

Kirby Lake

Fisheries Management Objectives

Version Date: October 2017	Prepared by: Alicia Pruden-Beniuk	Reviewed by: Rebecca Baldwin	Approved by: Kathy Hendren
Waterbody ID: 5009	Surface Area: 537 (Ha)	Hydrologic Unit Code Name (HUC_8): Jackfish River	Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC_8): 17060104
Sport Fish Species: Northern Pike, Yellow Perch			
Indigenous Fishery: Yes			
Environment and Parks Region: Lower Athabasca Region (LAR)		Fisheries Management Zone: Northern Boreal 4 (NB4)	Fisheries Management Office: Lac La Biche

Background

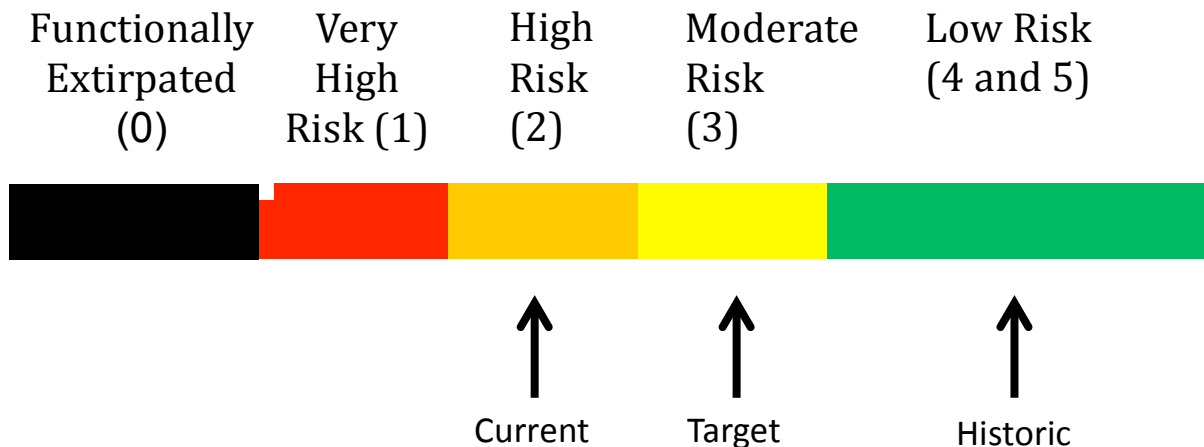
Kirby Lake (locally known as Sterner Lake) is located approximately 110 kilometers Northeast of the community of Lac La Biche.

Kirby Lake is completely surrounded by crown land, and access is limited to a single unimproved road. There is space for random camping at the access to the lake. Oil and gas projects in the area include: seismic, pipelines, Steam assisted Gravity Drainage (SAGd), and compressor stations. Kirby Lake supports a recreational fishery for Northern Pike and Yellow Perch, but angling pressure is likely low due to no formal campground facilities and distance from major communities. Kirby Lake was commercially fished consistently from the 1940's up to 2006.

Section 1. Fish Population Status

Northern Pike – Adult Abundance

Fish Sustainable Index Adult Density Score



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 is Yellow Perch. These sport-fisheries are actively managed. The **Overharvest Protection Need** is assessed as **High**.

Northern Pike – The recreational fishery management objective for Northern Pike is the provincial default (**Sustainable Harvest**). The corresponding Fish Sustainability Index (FSI) score for the current mature density of Northern Pike was assessed as **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 **3 Northern Pike over 63 cm**. The required management action will be 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 Yellow Perch, any size.

Management Summary

Management Priority	Species	Overharvest Protection Need	Management Action	Sport Fishing Harvest Regulation
1	Northern Pike	High	Recovery – Sustainable Harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3 > 63 cm (2017-18)Catch and Release (Implementation April 1st, 2018)
2	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.*