

# Fish Facts 2021

The results from fishery surveys conducted during the summer of 2021 are shown on the following pages. Lakes are mainly surveyed using two types of equipment – gill nets or downhaul trap nets – which are both effective in capturing fish. However, fish caught in downhaul traps can generally be released after being measured, whereas fish caught in gill nets are generally not releasable. For this reason, the size of fish caught in downhaul trap nets is recorded by total length to minimize stress and harm to the fish, while size of fish captured in gill nets is reported by weight.

If you have any questions on survey methods or equipment, or if you have concerns about the health of a specific fishery, please contact your nearest Ministry of Environment fisheries biologist.

Waterbody and Location	Species Caught (weight or length) and Population Status	Date Tested/Survey Gear/Remarks
<b>Barker Lake</b> 55° 40' 104° 48' Part of Churchill River system, west of Devil Lake	<b>Walleye:</b> (38 to 2,675 g) Fair <b>Pike:</b> (122 to 4,650 g) Fair <b>Sauger:</b> (153 to 470 g) Sparse <b>Perch:</b> (40 to 400 g) Poor <b>Whitefish:</b> (25 to 1,930 g) Poor	June 14-16. Gill nets. Boat access via Devil Lake. Campground and boat launch facilities at Devil Lake off Hwy 102. Consistent walleye and sauger abundance relative to previous 2010 survey, with slight decrease in pike and perch numbers.
<b>Blackstrap Reservoir</b> 51° 47' 106° 27' southeast of Dundurn	<b>Walleye:</b> (105 to 3,720 g) Good <b>Pike:</b> (905 to 3,415 g) Fair <b>Perch:</b> (35 to 305 g) Good <b>Whitefish:</b> (595 to 3,045 g) Good	June 14-15, 21-22. Gill nets. Consistent walleye and perch abundance, with an increase in pike relative to previous survey. Most perch were of forage size (<18 cm), with good angling success reported for perch. Angling success reported as good for walleye and fair for pike at the time of the survey.
<b>Bradwell Reservoir</b> 51° 56' 106° 11' southeast of Saskatoon	<b>Walleye:</b> (155 to 3,350 g) Good <b>Perch:</b> (35 to 705 g) Good <b>Pike:</b> (735 to 4,740 g) Fair <b>Whitefish:</b> (1,110 to 3,290 g) Fair	June 8-9. Gill nets. Increase in walleye and pike abundance, with decrease in perch relative to previous survey. Most perch were of forage size (<18 cm), with good angling success reported for perch. Angling success for pike reported as fair.
<b>Brightwater Reservoir</b> 51° 36' 106° 32' northeast of Luck Lake	<b>Pike:</b> (215 to 390 g) Fair <b>Perch:</b> (35 to 160 g) Fair <b>Whitefish:</b> (40 to 3,040 g) Fair	June 7-8. Gill nets. Decrease in pike and perch abundance from previous survey. Most perch were of forage size (<18 cm).

<p><b>Chitek Lake</b> 53° 45' 107° 47' north of Spiritwood on Hwy 24</p>	<p><b>Walleye:</b> (80 to 2,700 g) Fair <b>Pike:</b> (248 to 5,000 g) Fair <b>Perch:</b> (30 to 70 g) Poor <b>Whitefish:</b> (74 to 1,310 g) Sparse</p>	<p>July 12-16. Gill nets. Walleye abundance is comparable with previous survey, though there is an increase in mature size classes. Pike abundance and size distribution are similar to recent surveys. Of note, some larger pike were caught in the survey. Angling success reported as excellent at the time of the survey.</p>
<p><b>Dellwood Reservoir</b> 51° 49' 105° 20' west of Big Quill Lake</p>	<p><b>Nil catch</b></p>	<p>May 31-June 1. Gill nets. Partial summer kill of whitefish in August, 2020, with complete winterkill experienced in 2021. Winter oxygen testing planned for 2022. Restocking of walleye fry dependent on suitable winter oxygen results. Anecdotal reports of anglers catching pike in the summer of 2021.</p>
<p><b>Devil Lake</b> 55° 40' 104° 45' Part of Churchill River system, west of Otter Lake</p>	<p><b>Walleye:</b> (40 to 1,680 g) Fair <b>Pike:</b> (97 to 6,700 g) Poor <b>Sauger:</b> (75 to 540 g) Poor <b>Perch:</b> (28 to 320 g) Poor <b>Whitefish:</b> (58 g) Sparse</p>	<p>August 9-11. Gill nets. Access via road from Hwy 102. Campground and boat launch facilities. Walleye numbers remain stable, with a slight increase since the 2009 and 2014 surveys. Pike, sauger and perch numbers show slight decreases from 2014, but are within the historical range of prior surveys.</p>
<p><b>East Trout Lake</b> 54° 22' 105° 05' north of Candle Lake</p>	<p><b>Lake Trout:</b> (280 to 9,450 g) Sparse <b>Walleye:</b> (540 to 2,720 g) N/A* <b>Whitefish:</b> (160 to 1,420 g) N/A* <b>Burbot:</b> (250 to 2,380 g) N/A*</p>	<p>August 23-26. SPIN net lake trout population assessment. Lake trout abundance is low, but with a range of sizes present including some mature fish. Walleye were abundant in shallow water areas. Burbot were present in deep water areas in low abundance.</p>
<p><b>Iroquois Lake</b> 53° 10' 107° 01' south of Shell Lake</p>	<p><b>Walleye:</b> (50 to 2,460 g) Moderate <b>Pike:</b> (170 to 1,320 g) Poor <b>Perch:</b> (12 to 44 g) Sparse <b>Whitefish:</b> (104 to 1,980 g) Fair <b>Burbot:</b> (760 to 1,580 g) Sparse</p>	<p>August 3-5. Gill Nets. Walleye and pike abundance is consistent with previous survey.</p>
<p><b>Lac la Ronge</b> 55° 10' 105° 00' Montreal River mouth</p>	<p><b>Walleye:</b> (24 to 35 cm) Sparse <b>Pike:</b> (21.4 to 109.1 cm) Good <b>Perch:</b> (13.2 to 30 cm) Poor <b>Whitefish:</b> (30.9 to 53.6 cm) Poor <b>Burbot:</b> (61.7 to 77 cm) Sparse</p>	<p>May 5-13. Trap nets. Spring spawning run investigation. Live release of all fish. Pike numbers have increased, while walleye numbers have decreased since the initial investigation in 2016. Changes in ice off date from 2016 to 2021 may have impacted spawning run fish numbers in 2021.</p>
<p>*SPIN netting is a rapid assessment method that is used to collect information about lake trout. As a result, only lake trout have a population status shown for this type of assessment.</p>		

