Horseys Pond

46.3 acres
Laurel

Both the number and size of bass in this pond have increased in recent years. The abundance of bass larger than 15 inches was higher than most other Delaware ponds and nearly twice the state average. Growth was average with legal length reached between age 3 and 4.

The total number of panfish was also very high, particularly bluegill. Generally when bluegill numbers are high, the fish tend to be smaller. However, nearly 200 bluegill over 6 inches were collected per hour of electrofishing in Horseys Pond. Black crappie abundance was also above average with some individuals up to nearly 12 inches in length. A few yellow perch were also observed.

American eel and golden shiner were common throughout the pond with less abundant brown bullhead catfish, creek chubsucker, gizzard shad, and chain pickerel.

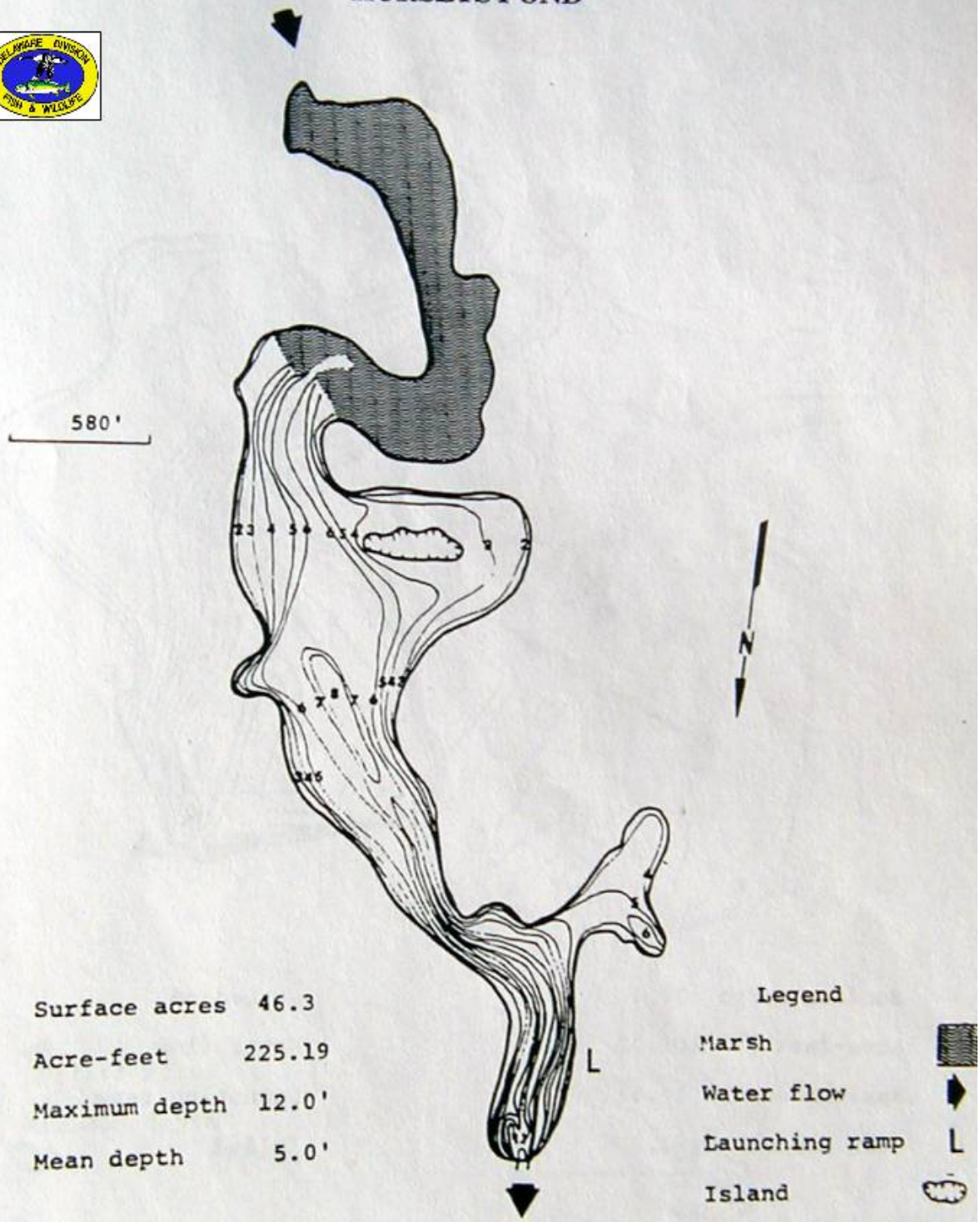
VEGETATION

Although the non-native invasive plant hydrilla nearly covered Horseys Pond for many years beginning in the early 1980s, years of control efforts have had an impact on this plant. In recent years, hydrilla coverage was limited, but the filamentous (thread-like) alga, *Lyngbya*, has increased at the same time. This alga forms large floating mats that can impair fishing activities. In recent years, both herbicide applications and the Division's weed harvester have been used to control the algal mats.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

This is Delaware's deepest pond with maximum depth historically reaching about 12 feet immediately in front of the dam. This area holds bass and crappie during the late fall and can be very productive on a warmer winter day. Shoreline anglers have been observed catching large bluegill here and in the splash pool just below the pond.

HORSEYS POND



Surface acres	46.3
Acre-feet	225.19
Maximum depth	12.0'
Mean depth	5.0'

Legend

- Marsh
- Water flow
- Launching ramp
- Island