



THE WHITE LAKE WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

General Delivery  
White Lake, Ontario KOA 3L0

## NEWSLETTER — 1985

### A MESSAGE FROM VIN WICKHAM (Chairman)

Your Executive Committee has seen fit to terminate my portfolio as Treasurer — a position I held for so many years that the date of my appointment is lost in memory. Now I find myself Chairman, replacing Norman Moore who has done gallant service in the recent years. Norman has carried out water sampling for some time and has kindly offered to continue this chore. We all offer him our thanks for his previous efforts and trust he will continue to help us.

Walter Taylor has been appointed Secretary/Treasurer and all donations should be addressed to him. (See Secretary's Report.)

Traditionally, the Committee has divided White Lake into fourteen areas, each served by an Area Representative. Mr. Brian Leafloor has volunteered to represent Area 14 and he will become a Committee member. Archie Graham co-ordinates area representation. Volunteers are always welcome.

Recently, I made up a list of questions to be put to the Ministry of Natural Resources at Carleton Place. As the answers given are extremely informative, I am appending the Ministry's reply, with permission, for your interest and comment.

Apart from typing and printing these newsletters, the greatest single chore is the distribution. With this in mind, it seemed to me that use should be made of this distribution to get other items, not necessarily to do with water quality, but of interest to recipients. For example, a short note on C.B. operation is included because C.B. contacts are important in emergencies.

### SECRETARY-TREASURER'S COMMENTS

This position is a combined one for the first time and your executive believes that it will be satisfactory.

Our finances are OK at present, and most of our donations, mainly from cottagers, sustain our needs, such as this newsletter. If you wish to donate to us, address your cheque or money order to White Lake Water Quality Committee, Attention: W. H. Taylor, Treas., 1253 Marygrove Ave., Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 2E1.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please talk to your area representative first. (See area map.) They in turn will bring it to our meetings for discussion. If unable to reach your representative, contact myself or your chairman.

### OTHER COMMENT

Many thanks to retiring members W. G. (Bill) Baker and Hans Winter for their many years of service to the W.L.W.Q.

Some concern has been expressed re acid rain effect on trees around White Lake cottage country and although this is not of direct concern to this Committee, it could be of serious consequences to cottagers if the effect on trees continues. Keep watch and report to your Environment Ministry as individuals, if you feel that the situation worsens.

Any cottager interested in edible fish caught in White Lake and other area lakes may get a bulletin on this from Game Clubs, beer stores, and of course, the Ministry of Natural Resources. (See reprint of letter for address.)

TAKE CARE AND ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!

Vin Wickman, Chairman



June 19, 1985

Mr. V. H. Wickham  
160 Elgin Street, Box 466  
Station "A"  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1N 8F3

White Lake

Dear Mr. Wickham:

Re: WHITE LAKE

The following is an attempt to answer your questions, or to put them into a fisheries perspective.

**Question A:** "Is ice fishing bad for the lake or is it of no major significance?"

**Answer:** Neither ice fishing nor open water fishing is detrimental to the lake as long as the total harvest for each species does not exceed annual production. In White Lake pickerel, pike and smallmouth bass are overharvested, while largemouth bass, perch and pumpkinseed are underharvested.

Ice fishing amounts to 15% of the annual fishing pressure on the lake. However, since ice fishing is directed solely towards pickerel and pike it is responsible for over 30% of the annual pickerel take and approximately 18% of the pike harvest.

**Question B:** "Is the encouragement of the pickerel fishing at the expense of bass fishing, or vice versa?"

**Answer:** Yellow perch are the species primarily affected by increasing pickerel stock. Other species impacted by pickerel are smallmouth bass and sunfish. The effect upon northern pike and largemouth bass is expected to be negligible.

In view of the fact that pickerel, as well as smallmouth bass are currently below the carrying capacity of the lake, no negative impacts of a pickerel population build-up are expected.

**Question C:** "Does the number of power boats and size of engines seriously injure the lake?"

**Answer:** A paper by Yousef, McLellon and Zebuth of the University of Central Florida, given in 1979 clearly showed an increase in turbidity and phosphorus as well as an increase in Lake productivity and chlorophyll "A", as a result of outboard motor activity.

**Question D:** "Is the lowering of the water levels in the lake from June 1 onwards improving the water quality?"

**Answer:** The water regime on White Lake has been moderated from the schedule of 1978, as lake shores and spawning substrate improved. The present rule curve is as follows:

April and May	5.0
June 15	4.5
July 1	4.0
July 15	3.75
August 1	3.5
September to March	3.0

Water quality is the mandate of, and is monitored by the Ministry of Environment. The Ministry of Natural Resources is concerned with the impact of water management on fish and fish habitat, particularly spawning substrate.

