

2019-2020

Fisheries Regulation Changes Online Consultation Summary

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
SURVEY	3
Approach	3
Participation	4
Response	4
RESULTS	5
Affiliation of Survey Participants	5
Summary of Management Objectives	6
Detailed Survey Results	8
ES2 – Jackfish Lake	8
ES3 – Athabasca River	10
ES3 – Long Lake	11
ES3 – Wolf Lake	12
ES4 – Meekwap Lake	13
ES4 – Snipe Lake	15
ES4 – Sturgeon Lake	17
NB1 – Claude Lake	18
NB1 – Lac Bellevue	20
NB2 – Lac La Nonne	21
NB2 – Long Island Lake	23
NB2 – Mitsue Lake	25
NB3 – Equisetum Lake	26
NB3 – Hutch Lake	27
NB3 – Long Lake	29
NB3 – North Wabasca Lake	30
NB3 – Sandy Lake	32
NB3 – South Wabasca Lake	34

NB3 – Thurston Lake	36
NB3 – Utikumasis Lake	37
PP2 – Berry Creek/Carolside Reservoir.....	39
PP2 – Isle Lake	41

SURVEY

Approach

Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) manages fisheries according to the Fish Conservation and Management Strategy for specific objectives,

- To ensure the sustainability of fish populations and fisheries
- To meet constitutional obligations to First Nations
- To provide recreational opportunities.

Alberta uses a comprehensive and science-based management system in which fisheries assessments allow biologists to determine the status of fish populations and the sustainability of fisheries. This information, along with feedback gathered during consultations, is used to develop a desired status or recreational management objective for a given population and fishery.

Walleye and Northern Pike Management Frameworks guide recreational Fishery Management Objectives for achieving a desired status and type of recreational fishery. These frameworks were introduced in 2018-2019 and consider the sustainability of each population in determining the management actions available for a given objective. Where options for management actions are available, stakeholder input is sought in developing the desired status and type of recreational fisheries in many of Alberta's fisheries management zones.

For lakes with proposed regulation changes for 2019-2020, a survey was released on TalkAEP seeking input on the Management Objectives and associated actions (regulations) for each waterbody. The survey was posted to:

<https://talkaep.alberta.ca/fisheriesregulations2019>

The survey was open from mid-November to mid-December 2018 and was supplemented by local engagements in some regions. The consultation process was promoted via a combination of emails to WIN cardholders, previous TalkAEP registrants, the TalkAEP website, My Wild Alberta website, Environment and Parks website, Facebook, Twitter, and local print media.

Participation

Traffic to the TalkAEP website is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Traffic to TalkAEP site.

Participation Level	Number of Participants
Aware Participants (Viewed at least a single page on the TalkAEP site)	10.5K
Informed Participants (Viewed multiple pages or other site content)	2.9K
Engaged Participants (Registered to take one or more surveys)	551

Response

Total visits (people who visited the survey) and total responses (people who took a survey for one or more waterbodies) for each Fisheries Management Zone are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Survey responses by Fisheries Management Zone.

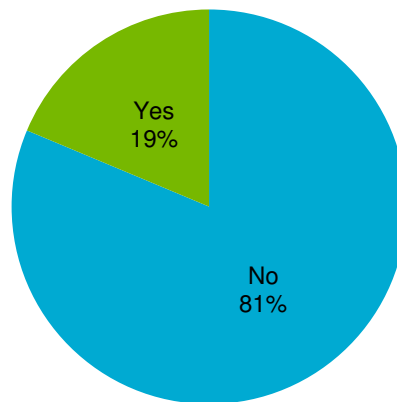
Fisheries Management Zone	Waterbodies	Total Visits	Surveys taken
ES2	Jackfish Lake	597	247
ES3	Athabasca River, Long and Wolf lakes	405	206
ES4	Meekwap, Snipe and Sturgeon lakes	282	176
NB1	Claude Lake and Lac Bellevue	191	113
NB2	Lac La Nonne, Long Island and Mitsue lakes	176	118
NB3	Equisetum, Hutch, Long, North Wabasca, Sandy, South Wabasca, Thurston and Utikimasis lakes	212	110
PP2	Berry Creek/Carolside Reservoir and Isle Lake	218	116

RESULTS

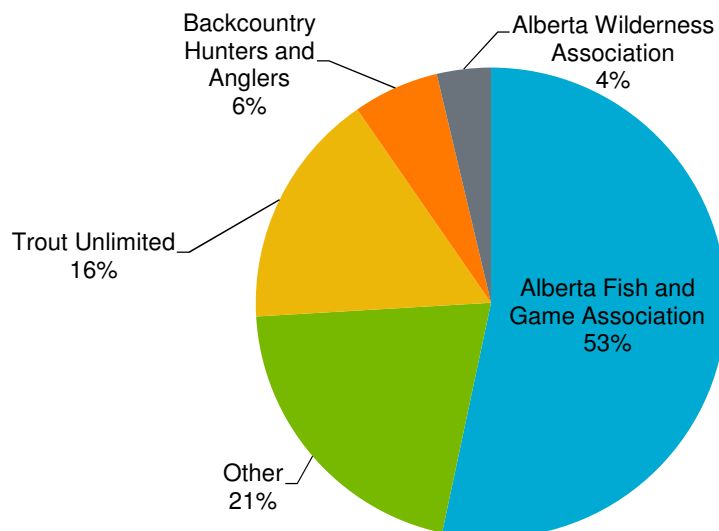
Affiliation of Survey Participants

Participants were asked if they belonged to a hunting or fishing club and which club they belonged to. Results are as follows:

Do you belong to a fishing or hunting club?



