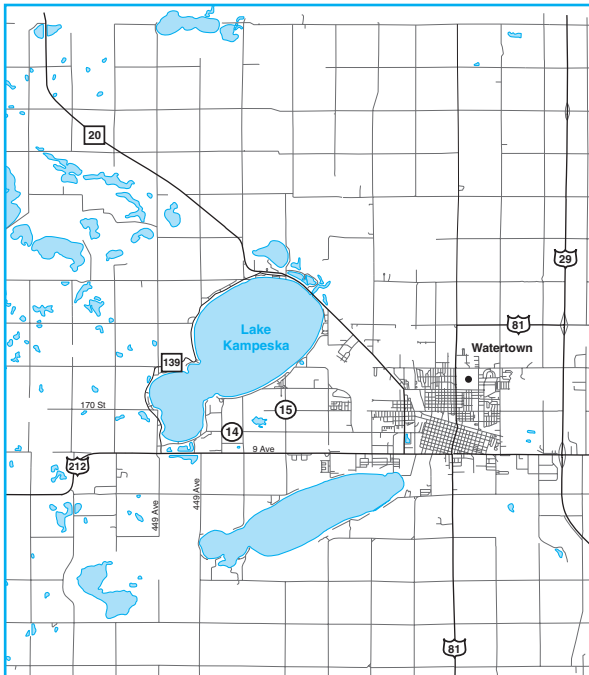


# LAKE KAMPESKA

## Codington County

Bordered by Sandy Shore Recreation Area; Stokes-Thomas Lake City Park; Memorial County Park; Jackson Park



**Area map page / key #:** 89 / 82      **Surface area:** 4,809 acres  
**Nearest town:** Watertown      **Maximum depth:** 14.1 feet  
**Lat/Long:** 44 55 38 / 97 12 14      **Mean depth:** 7.9 feet  
**Watershed:** 1,073,150 acres

**Water quality:** Not evaluated during present survey  
**Aquatic vegetation:** Emergent vegetation presently covers less than 5% of the shoreline; submergent vegetation is sparse to non-existent.

**Accessibility:** Seven access sites with hard-surface ramps; two of these sites charge a nominal fee to use their facilities and are noted on the map as "Fee" access (please see map)

**Accommodations:** Shore fishing, docks, piers, boat rental, camping, lodge, handicapped-accessible facilities, picnicking, restrooms

**Species present:** Walleye, smallmouth bass, white bass, yellow perch, black crappie, spottail shiner, johnny darter, bluegill, rock bass, white sucker, common carp, bigmouth buffalo, black bullhead, green sunfish, orangespotted sunfish, pumpkinseed, northern pike, trout perch, log perch, white crappie, yellow bullhead

**Management classification:** Warmwater permanent

**FISHING INFORMATION:** This big bowl of a lake on the northwest edge of Watertown in Codington County is full of nice fish, says Doris Wilkey, who has run Kampeska Lodge and Store (436 Lakeshore Drive, Watertown, SD, 57201, 605-882-1313) for forty-four years. While this is considered a walleye lake, there are good numbers of nice-size northern pike, perch, smallmouth, white bass and channel cats, all lurking in its murky waters. "Walleye tend to run thirteen to eighteen inches; catfish are usually under ten pounds; and, the northern average three to five pounds. But each year up to a dozen or so walleye in trophy range and two to five northern near twenty pounds are caught," says Don Fjerstad, Outdoors Director of KWAT radio station in Watertown. Fjerstad says there is not much structure to the lake, but from ice-out into April the flats on the southwest side of the lake (**Spot 1**) hold lots of walleyes. The outlet on the northeast end of the lake (**Spot 2**) attracts all the lake's species at one time or another. The rock pile near the southernmost tip (**Spot 3**) is a walleye magnet and one of the few places on the lake an angler might be in danger of losing a lure. The mainly mud and occasional

### FRAME NET SURVEY - 7/28-7/20/00

Method: 21 - 3/4" mesh frame nets      all species

Species	No.	%	Mean CPUE	RSD-Q	RSD-P
Bigmouth Buffalo	28	6.54	1.4	96	-
Black Bullhead	138	32.24	6.9	99	55
Black Crappie	38	8.88	1.9	87	39
Bluegill	49	11.45	2.5	84	43
Common Carp	10	2.34	0.5	-	-
Northern Pike	8	1.87	0.4	-	-
Rock Bass	10	2.34	0.5	-	-
Shorthead Redhorse	4	0.93	0.2	-	-
Smallmouth Bass	18	4.21	0.9	-	-
Walleye	29	6.78	1.5	4	-
White Bass	48	11.21	2.4	100	96
White Crappie	1	0.23	0.1	-	-
White Sucker	40	9.35	2.0	100	100
Yellow Bullhead	2	0.47	0.1	-	-
Yellow Perch	5	1.17	0.3	-	-

