

READER'S GUIDE to USING this PUBLICATION

Your fishing map guide is a thorough, easy-to-use collection of accurate contour lake maps along with geographic and biologic statistical information to help you locate a lake and enjoy a successful day out on the water of one of Michigan's excellent fisheries.

The heart of this book is the **contour lake map**. Copyrighted maps are used with permission from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and are not intended for navigation. The lakes selected for this guide are confined to those that are accessible to the public.

Each map is accompanied by a **detailed write-up**. In each piece, you'll find fishing tips and hot spots specific to the body of water you're planning to fish.

Lake **stocking records** and **management comments** are provided courtesy of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and summarized to reflect management trends and objectives for each fishery represented. Please keep in mind that annual fish stocking aspirations are directly affected by state hatchery production levels and sometimes the numbers available for stocking fluctuate considerably.

Detailed **area road maps** (1:210,000 scale) and **lake access** information is provided to help you plan your route to the lake. If there is more than one access point on a body of water, the GPS coordinates refer to the primary access. To locate a lake on these road maps, simply use the alphabetical lake listing on the back cover. Turn to that page to find the area road map page and coordinates for the lake. As a cross-reference, the area road maps include numbers on or adjacent to featured lakes, which designate the pages of the lake maps and information. Streams and rivers are also referenced in these area road maps.

While every effort is made to create the most accurate maps possible, the process of merging existing DNR maps with the latest GPS information will cause some slight differences to occur. (Especially on larger, more complicated lakes.) Please use the GPS grids provided in this book only as a guideline.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Gill net: This is the main piece of equipment used for sampling walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, cisco, whitefish, trout, and salmon. The standard gill net is 6 feet tall by 250 feet long, with 5 different mesh sizes. Gill nets are generally set in off shore areas in water deeper than 9 feet. Nets are fished for a period of 24 hours. Fish are captured by swimming into the net and becoming entangled. Fisheries workers record length and weight data from each fish, determine the sex, look for parasites or disease, and remove several of the fishes scales for determining the fishes age. Most of the fish taken in gill nets are

killed, but only a small portion of the lakes fish population is sampled during an individual survey event. The number of gill nets set during a survey is dependant on the lake acreage.

Trap net: This is the main piece of equipment used for sampling bluegill, crappie, and bullheads. The standard trap net is 4 feet tall by 6 feet wide with a 40 foot lead. Trap nets are generally set perpendicular to shore in water less than 8 feet in depth. Nets are fished for a period of 24 hours. Fish are captured by swimming into the lead and following it towards the trap. Most of the fish collected in trap nets are returned back to the water as soon as the necessary biological data is recorded. The number of trap net sets during a survey is dependant on the lake acreage.

Electrofishing: This is a specialized type of equipment that is most often used for sampling largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and young of the year walleye. A boat-mounted generator is used to induce electrical current into the water that stuns the fish, allowing fisheries workers to net the fish for placement in live wells. Most of the fish caught by electrofishing recover rapidly and are promptly returned to the water after the necessary biological data is recorded.

CPUE: An acronym representing "Catch Per Unit of Effort," a way of representing the density of a species population. Readings are in fish captured per hour or minute of surveying. The higher the CPUE value, the greater the number of fish present.

PSD: An acronym for "Proportional Stock Density," which is a way of representing the size structure of fish populations. It represents the percentage of "quality-size" fish within a given population. In arriving at this figure, one considers only fish of "stock" length (the size at which members of a given species reach sexual maturity) or greater. Young-of year fish are not included in the calculation. The higher the PSD number, the greater the percentage of "quality" fish within a particular population.

RSD-12 (or -10 or -14, etc.): An acronym for "Relative Stock Density," which is yet another way of representing the size structure of fish populations. This corresponds to the percentage of fish at a given length or larger within a population. Hence, an RSD-14 reading of 25 for largemouth bass indicates that 25 percent of sexually mature bass are at least 14 inches in length. On another measurement scale, the RSD- values could be stated as "preferred," "memorable," or "trophy."

YAR: An acronym for "Young-(to)-Adult Ratio." This refers to the proportion of young-of-year fish in relation to adult or "quality-size" fish within a particular population. For balanced populations, the index should be about 1-to-10. In smaller waters, 1-to-3 is considered a reasonable ratio.

Secchi Disk: Used in measuring water clarity, it is a white-colored, plate-size device submerged on the end of a line until it reaches a point where it's no longer visible; the depth at which this occurs is measured and recorded. In this book, secchi disk readings are given in English measure. Of course, many factors influence water clarity, and secchi disk readings vary according to season, growth of vegetation, weather, location in a lake, even human activity. Hence the readings given are approximations for any lake—snapshots of the water clarity at a given time and in a given location.

