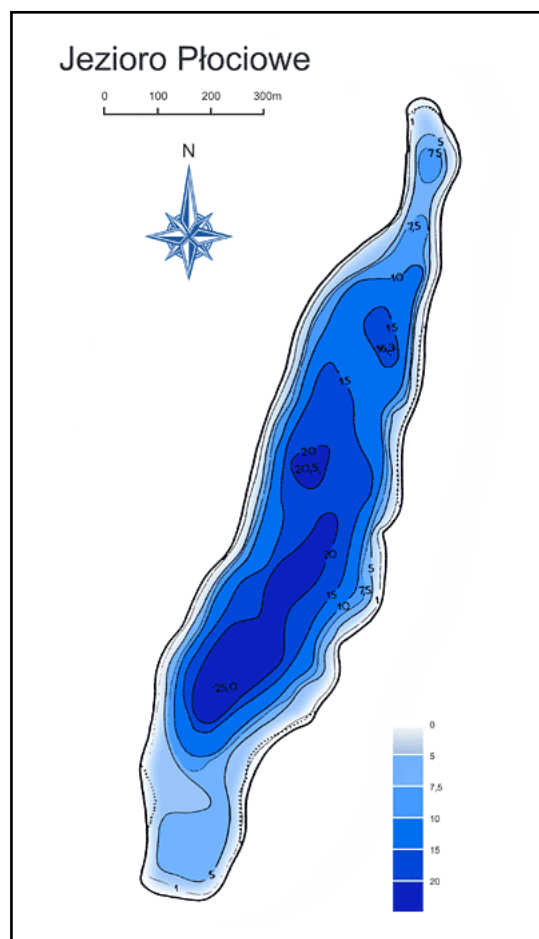


## Płociowe lake



This is one of the prettiest lakes of the Drawa National Park. Area: 39,18ha, depth: 25m). It is located in the northeastern part of the Park, stretching vertically, parallel to Lake Marta, divided from it by a rise in the land between them, ecologically similar to Lake Marta. It is also called Rakowe (lobster). It is a typical mid-forest stone-wart lake with very clear, emerald-green water rich in calcium. Its bottom of thick calcium sediment is overgrown by underwater stone-wart meadows. Three species of them were noted here. The deepest living is the spring-wart *Nitella flexilis*, similar to stone-wart. Here is one of its four places in the Park. In the rushes around the lake grows, besides the common reed and mud sedge, a rather rare jointed twig rush. European whitefish lives here.

Lake Płociowe is one of the so-called dimictic lakes, which means its waters are stirred by the wind twice a year – in the spring and late in the autumn. The waters are rather poor in biogenes, which makes it possible for oxygen to be present in the very deep waters even during a warm summer. Even on the warmest July days the deepest waters here (below 10m deep) have a steady temperature of 5°C. Average water translucency up to 4m deep. Water level is very stable throughout the year,



and varies only by a dozen or so cm. The most common fish in this lake are roach, European whitefish, and perch. Also found here are bream, river bream, pike, European catfish, and rudd. Lobsters are very popular here, all representing but one species – the northern American striped lobster. The lake doesn't have any surface water feeders or outlets, so it must be supplied by underground water sources. Its underwater outlet probably supplies the well-head system Źródło Pod Kasztanem and River Płociczna.

The steep slopes of the lake's basin congregate the plant and animal species that prefer warmer temperatures. Near the southern edge of the lake we can find dense broom thickets severely damaged by frost in recent years. Between the northern edge and a meadow complex Północne Łąki in the Płociczna valley, there is a small but ecologically very interesting transitional peatbog

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**Adres URL:** <http://www.dpn.pl/plociowe-lake>