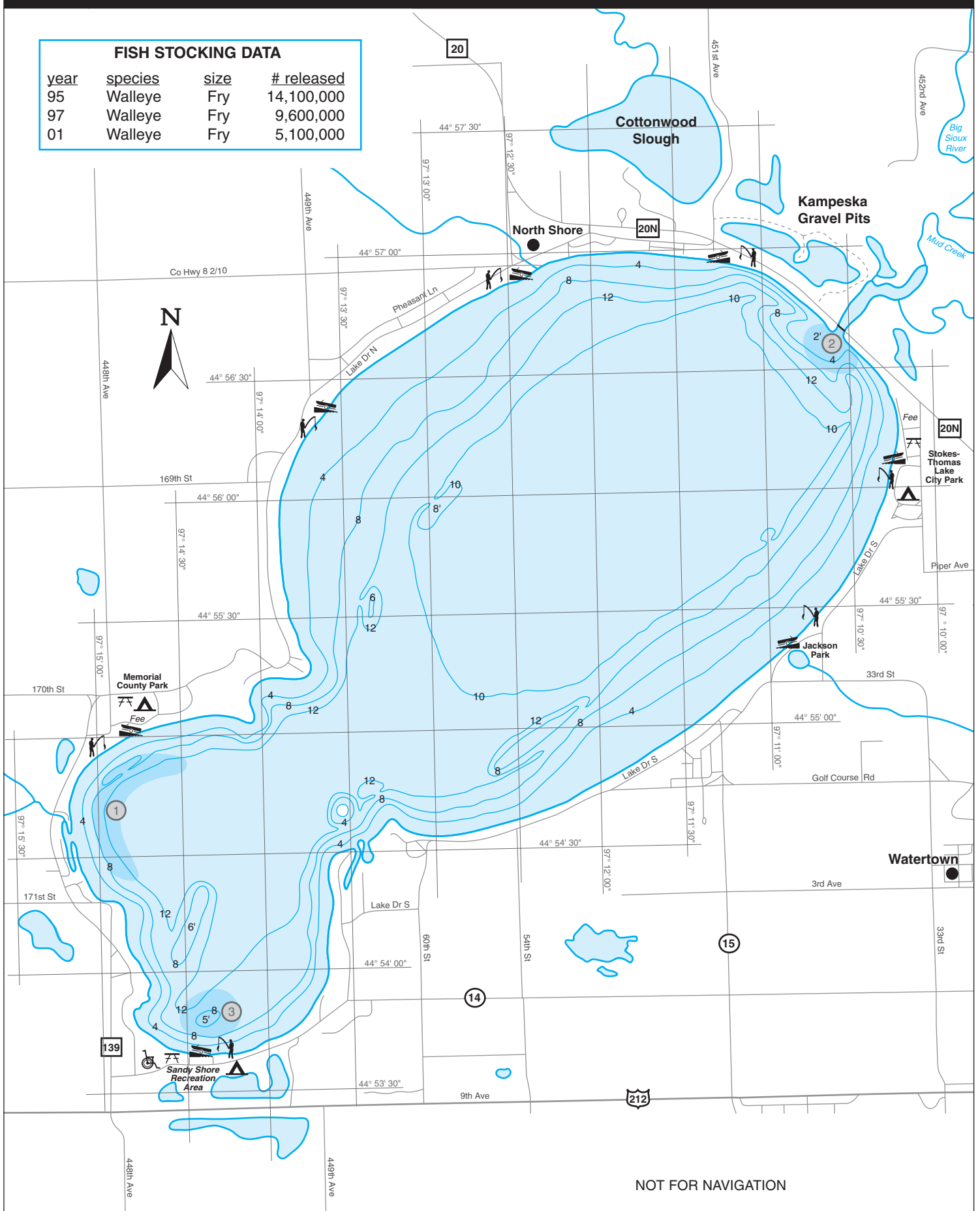
### GILL NET SURVEY - 7/18-7/20/00

Method: 6 - 150 ft. experimental gill net sets      all species

Species	No.	%	Mean CPUE	RSD-Q	RSD-P
Bigmouth Buffalo	5	1.67	0.8	-	-
Black Bullhead	18	6.02	3.0	-	-
Common Carp	3	1.00	0.5	-	-
Northern Pike	4	1.34	0.7	-	-
Shorthead Redhorse	8	2.68	1.3	-	-
Smallmouth Bass	4	1.34	0.7	-	-
Walleye	192	64.21	32.0	17	1
White Bass	16	5.35	2.7	-	-
White Crappie	2	0.67	0.3	-	-
White Sucker	15	5.02	2.5	-	-
Yellow Bullhead	1	0.33	0.2	-	-
Yellow Perch	31	10.37	5.2	90	26

sand bottom of Kampeska make it a crankbait – trolled or thrown – paradise as there are almost no weeds even in midsummer to foul any Rapalas, plugs, bottom bouncers, bombers, etc. Walleye is king here all year round, and the lake is home to summer contests and ice-fishing derbies for this prey. According to veteran locals, one oddity is the walleyes of Kampeska tend to shut down, almost completely, after dark. During the day in the summertime, the angler faces stiff competition for the surface of Kampeska because the lake lies within Watertown and its shoreline is highly developed with mostly private homes. The resulting water ski/personal watercraft traffic can get pretty heavy. In 2004 walleye restrictions are a fourteen-inch minimum with one over twenty-inches daily. Lake Kampeska has several public access sites. The best one is Sailboat Landing, which has a concrete boat ramp, toilets and parking for sixty rigs. It is on the north side off Hwy 20. Other access sites are scattered around the lake. Several parks and recreation areas are also found around the lake.

FISH STOCKING DATA			
year	species	size	# released
95	Walleye	Fry	14,100,000
97	Walleye	Fry	9,600,000
01	Walleye	Fry	5,100,000



NOT FOR NAVIGATION