Metadata for: Inland Lakes and Streams – Physical Conditions

This table provides essential information about the program data.

Title	Inland Lakes and Streams – Physical Conditions
Alternative Title	N/A
Description	This dataset includes information on sampling locations and physical conditions in lakes and streams across Ontario, as well as meteorological conditions from monitoring stations in south-central Ontario. Data were collected since 1976 to present, as part of routine monitoring of water quality of inland waters and for scientific and research purposes. Details on sampling methods, study design and specifications of monitoring equipment used, as well as guidance on interpretation of these data are available upon request. There are four five data files in this dataset, they include: Inland Lakes Monitoring Stations Muskoka Area: descriptive information for sampling locations in south-central Ontario, including lake and stream names, location descriptors, latitude and longitude, lake size and depth at sampling location. Inland Lakes Meteorology Muskoka Area: information on meteorological conditions measured at a single monitoring station. Data are collected automatically on a daily basis from four climate stations in south-central Ontario. These locations are close to inland lakes that are monitored for water quality. Parameters measured include air temperature, humidity, precipitation and wind speed. Inland Lakes Stream Hydrology Muskoka Area: information on water flow (discharge) measured at either a monitoring station or gauging weir for a selected stream. Data are collected automatically on a daily basis from 16 small streams connected to inland lakes in south-central Ontario. The lakes that the streams connect to are monitored for water quality. Inland Lakes Physical Measurements Muskoka Area: information on temperature and dissolved oxygen levels collected at multiple depths at a single sampling station (vertical profiles). The data file also includes measurements of water transparency collected using a Secchi Disk. Data were collected up to nine times per year from 34 inland lakes in south-central Ontario. Inland Lakes Ice Dates Muskoka Area: This dataset provides information on the ice-on (freeze-up) and ice-off (break-up) dates for lakes in the Muskoka area. The ice-on date is the day each winter when the lake surface becomes completely covered by ice, while the ice-off date is the day each spring when the lake surface is no longer entirely covered by ice. Data is collected annually from eight representative lakes, recorded as calendar dates. The collection method combines visual checks of ice conditions and observations from automated cameras positioned along the lake shores. These lakes are located within 10-30 km of Dorset, Ontario. The posted ice dates represent the average values from the eight lakes.
Status	Ongoing
Frequency of Updates	Yearly
Contact	Name: Johnny Su Address: 1026 Bellwood Acres Rd., Dorset, Ontario, P0A1E0 Email: johnny.su@ontario.ca Organisation: Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Position: Inland Lakes Data Management Officer Role: Point of contact
Cited Responsible Parties	See the Open Government Licence - Ontario

Keywords	EMRB, Lake, Stream, River, Water Quality, Physical, Meteorology, Hydrology, Stream Flow, Discharge, Temperature, Precipitation, Wind, Dissolved Oxygen, Environmental Monitoring, Monitoring, Muskoka, Nipissing, Ice Date
Tags	Water, Water Quality, Climate Change
Use Limitations	N/A
Legal Constraints	See the Open Government Licence - Ontario
Geographic Bounds	District Municipality of Muskoka Nipissing District
Supplemental Information	N/A
Date Stamp	Jun 1, 2025

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