

## Summary Information

<b>Version Date:</b> July 2018	<b>Prepared by:</b> Caroline Farkas	<b>Reviewed by:</b> Alicia Pruden Beniuk	<b>Approved by:</b> Kathy Hendren
<b>Waterbody ID:</b> 4522	<b>Surface Area:</b> 970 ha	<b>Hydrologic Unit Code Name (HUC_8):</b> Upper 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 (NB1)	<b>Fisheries Management Office:</b> Lac La Biche

## Background

Elinor Lake is located approximately 40 km southeast of Lac La Biche, and 225 km northeast of Edmonton. The lake is surrounded by crown land, with the exception of a portion along the southeast shore. There are two boat launches, one of which is located within Elinor Lake Resort. Elinor Lake Resort also accommodates a store, 5 rental cabins, 168 residential lake lots, and a number of RV lots.

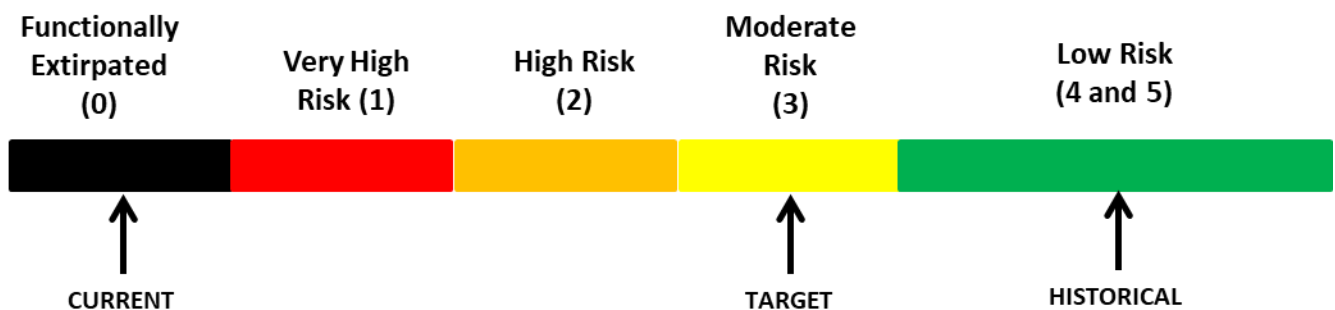
Elinor Lake is closed to recreational angling from April 1 – May 14 each year.

Alberta Health Services (AHS) has issued a consumption advisory for Walleye and Northern Pike due to elevated mercury levels (see <https://mywildalberta.ca/fishing/advisories-closures/documents/FishConsumptionLimitsAlberta-Feb24-2016.pdf>).

## Fish Population Status

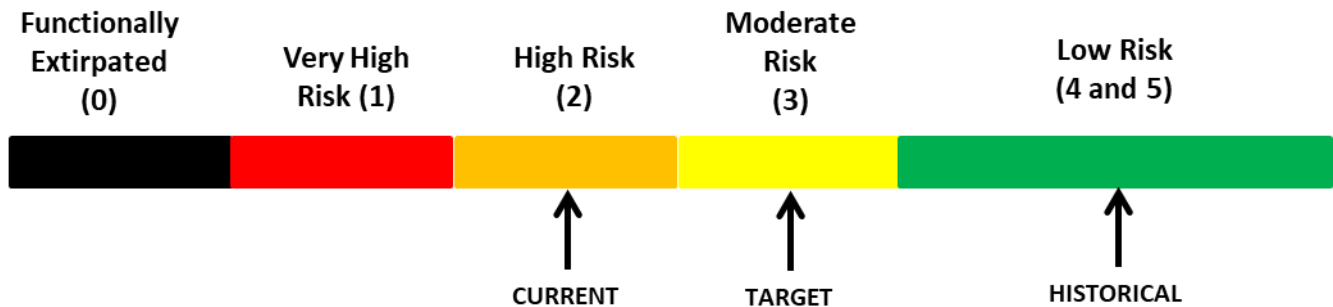
### Northern Pike – Adult Abundance

#### Fish Sustainability Index Adult Density Score



## Walleye – Adult Abundance

### Fish Sustainability Index Adult Density Score



Yellow Perch- Adult Abundance – Undetermined  
Lake Whitefish- Adult Abundance - Undetermined  
Burbot- Adult Abundance – Undetermined

## Recreational Fishery Management Objectives

The **focal species** for recreational management is **Walleye**. The secondary species managed for recreational objectives are northern pike, yellow perch, lake whitefish, and burbot. These sport-fisheries are directly assessed at intervals, and therefore are actively managed. The **Overharvest Protection Need** is assessed as **Moderate**.

**Walleye** - The recreational fishery management objective for walleye is **Sustainable harvest**. The corresponding FSI score for the current mature density of walleye was assessed at (3) **moderate risk** to sustainability. The walleye population is not currently meeting the status and criteria for the objective of a sustainable harvest fishery. The current management action to achieve this objective is through **special harvest licenses**.

**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 as (2) **High Risk** to sustainability. The northern pike population is not currently meeting the status and criteria for the objective of a sustainable harvest fishery. The new management action to achieve this objective is through a **Catch and Release** 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.

**Lake Whitefish** – The recreational fishery management objective being applied is the provincial default (**Sustainable Harvest**). The status of the lake whitefish population has not been assessed. The current management action is a regulation of 10 lake whitefish, any size.

**Burbot** – The recreational fishery management objective being applied is the provincial default (**Sustainable Harvest**). The status of the burbot population has not been assessed. The current management action is a regulation of 10 burbot, any size.

## Management Summary

Management Priority	Species	Overharvest Protection Need	Management Action	Sport Fishing Harvest Regulation
1	Walleye	Moderate	Recovery – Sustainable Harvest	SHL
2	Northern Pike	Moderate	Recovery - Sustainable Harvest	1 > 63 cm (current) C&R (new)
3	Yellow Perch*	Moderate to Low	Maintenance – Sustainable Harvest	15 any size
4	Lake Whitefish*	Moderate to Low	Maintenance – Sustainable Harvest	10 any size
5	Burbot*	Moderate to Low	Maintenance – Sustainable Harvest	10 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.