

Lake Huleh once lay about ten miles north of the Sea of Galilee. In antiquity the lake must have been 9 to 12 feet deep. Lake Huleh was the smallest of the three lakes in the Jordan Rift, the others being the Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee. During the Hellenistic period, Lake Huleh was called Lake Semachonitis. It became a swamp in the Middle Ages. By 1955 the Huleh was completely drained. The nutria in the slide is a newcomer to modern Israel, but in biblical times foxes (Judges 15:4), jackals (Psalm 63:10), bears (Proverbs 17:12) and wild boars (Psalm 80:13) were all known in the Galilee. Foxes and wild boars are still to be seen in the replanted forests of Galilee.