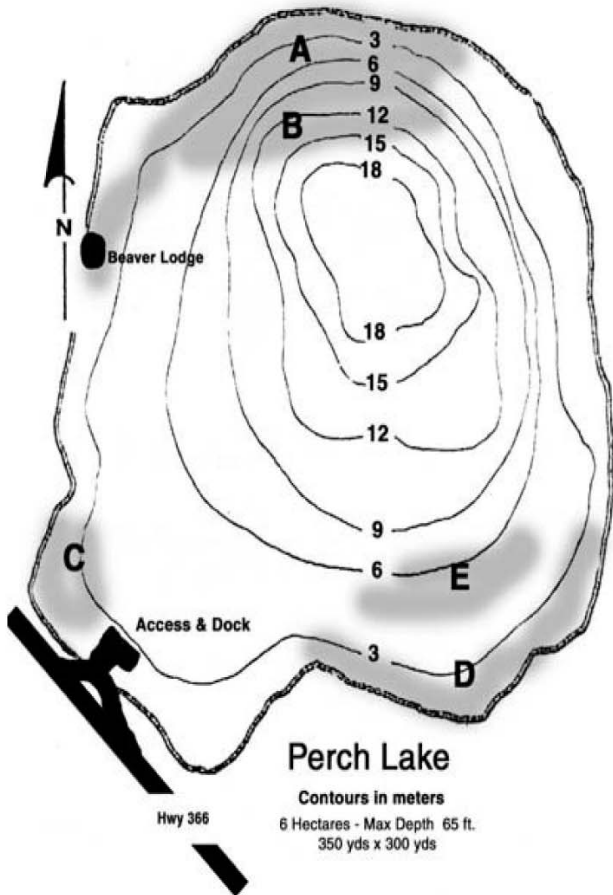


# Perch Lake



## LOCATION:

Approximately 5 miles north of junction of 366 and 367 and on east side of Hwy 366. The sign for the lake is misleading since it is beside a shallow lake on western side of road just before Perch.

The lake is primarily driven by chironomids and backswimmers. Minnows and crayfish are present. The forage base is adequate to produce very large fish provided that stocking rates are maintained sufficiently low. Since this is a catch and release lake there is little need to overstock. The lake remains a trophy lake annually - the trophy being photographs.

## MORPHOLOGY:

**Max. Depth:** 65 ft.

**Surface Area:** 13 Acres

**Length:** 350 yds. **Width:** 300 yds.

**Sechi:** 5.8 m - 17.5 ft.

**Max Thermocline:** 8m - 26 ft. (Sept 2000)

**Big 7 Status**

Perch Lake is a very deep pothole lake that is very popular on windy days. Since it

is designated catch and release and boasts a temperature of 4.8 degrees C. below the thermocline, trout and smallmouth bass live long and grow big on a rather sparse forage base. Smallmouths to 24 inches have been released. Trout species are mainly browns, but rainbows and brookies may show up on the end of your line. Largest trout run in the vicinity of 30 inches but several are released annually in the 25 to 28 inch range.

## STARTING AREAS:

The lake is too small to hide many secrets, but many tear their hair. When all else fails, fish it at night, the same as any clear Duck Mountain Lake. Besides tearing hair one can emulate a spaghetti tree as one casts unseen patterns to unseen rises. Hunters used to taking sound-shots will do well in this darkened scenario.

- A - The north shore fish hug the edges of the trees fallen into the lake. If not in shallow water, drop out onto the flats and fish a Beadhead Beaver and Tan deep and slow in Zone B.
- B - A deeper reach that extends from the north shore around to the beaver lodge. Depth penetration is essential, as well as a pattern that the trout and bass will take deep.
- C - A bay with favourable weed growth. Generally, deeper patterns will work, but the bay is excellent at dusk and after dark. Try Muddler Minnows directly on the surface as dark gathers or at first light on summer mornings.
- D - This is a spawning area for smallmouth bass. Check under each log extending into the water for the nests. Trout will come in to hunt the fry as well as aquatic insects.
- E - Deeper rocky area. Best fishing is after dark, but trout hang around the stony areas throughout the day. Great zone for backswimmer activity.