During the past 6 years calcareous algal growth on pickerel spawning beds has decreased visibly as a result of midsummer drawdowns.

Question E: "Is it (the water regime) increasing fish populations?"

Answer: Using the catch per net per day as an indicator, a picture emerges. (See attached table.)

Question F: "Are you (i.e., M.N.R.) concerned with the effect of improper waste disposal? Do you have any specific concerns?"

Answer: The Ministry of Natural Resources is directly concerned about improper waste disposal where this has a demonstrable impact upon fish, fish habitat, and public lands. In addition to waste management, the Ministry of Natural Resources is very much concerned about changes in land use, which may affect wildlife, wetlands or shorelines. Legislation controlling waste disposal is exercised by the Ministry of the Environment.

Question G: "Any specific questions on water quality?"

Answer: Basic water quality monitoring is carried out by the Ministry of the Environment through the "self-help" program. Information collected under this program is considered adequate to protect water quality for human use. Unfortunately the program may not always be adequate to protect the needs of fishes or other wildlife.

Comment: White Lake appears to have recovered significantly. Whether this recovery is due in its entirety to water level manipulation, or is caused partially by other factors remains yet to be determined. Please note that the overview presented remains to be confirmed when all survey information has been analyzed and interpreted.

Yours truly,



M. S. Millar  
District Manager  
Carleton Place District  
10 Findlay Avenue  
Carleton Place, Ontario  
K7C 3Z6  
Tel. 836-1237

Catch-Per-Unit-Effort (# fish/net day)  
During 1959, 1969, 1974, 1980 and 1985  
Trap Net Studies on White Lake

Species	1959	1969	1974	1980	1985
A) Gamefish	15.99	7.20	5.66	3.31	12.49
Walleye (Pickerel)	8.77	2.93	0.37	0.12	1.73
Northern Pike	3.85	2.76	2.63	0.98	6.07
Largemouth Bass	0.04	1.38	2.15	1.99	4.01
Smallmouth Bass	3.33	0.19	0.51	0.22	0.67
B) Non-Gamefish	241.32	110.40	58.15	33.50	71.34
Pumpkinseed	210.46	64.74	36.55	18.90	27.77
Yellow Perch	15.43	34.51	12.86	8.19	18.15
Br. Bullhead	13.43	8.47	5.50	4.62	20.67
W. Sucker	1.59	0.40	0.27	0.14	0.78
Rock Bass	0.41	2.28	2.97	1.65	3.93

## WHITE LAKE WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE 1985

### EXECUTIVE

Chairman	V. A. (Vin) Wickham	828-9549
Vice-Chairman	A. E. (Archie) Graham	733-1628
Secretary/Treasurer	W. H. (Walter) Taylor	225-3120
Area Co-Ordinator	A. E. Graham	733-1628 623-5283
Water Sampler	Norman Moore	733-1628

### COMMITTEE & AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Area #1	Bob Jackson	828-2562	623-6355
Area #2	Don Garrett	838-3853	623-6397
Area #3	Jack McFadyen		623-3247
Area #4	H. A. (Harry) Cinkant		623-3786
Area #5	Bill Sample	526-2114	623-6670
Area #6 & 7	J. S. (Jack) Reid		596-1591
Area #8	Archie Graham		733-1628
Area #9	W. H. (Walter) Taylor	225-3120	623-3590
Area #10	Armer Warwick		Windy Point, White Lake
Area #11	Roy Brule		623-3403
Area #12	R. (Bob) Crook		829-2550
Area #13	V. H. (Vin) Wickham		828-9549
Area #14	Brian Leafloor		828-5787

