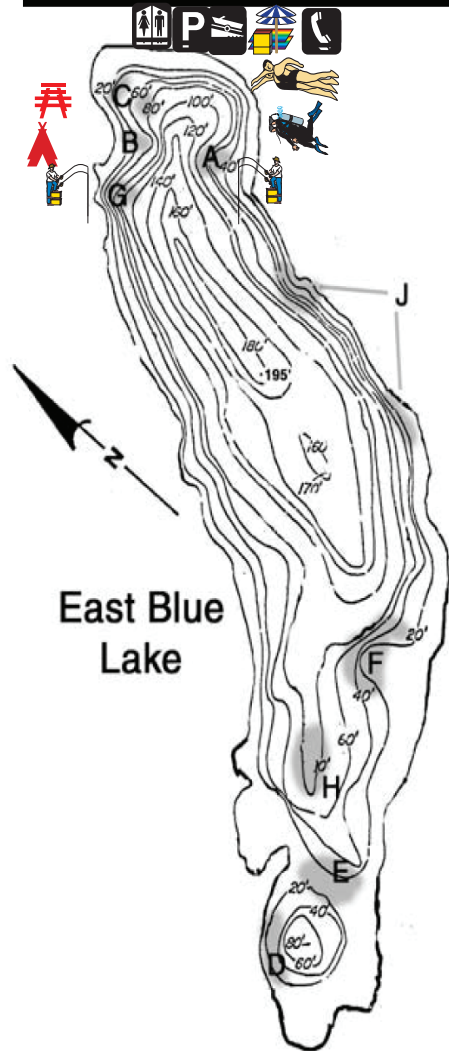


East Blue Lake



LOCATION:

Duck Mountain Provincial Park – Junction of Highways 366 and 367

MORPHOLOGY:

Max. Depth: 195 ft **Surface Area:** 200+ Acres

Length: 1.5 miles **Width:** 1/2 mile

Sechi: 10.7 m or 33.5 ft **Max Thermoclin:** N/A

Big 7 Status

East Blue is an oligotrophic lake harbouring temperatures that promote longevity in salmonids and a forage base to produce Manitoba records. It may well host one of the greatest but most unappreciated annual hex hatches found in the high plains.

Enhanced species are rainbows and splake.

Lake has a nuisance population of yellow perch. Very popular lake for shore fishers who tend to favour inflated nightcrawlers on Lindy Rigs. Water clarity can make fly fishing very difficult. Popular saying is that fish disappear in summer, but knowledgeable anglers know that fish have simply moved down slope and adjust their technique to match. Bait fishing drops off in June. Many fish the hex hatches, the emergence of *hexagenia limbata* may flies.

STARTING AREAS:

A - A sunken point. Very popular with shore fishers. Excellent spot to crawl a cased caddis, dragon or other nymph.

B - Similar to A

C - A bay with holes, weeds and interesting structure. Good in spring, fall and low light conditions. Much of the false spawn takes place on redds made here. Try a scud.

D - A broad sandy flat at the beaver house, an old structure. Trout patrol the area on occasion searching may flies, dragons, bloodworms or cased caddis. Excellent area to crawl a cased caddis across the bottom on a long sinking line.

E - A ridge between two basins. This is always an area of heavy backswimmer activity as well as a natural path between the two lake basins.

F - A point. The area toward shore is covered with chara and forms a broad flat. Associated forage attracts trout, especially during a chop. Forage ranges from scuds to bloodworms to dragon nymphs. Fish lanes and cleaner areas near weeds. Area immediately to the east forms an inside turn that often hosts schools of minnows.

G - An inside turn. Feeding fish in early spring often trap forage fish here. Many case caddis shucks can be observed on bottom. Emergence zone.

J - Point and shallows. Broad and gravel covered. False spawning can occur here. Fish will move in during a chop.

STARTING PATTERNS:

East Blue is a plankton lake and many prefer streamers and minnow emulating patterns. An olive Marabou Muddler can be excellent at times, as can a weighted white Muddler for deep fishing.

Many fish pumped reveal contents of bloodworms, gammarus scuds and cased caddis.