

Goodwin Lake

Fisheries Management Objectives

Version Date: October 2017	Prepared by: Alicia Pruden-Beniuk	Reviewed by: Rebecca Baldwin	Approved by: Kathy Hendren
Waterbody ID: 4704	Surface Area: 746 (Ha)	Hydrologic Unit Code Name (HUC_8): La Biche River	Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC_8): 17050301
Sport Fish Species: Lake Whitefish, Northern Pike, Yellow Perch			
Indigenous Fishery: Yes			
Environment and Parks Region: Lower Athabasca Region (LAR)		Fisheries Management Zone: Northern Boreal 1 (NB1)	Fisheries Management Office: Lac La Biche

Background

Goodwin Lake is located approximately 75 kilometers North of the Hamlet of Lac La Biche, and adjacent to the Old Conklin Winter Road.

Goodwin Lake has a maximum depth of 4.5 meters. There is one tributary on the northeast side of the lake. During high water years the lake may connect to Many Creeks that flows into Logan River. There is some connectivity through a series of small lakes and beaver ponds to Steepbank Lake on the North end of the lake.

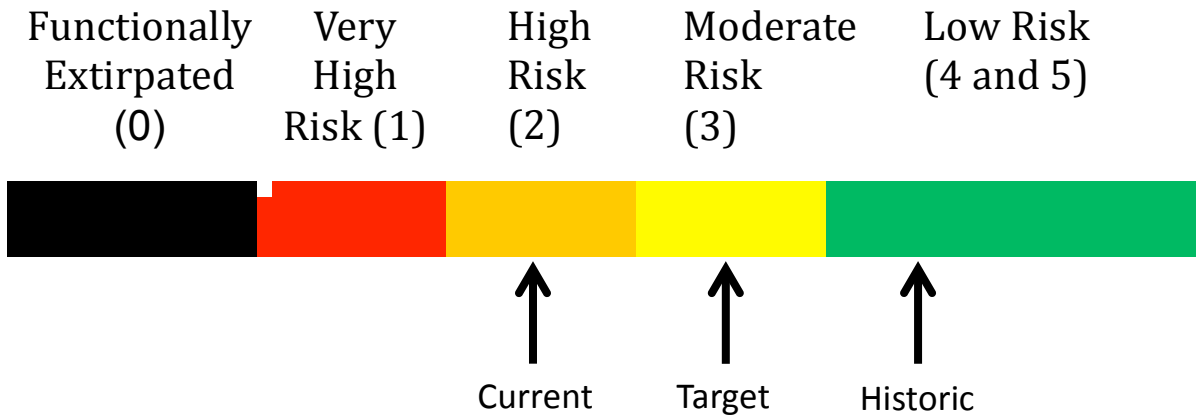
Goodwin Lake is completely surrounded by crown land, which some forestry and oil and gas projects. There are a few access points to the lake from the Old Conklin Winter Road and a number of random camping sites are found in the area. Traplines and trappers cabins are located on both the North and South end of the lake. This lake has a recreational fishery for Northern Pike and Yellow Perch. There was a small survey done in the late 1990's with local anglers to get a sense of the recreational fishery. Most reports indicate that Northern Pike were the main target as perch were limited. The recreational fishery has increased in popularity over the years due to the upgrading of the Old Conklin Winter Road.

Historically, Goodwin Lake had a commercial fishery that operated in 1970-72, 89-90, 2001-04. In support of a request from the Commercial Fishermen in this zone, approximately 500 adult Lake Whitefish were transferred to this lake in 1990 from North Buck Lake to increase the commercial fishery value by adding a species and potentially increasing the size of Northern Pike in the lake. Lake Whitefish were still captured in commercial fishing nets in 2004 but no surveys were done since to determine what the current population of Lake Whitefish.

Section 1. Fish Population Status

Northern Pike – Adult Abundance

Fish Sustainable Index Adult Density Score



Lake Whitefish – Adult Abundance – Undetermined

Yellow Perch – Adult Abundance – Undetermined

Section 2. Recreational Fishery Management Objectives and Management Summary

The **focal species** for recreational management is **Northern Pike**. The secondary species managed for recreational objectives are Lake Whitefish and Yellow Perch. These sport-fisheries are passively managed. The **Overharvest Protection Need** is assessed as **Moderate**.

Northern Pike – The recreational fishery management objective for Northern Pike is **Sustainable Harvest**. The corresponding Fish Sustainability Index score for the current mature density of Northern Pike was assessed at **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 current management action is a harvest regulation of 2 Northern Pike, any size. The new management action will be a **Zero Harvest** regulation.

Lake Whitefish – The recreational fishery management objective being applied is the provincial default (**Sustainable Harvest**). The status of the Lake Whitefish population has been assessed, but no provincial framework is available. The current management action is a regulation of 10 Lake Whitefish, any size.

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 Yellow Perch, any size.

Management Summary

Management Priority	Species	Overharvest Protection Need	Management Action	Sport Fishing Harvest Regulation
1	Northern Pike	Moderate	Recovery – Sustainable Harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 any size May 15 to March 31(2017-18)• Catch and Release (Implementation on April 1st, 2018)
2	Lake Whitefish	Moderate	Maintenance – Sustainable Harvest	10 any size
3	Yellow Perch	Moderate	Maintenance – Sustainable Harvest	15 any size

**Recreational management objectives for Lake Whitefish and Yellow Perch 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.*