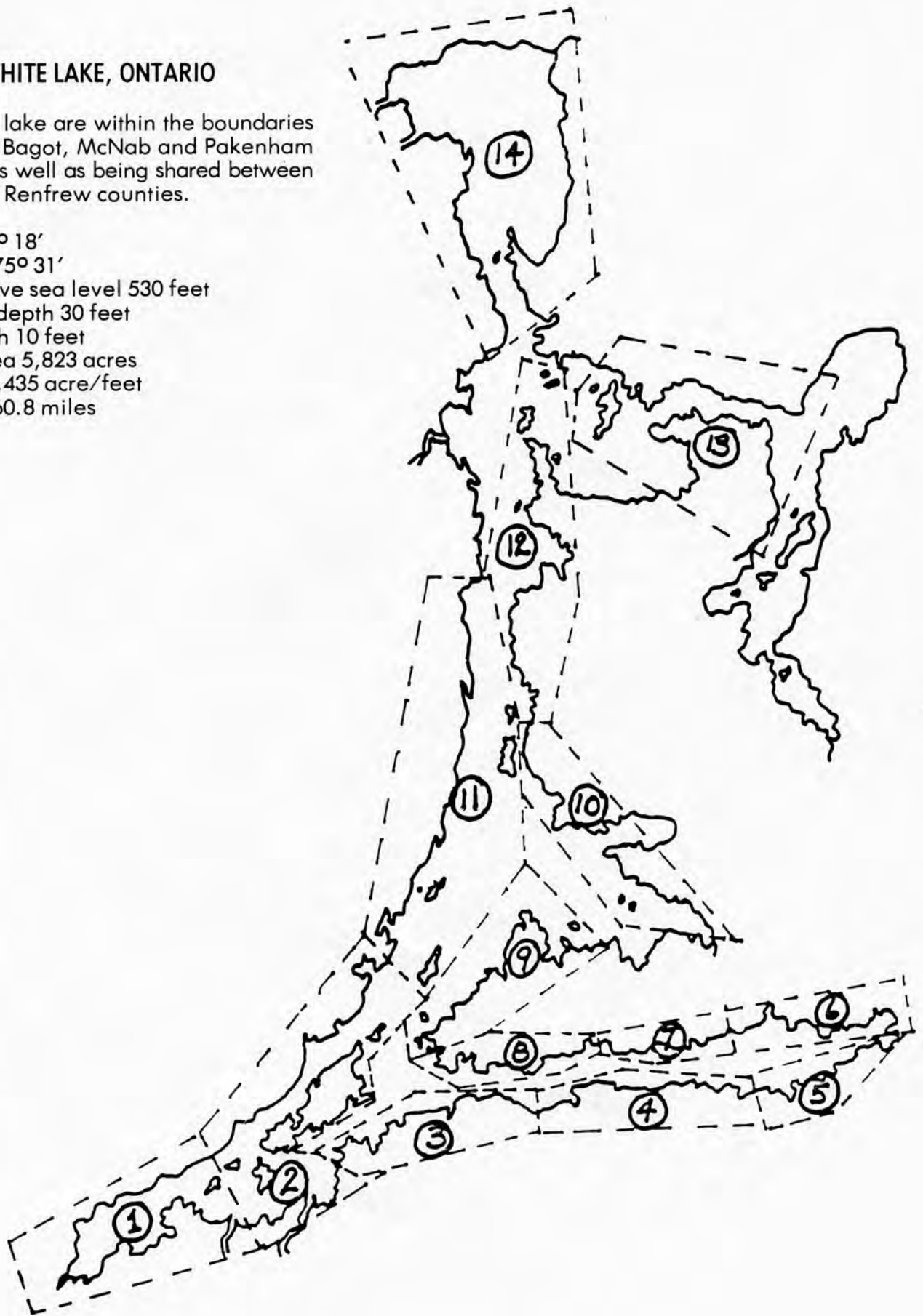
(Second telephone number indicates summer residence)

See adjacent Area Map.

## WHITE LAKE, ONTARIO

Parts of the lake are within the boundaries of Darling, Bagot, McNab and Pakenham townships as well as being shared between Lanark and Renfrew counties.

Latitude 45° 18'  
Longitude 75° 31'  
Height above sea level 530 feet  
Maximum depth 30 feet  
Mean depth 10 feet  
Surface area 5,823 acres  
Volume 59,435 acre/feet  
Perimeter 60.8 miles



## A SHORT NOTE TO C.B. OPERATORS ON WHITE LAKE

Many operators will be aware that C.B. communication on White Lake has been used several times in emergency situations.

Historically, **Channel 7** has been adopted as the **contact** channel on White Lake.

In order that adequate assistance in emergencies be available, it is necessary for a substantial number of C.B.'ers to have their "ears up" more or less continuously. Many are discouraged from doing this if Channel 7 is monopolized for non-stop chit-chat.

Consider the following:

- (a) One will hear a given caller paging someone else every fifteen minutes for hours only to have noting of consequence to say upon eventual contact.
- (b) Some callers will have the same chit-chat for every party they call. They forget that all others with their ears up have heard it all before.
- (c) Some operators monopolize "the air" for highly personal matter. Obviously, we don't want C.B.'ers to shut-down just to get a little peace and quiet. We want to continue the maintenance of an excellent emergency assistance set-up.

In view of the above, operators are requested to use Channel 7 only for contact purposes and to use other channels for messages.

(V.W.)