

## Summary Information

<b>Version Date:</b> June 2018	<b>Prepared by:</b> Adrian Meinke	<b>Reviewed by:</b>	<b>Approved by:</b> (Regional Resource Manager)
<b>Waterbody ID:</b> 5938	<b>Surface Area:</b> 4,451 (Ha)	<b>Hydrologic Unit Code Name (HUC_8):</b>	<b>Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC_8):</b>
<b>Sport Fish Species:</b> Lake Whitefish, Northern Pike, Yellow Perch, Walleye			
<b>Indigenous Fishery:</b> Yes			
<b>Environment and Parks Region:</b> Upper Peace Region	<b>Fisheries Management Zone:</b> East Slopes 4 (ES4)	<b>Fisheries Management Office:</b> Grande Prairie	

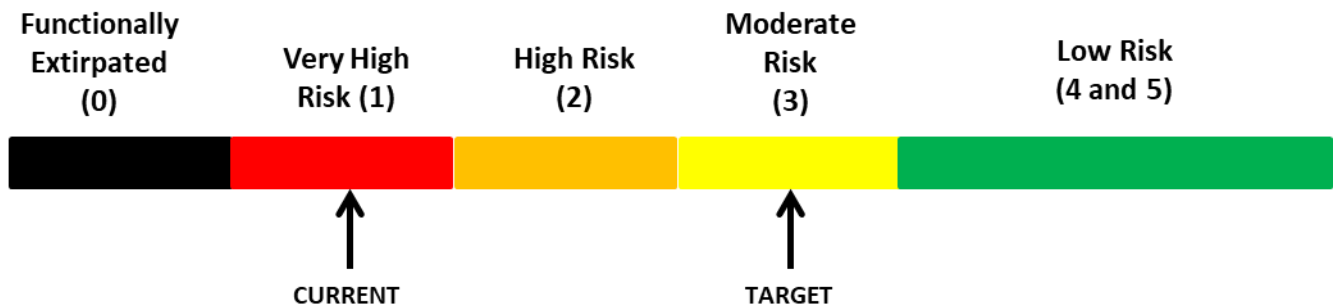
## Background

Snipe Lake is a 4,451 ha lake located approximately 100 km east of Valleyview and is one of a few walleye fisheries in northwestern Alberta. The lake has a mean depth of 3.9 m and a maximum depth of 6.1 m. Development around the lake consists of two campgrounds and three boat launches. Snipe Lake sustains fishing pressure from various types of fishing including First Nations, Registered Metis harvesters, and recreational anglers. Snipe Lake attracts anglers from around the Upper Peace Region and was evaluated as having 1.0 hr/ha of angler effort in 2017 (ACA 2017).

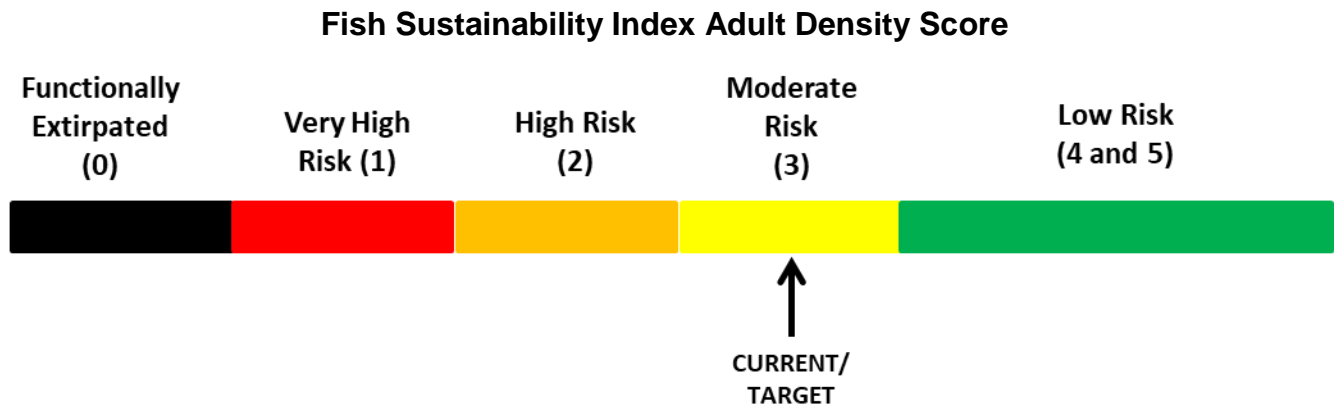
## Fish Population Status

### Northern Pike – Adult Abundance

#### Fish Sustainability Index Adult Density Score



## Walleye – Adult Abundance



**Lake Whitefish – Adult Abundance - Undetermined**

**Yellow Perch - Adult Abundance – Undetermined**

**Burbot – Adult Abundance - Undetermined**

## Recreational Fishery Management Objectives

The **focal species** for recreational management is northern pike. The secondary species managed for recreational objectives are walleye, yellow perch, lake whitefish and burbot. The **Overharvest Protection Need** is assessed as **Moderate**.

**Northern Pike:** The recreational management objective for northern pike is a quality fisheries. The corresponding Fish Sustainability Index score for the current mature density of northern pike was assessed at very high risk to sustainability. The northern pike population is currently not meeting the status and criteria for the objective of a quality fishery. The current management action is to promote recovery through the use of catch and release until such time the population increases into the moderate risk (yellow) category where alternative options can be explored.

**Walleye:** The recreational management objective for walleye is a sustainable harvest fishery. The corresponding Fish Sustainability Index score for the current mature density of walleye was assessed at moderate risk to sustainability. The walleye population is currently meeting the status and criteria for the objective of sustainable harvest fishery. The current management action is to maintain the walleye population.

**Lake Whitefish:** The recreational management objective for lake whitefish is a **Sustainable Harvest** fishery. Although there is no FSI completed for lake whitefish the current adult density of lake whitefish was estimated to be at **Low Risk** to sustainability. The lake whitefish population is currently meeting the status and criteria for the objective of sustainable harvest fishery. The required management action is **maintain** the lake whitefish population.

**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 5 perch, 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	Northern Pike	Moderate	<b>Options:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recovery-Quality, or</li> <li>• Recovery-Sustainable Harvest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1&lt;75 cm (2018-19)</li> <li>• <b>Catch and Release (implementation April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019-20)</b></li> </ul>
2	Walleye	Moderate	Maintenance-Sustainable Harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1&gt;50 cm</li> </ul>
3	Yellow Perch*	Moderate	Maintenance-Sustainable Harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 any size</li> </ul>
4	Lake Whitefish*	Moderate	Maintenance-Sustainable Harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 any size</li> </ul>
5	Burbot*	Moderate	Maintenance-Sustainable Harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 any size</li> </ul>

\*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.