORIGIN OF NAME
Sparrow Lake was named around 1830 after a member of a land survey crew who drowned while crossing it by canoe.

LAKE CHARACTERISTICS
This relatively shallow lake does not thermally stratify but is well aerated by the Severn River which flows through it. At the time of the survey the oxygen levels ranged between 7 and 9 parts per million. The total dissolved solids levels are higher than usually found in this area, ranging from 110 to 146 parts per million. This together with numerous bays supporting abundant aquatic plants indicates that the lake is productive. The water could be considered neutral since pH readings vary from a slightly acidic 6.5 to a slightly alkaline 7.5. The water is moderately clear, with a Secchi disc reading of 8 feet.

FISH SPECIES PRESENT
Smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, yellow pickerel, northern pike, maskinonge, channel catfish, brown bullhead, yellow perch, rock bass, pumpkinseed, carp, white sucker, redhorse sucker, bowfin, trout-perch, bluntnose minnow, logperch, golden shiner.

FISHING
The lake is a very popular fishing area. West (Deep) Bay is a year-round fish sanctuary. Good catches of yellow pickerel are obtained at the mouth of the inlet, especially in the spring. During the summer there is relatively good fishing for yellow pickerel in the weed beds in McLean's Bay with early morning and early evening as the best time for angling. Many pike are caught at the entrance to West (Deep) Bay, around the islands, and in McLean's Bay at the north end. During the summer, maskinonge are caught around the islands and each year the odd large trophy "musky" is caught. Largemouth bass frequent McLean's Bay at the north end. The southern portion of the lake provides the best fishing for such pan fish as perch, sunfish and rock bass. Brown bullheads are angled for at night.

ACCESS AND FACILITIES
Because it is a part of the Trent Canal system with the Severn River as its main inlet and outlet, large cruisers and many small pleasure craft continually pass through the lake. Numerous rocky shoals, especially about the centrally located islands, are a hazard to boats, but the main channel is well marked by buoys. There is a large marina at the mouth of the inlet and the many lodges about the lake also have marine facilities and supplies. Access to the lake is by river or by the north and the south Sparrow Lake roads from Highway 11. The nearest town is Gravenhurst, approximately ten miles north on Highway 11.

SURVEY DATE — June 4-7, 1968
THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS VALID AS OF JUNE 1968.
CONDITIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.