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Jane Claire Dirks-Edmunds's Notes on Lake Atitlán, Guatemala

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Lake Atitlán, Guatemala, C. A.  
"Abundance of Waters"  
Elevation 5,000'--surface  
Caldera lake--largest in world. With three major and several lesser volcanoes surrounding it. It is separated from the Pacific by a single escarpment. Nearly sheer drop of 5,000 ft.  
Lake Maximum depth --1000+ feet (342 M)  
Ave. Depth 560+ ft.  
Length (Size) Length about 12 miles  
Width about 8 miles  
Two rivers flow in, but it has no visible outlet.  
Heavily inhabited basin -- 12 villages and 50,000 to 65,000 population.  
Lake: light penetration more than 200 feet  
algae Chara grows at about 200 ft.  
Photosynthesis occurs as deep as 80 M  
Very Low turbidity -- compensation level given as 150 feet or more for most of year.  
Temperature: Surface 23°C. in May-June  
19° from top to bottom at turnover  
Several hot springs with temp. of 60°C.  
pH: 8.1 to 8.4
LAKE ATITLÁN
Guatemala, C.A.

(Coast lines indicate depth in meters.)

SCALE 1:63,360

KILOMETERS

0 1 2 3 4

Santiago Atitlán

Volcano Toliman

Volcano San Pedro

San Antonio Patapopa

Panajachel