

Minnie Lake

Recreational Fisheries Management Objectives

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Waterbody ID: 5335	Surface Area: 88 (Ha)	Hydrologic Unit Code Name (HUC_8): Upper Beaver River	Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC_8): 12010101
Sport Fish Species: Northern Pike, Yellow Perch			
Indigenous Fishery: None			
Environment and Parks Region: Lower Athabasca Region (LAR)	Fisheries Management Zone: Northern Boreal 1 (NB1)	Fisheries Management Office: Cold Lake	

Background

Minnie Lake is a small lake with a surface area of 88 ha and a maximum depth of 26.5 m. Minnie Lake is experiencing declines in water levels: in 2013, water levels were 3 m lower than in 1981. Historically, the lake likely had a moderate walleye population (FSI historic adult density of 3). In 1959, approximately 280,000 walleye were stocked into Minnie Lake. The last reported walleye was caught in 1979 during a test netting survey conducted by Fisheries Management. No walleye were caught during a 2008 test netting survey and are no longer believed to be present in Minnie Lake. A small campground and cottage development exists on the southern third of the lake. The rest of the shoreline is privately owned, with the exception of a small parcel of public land on the northwest side of the lake.

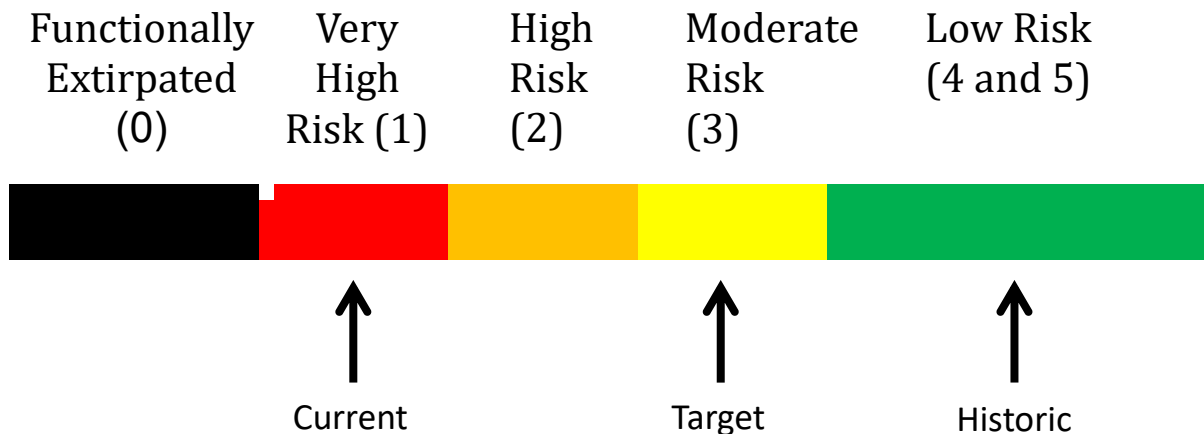
Winter oxygen levels may become chronically or critically low. A fish kill was reported in late March of 2013.

Minnie Lake is closed to recreational angling from April 1st to May 14th of each year.

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

Currently, the **focal species** for recreational management is **Northern Pike**. The secondary species managed for recreational objectives is 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 currently **Sustainable Harvest**. The corresponding FSI score for the current adult density of northern pike was assessed as **Very 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 **1 Northern Pike over 63 cm**. The required management action is a **Zero Harvest** limit for Northern Pike.

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 of 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">1 > 63 cm (2017-18)Catch & Release (Implementation April 2018-19)
2	Yellow Perch*	Moderate	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.*