LEGEND

	Boat Ramp		Marina		Marsh		Red & Green Channel Buoys
	Carry Down Access		Lily Pads		Emergent Vegetation		White Hazard Buoy
	Access by Navigable Channel		Submergent Vegetation		Manmade Canal		River Mile
	Portage Access		Emergent Vegetation		Marked Fishing Spots		Daymarker
	Access Information Marker		Stumps		Submerged Rail		Light & Daymarker
	Campground		Flooded Timber		Submerged Road		County Road
	Picnic Area		Rocks		Bridge		State Highway
	Fishing Dock (Pier)		Submerged Culvert		Submerged Riverbed		US Highway
	Shore Fishing		Submerged Ruins		GPS Grid		Interstate
	Fish Attractors						
	Boat tie-up						

UPPER, MIDDLE & LOWER KIMBALL LAKES

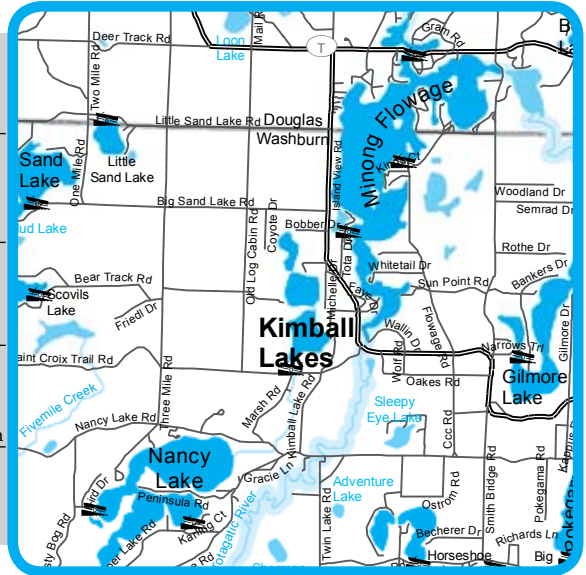
Washburn County

UPPER KIMBALL LAKE
Washburn County

MIDDLE KIMBALL LAKE
Washburn County

LOWER KIMBALL LAKE
Washburn County

	UPPER K LAKE	MIDDLE K LAKE	LOWER K LAKE
Area map page / coordinates:	14/D-3	14/D-3	14/D-3
Accommodations:	NA	NA	resort
Surface water area:	44 acres	98 acres	129 acres
Shorelength:	1.3 miles	1.5 miles	2.5 miles
Maximum depth:	11 feet	77 feet	6 feet
Mean depth:	5 feet	31 feet	4 feet
Secchi disk (water clarity):	bottom	19 feet	6 feet
Water color:	clear	clear	clear
Lake type:	seepage	seepage	seepage
Littoral bottom types:	95% sand, 5% muck	98% sand, 2% gravel	90% sand, 10% muck
Basic management:	N pike, bass, panfish	N pike, bass, panfish	N pike, bass, panfish
Accessibility:	Nav. Channel 46° 6' 53" N/ 91° 57' 11" W	Nav. Channel 46° 6' 53" N/ 91° 57' 11" W	Trailer Launch 46° 6' 53" N/ 91° 57' 11" W



Gamefish			Panfish			Rough Fish		
Muskie	N Pike	Walleye	B Crappie	W Crappie	Bluegill	Bl Bullhead	Br Bullhead	Y Bullhead
LM Bass	SM Bass	Trout	Pumpkinseed	Y Perch	Wh Sucker	Carp	Bowfin	
C	C		P	A	P			

A=Abundant C=Common P=Present

FISHING INFORMATION

Located in far-northwestern Washburn County, these three lakes are near neighbors of Lake Nancy and the Minong Flowage. Covering a combined 270 acres or so, the Kimballs have distinctly different “personalities.” Two of the lakes, Lower and Upper, are shallow and weedy; they’re good panfish and largemouth bass country. The third of the group, Middle Kimball, is one of the deepest in the area at 77 feet. It’s very clear and also holds its share of northerns and bucketmouths, along with a limited number of walleyes and panfish.

The folks at Sportsman’s Headquarters, Highways 77 & 53 in Minong, WI 54859, (715) 466-2171, said the panfish in all three lakes can be nice, although the most recent DNR survey in 2005 showed them as pretty small. Fish the shallow weed lines with worm chunks, waxworms, or leeches for the ‘gills and pumpkinseeds. Anglers may have to put up with some smaller fish before hooking into any “dinner plates,” but they can be caught.

