

## Beaver Lake

### Fisheries Management Objectives

<b>Version Date:</b> October 2017	<b>Prepared by:</b> Alicia Pruden-Beniuk	<b>Reviewed by:</b> Dwayne Latty	<b>Approved by:</b> Kathy Hendren
<b>Waterbody ID:</b> 4016	<b>Surface Area:</b> 3038 (Ha)	<b>Hydrologic Unit Code Name (HUC_8):</b> Beaver River	<b>Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC_8):</b> 12010101
<b>Sport Fish Species:</b> Walleye, Northern Pike, Yellow Perch, Lake Whitefish, Burbot			
<b>Indigenous Fishery:</b> Yes			
<b>Environment and Parks Region:</b> Lower Athabasca Region (LAR)		<b>Fisheries Management Zone:</b> Northern Boreal 1 (NB1)	<b>Fisheries Management Office:</b> Lac La Biche

## Background

Beaver Lake is a large lake located adjacent to the Hamlet of Lac La Biche and the Beaver Lake Indian Reserve, approximately 170 km northeast of the City of Edmonton. Beaver Lake is the headwater for the Beaver River which flows into Saskatchewan. This lake has two basins which are separated by a strait known locally as “The Narrows”. Beaver Lake has an average depth of 7.1 m and a maximum depth of 15.2 m.

There are three campsites at this lake. Beaver Lake Provincial Campground has 89 sites, 6 group use sites and a boat launch, Young’s Beach (formerly known as Sampietro Beach) has 85 seasonal sites and is adjacent to a boat launch, and Spruce Point (located on the Beaver Lake Indian Reserve) has 150 stalls and a boat launch. There are also two subdivisions on the North side of the lake (Young’s Beach and Hallowachuck Estates).

An active commercial fishery occurred on this lake from 1920’s until the closure of commercial fisheries in Alberta in 2014. Beaver Lake has an active domestic fishery and a popular recreational fishery. Numerous surveys have been conducted on Beaver Lake including Fall Walleye Index netting Surveys, creel surveys, habitat surveys, and limnological surveys.

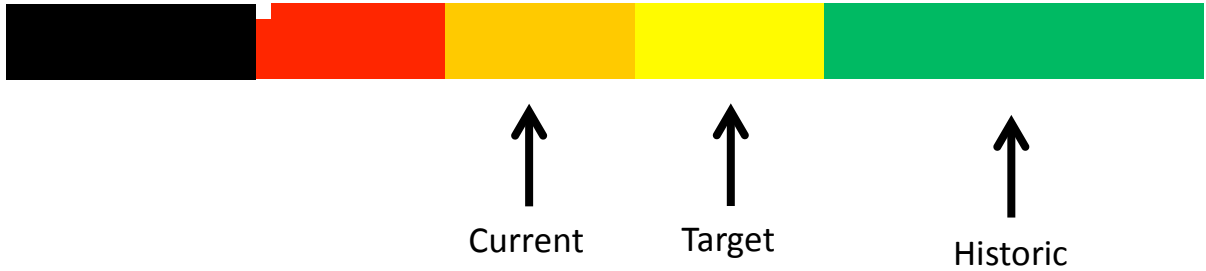
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## Section 1. Fish Population Status

### Walleye – Adult Abundance

#### Fish Sustainable Index Adult Density Score

Functionally Extirpated (0)	Very High Risk (1)	High Risk (2)	Moderate Risk (3)	Low Risk (4 and 5)
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### Northern Pike – Adult Abundance

#### Fish Sustainable Index Adult Density Score

Functionally Extirpated (0)	Very High Risk (1)	High Risk (2)	Moderate Risk (3)	Low Risk (4 and 5)
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### Yellow Perch – Adult Abundance – Undetermined

## Section 2. Recreational Fishery Management Objectives and Management Summary

The **focal species** for recreational management is **Walleye**. The secondary species managed for recreational objectives are Northern Pike and Yellow Perch. These sport-fisheries are directly assessed at intervals, and therefore are actively managed. The **Overharvest Protection Need** is assessed as **High Risk**.

**Walleye** – The recreational fishery management objective for walleye is **Sustainable Harvest**. The corresponding FSI score for the current mature density of walleye was assessed as **High Risk** to sustainability. The Walleye population is currently not meeting the status and criteria for the objective of a sustainable harvest fishery. The current management action is **Recovery** through a **Zero Harvest** regulation.

**Northern Pike** – The recreational fishery management objective for northern pike is **Sustainable Harvest**. The corresponding FSI score for the current mature density of northern pike was assessed at (1) **very high risk** to sustainability. The pike population is currently not meeting the status and criteria for the objective of a sustainable harvest fishery. The current management action is a harvest regulation of 1 Northern Pike over 63 cm. The required management action will be **Recovery** of Northern Pike with a **Zero Harvest** regulation.

**Yellow Perch** – The recreational fishery management objective being applied is the provincial default (**Sustainable Harvest**). The status of the yellow perch population has not been assessed. The current management action is a regulation of 15 perch, any size.

### Management Summary

Management Priority	Species	Overharvest Protection Need	Management Action	Sport Fishing Harvest Regulation
1	Walleye	High	Recovery – Sustainable Harvest	Catch & Release
2	Northern pike	High	Recovery – Sustainable Harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 &gt; 63cm (2017-18)</li> <li><b>Catch and Release (Implementation April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018)</b></li> </ul>
3	Yellow Perch*	High	Maintenance – Sustainable Harvest	15 any size

\*Recreational management objectives for Lake Whitefish, Yellow Perch, and Burbot have not been fully developed into management frameworks, and will be subject to change pending on-going work and development. However, general action statements have been listed for these species within the context of relative abundance, catch rates and trends associated with index netting assessments, in relation to the management of these species at a provincial level.