<p><b>Limestone Lake</b> 54° 38' 103° 13' south of Hwy 106</p>	<p><b>Walleye:</b> (16 to 1,200 g) Good <b>Pike:</b> (105 to 4,550 g) Moderate <b>Perch:</b> (34 to 390 g) Fair <b>Whitefish:</b> (1,560 g) Sparse <b>Burbot:</b> (825 g) Sparse</p>	<p>July 26-28. Gill nets. Walleye, pike and perch numbers have increased since the 2013 survey, but are within the historical range of prior surveys. Angling success reported to be fair at the time of the survey.</p>
<p><b>Lovering Lake</b> 50° 51' 105° 37' north of Moose Jaw</p>	<p><b>Walleye:</b> (62 to 422 g) Fair <b>Pike:</b> (1050 to 2,126 g) Fair</p>	<p>June 28-29. Gill nets. Improved pike abundance, with fewer walleye relative to previous survey.</p>
<p><b>Ministikwan Lake</b> 54° 01' 109° 39' west of Hwy 21 in Bronson Forest</p>	<p><b>Walleye:</b> (46 to 2,500 g) Fair <b>Pike:</b> (30 to 3,650 g) Good <b>Perch:</b> (20 to 190 g) Moderate <b>Whitefish:</b> (30 to 910 g) Sparse</p>	<p>July 5-9. Gill nets. Walleye abundance has slightly increased, but remains below historical range. Recruitment appears improved when compared with the previous survey. Few moderate-sized pike expected to enter creel and likely explained by diverted angling pressure where walleye numbers have been low.</p>
<p><b>Pierce Lake</b> 54° 30' 109° 42' east of Cold Lake</p>	<p><b>Lake Trout:</b> (134 to 4,450 g) Poor <b>Pike:</b> (1640 to 4,700 g) N/A* <b>Whitefish:</b> (78 to 1,460 g) N/A* <b>Burbot:</b> (280 to 1,460 g) N/A*</p>	<p>August 30-September 3. SPIN lake trout population assessment. Lake trout abundance is identified as low with limited mature size classes. The population is connected with Cold Lake, though population characteristics do not match those of the improving fishery in Cold Lake.</p>
<p><b>Weyakwin Lake</b> 54° 30' 106° 00' west of Montreal Lake</p>	<p><b>Walleye:</b> (104 to 2,260 g) Good <b>Pike:</b> (40 to 4,200 g) Poor <b>Perch:</b> (22 to 160 g) Moderate</p>	<p>July 19-21. Gill nets. Slight increase in walleye abundance, though there are very few immature individuals present and warrants monitoring. Pike abundance has decreased, while average size increased; few small size classes are present. Good angling success reported for walleye and pike.</p>
<p><b>Zelma Reservoir</b> 51° 50' 105° 50' north west of Watrous</p>	<p><b>Walleye:</b> (100 to 2,510 g) Fair <b>Pike:</b> (915 to 1,335 g) Fair <b>Perch:</b> (35 to 590 g) Fair <b>Whitefish:</b> (1,570 to 3,275 g) Good</p>	<p>June 1-2. Gill nets. Consistent pike with a decrease in walleye and perch abundance relative to previous survey. Good angling success reported for pike at the time of the survey. Most perch were of forage size (&lt;18 cm). A good percentage of whitefish are of large average size.</p>
<p>*SPIN netting is a rapid assessment method that is used to collect information about lake trout. As a result, only lake trout have a population status shown for this type of assessment.</p>		