The largemouth bass in all three Kimballs are nothing to write home about; however, there are some 3- and 4-pounders among the 1- to 2-pounders that most folks seem to catch. The bass, of course, will prowl the shallow weeds in the summer. Plastic worms and plastic frogs, along with topwater weedless bait, offer the best chance of bagging a bucketmouth or two. Anglers should do well at the weed lines for northerns, as well. The pike, aren’t huge, but a few reasonably nice fish are caught each year.

The southeast side of Middle Kimball, near the channel to Lower Kimball (Spot 1), is a good spot for pike, as are the areas right off the channels. Cast a weedless spoon or spinnerbait toward the weeds. For walleyes, try the submerged point off the east shore

NO RECORD OF STOCKING									
Middle Kimball Lake									
LENGTH OF SELECTED SPECIES SAMPLED FROM ALL GEAR									
Date: 9/20/05					Gear type: Boom Shocker				
Number of fish caught for the following length categories (inches):									
species	0-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	>29	Total
LM Bass	7	32	48	13	1	-	-	-	101
Northern Pike	-	-	-	1	4	1	-	-	6
Bluegill	63	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Pumpkinseed X Bluegill	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Pumpkinseed	5	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Rock Bass	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Black Crappie	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

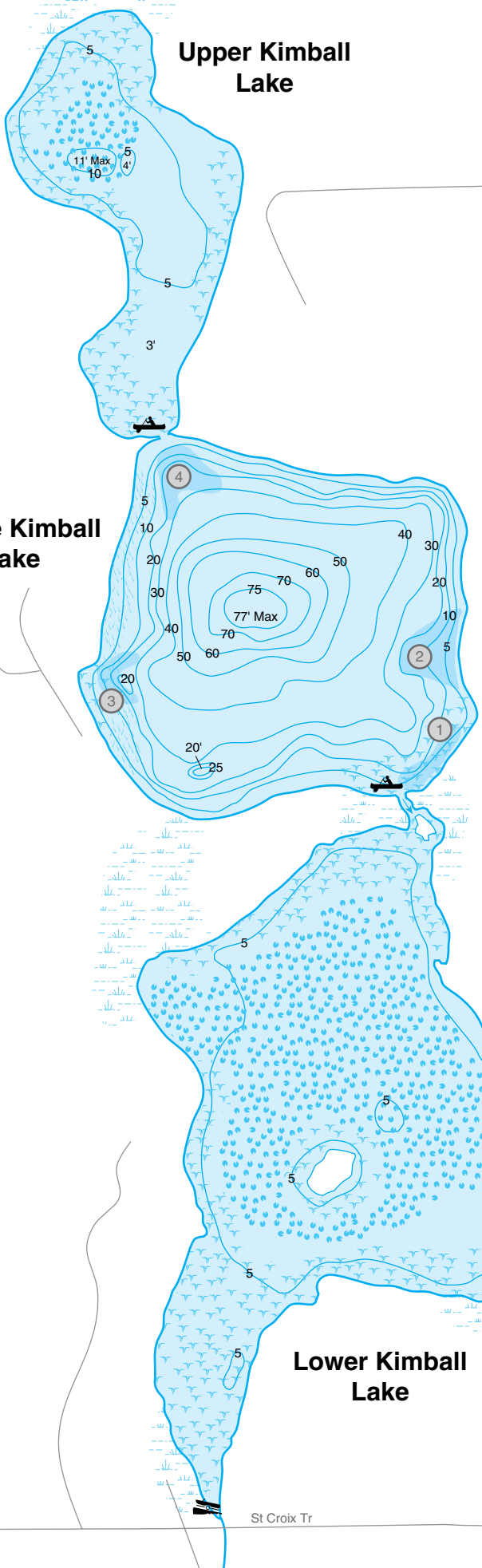
Lower Kimball Lake									
LENGTH OF SELECTED SPECIES SAMPLED FROM ALL GEAR									
Date: 9/20/05					Gear type: Boom Shocker				
Number of fish caught for the following length categories (inches):									
species	0-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	>29	Total
LM Bass	12	46	112	34	5	-	-	-	209
Bluegill	19	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
Northern Pike	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Black Crappie	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rock Bass	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Yellow Bullhead	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1

of Middle Kimball (Spot 2). There’s good sandy bottom there that drops away fairly slowly to 35 feet. Jig-and-minnow or jig-and-leech combinations should get some action. The inside turn off the west shore (Spot 3) is worth a look, as well. And you’ll want to try inside turn leading to the small, deep flat off the channel to Upper Kimball (Spot 4).

The only public access on this three-lake chain is at the southern end of Lower Kimball, off the St. Croix Trail/Kimball Lake road. From there, the other two lakes are accessible most years via the connecting channels. The launch site can handle a medium-size boat.



NOT FOR NAVIGATION



Bear Tracks Rd

Middle Kimball Rd

St Croix Tr

Kimball Rd

St Croix Tr