To assist us in better determining representation on future stakeholder advisory committees and to allow for focused communications to clubs and organizations, please specify the fishing/hunting club you belong to?



Summary of Management Objectives

The following table summarizes the Management Objectives and associated regulations that are recommended based on the results of the TalkAEP survey combined with other information obtained during the consultation period. It includes the focal species along with the current and proposed Recreational Fisheries Management Objectives (RFMO's) and regulatory tools for each waterbody for the 2019-2020 season. Results of the survey for each waterbody are found following the summary table.

Table 3: Recreational Fisheries Management Objectives by Waterbody.

FMZ	Waterbody	Species	Current FMO; Regulation	Consultation Results
ES2	Jackfish Lake	Walleye	Recovery; Catch and release	Preservation; Catch and release
ES3	Wolf Lake	Walleye	Recovery; Catch and release	Liberal Harvest; 1 fish any size
ES3	Long Lake	Walleye	Sustainable Harvest; 3 fish over 50 cm	Liberal Harvest; 1 fish any size
ES3	Athabasca River	Mountain Whitefish	Recovery; Catch and release	Sustainable Harvest; 5 fish over 30 cm
ES4	Meekwap Lake	Northern Pike	Sustainable Harvest; 3 fish over 63 cm	Sustainable Harvest; 1 fish over 63 cm
ES4	Snipe Lake	Walleye	Sustainable Harvest; 1 fish over 50 cm	Sustainable Harvest; 1 over 50 cm
ES4	Sturgeon Lake	Walleye	Sustainable Harvest; 1 fish over 43 cm	Sustainable Harvest; 1 fish over 50 cm
PP2	Berry Creek (Carolside) Reservoir	Northern Pike Walleye	Recovery; Catch and release Sustainable Harvest; 3 over 50 cm	Sustainable Harvest; 1 over 63 cm Preservation; Catch and release
PP2	Isle Lake	Northern Pike	Recovery; Catch and release	Sustainable Harvest; 1 over 63 cm
NB1	Claude Lake	Walleye	Recovery; Catch and release	Liberal Harvest; 1 fish any size

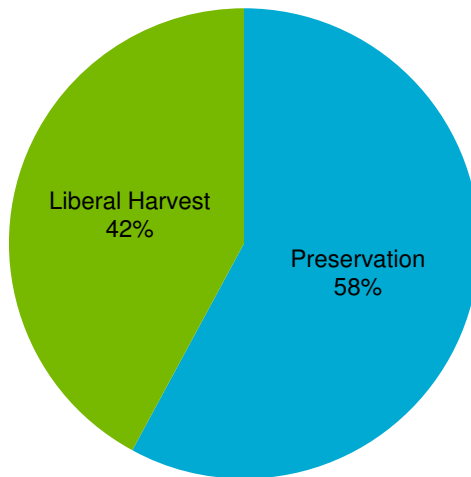
FMZ	Waterbody	Species	Current FMO; Regulation	Consultation Results
NB1	Lac Bellevue	Walleye	Sustainable Harvest; Special Harvest Licences (tags)	Sustainable Harvest; Special Harvest Licences (tags)
NB1	Lac la Nonne	Northern Pike	Recovery; Catch and release	Sustainable Harvest; 1 over 63 cm
NB1	Long Island Lake	Northern Pike	Recovery; Catch and release	Sustainable Harvest; 1 over 63 cm
NB1	Mitsue Lake	Northern Pike	Sustainable Harvest; 3 over 63 cm	Sustainable Harvest; 2 over 63 cm
NB3	Hutch Lake	Walleye Northern Pike	Recovery; Catch and release Recovery; Catch and release	Sustainable Harvest; 1 over 50 cm Sustainable Harvest; 1 over 63 cm
NB3	South Wabasca Lake	Northern Pike	Sustainable Harvest; 2 fish over 63 cm	Quality Harvest; 1 over 75 cm
NB3	Sandy Lake	Northern Pike	Sustainable Harvest; 3 fish over 63 cm	Quality Harvest; 1 over 75 cm
NB3	Thurston Lake	Northern Pike	Sustainable Harvest; 3 over 63 cm	Quality Harvest, 1 fish over 75 cm
NB3	Utikumasis Lake	Walleye	Sustainable Harvest; 1 fish over 43 cm (summer) and 2 fish over 43 cm (winter)	Sustainable Harvest; 1 fish over 50 cm

Detailed Survey Results

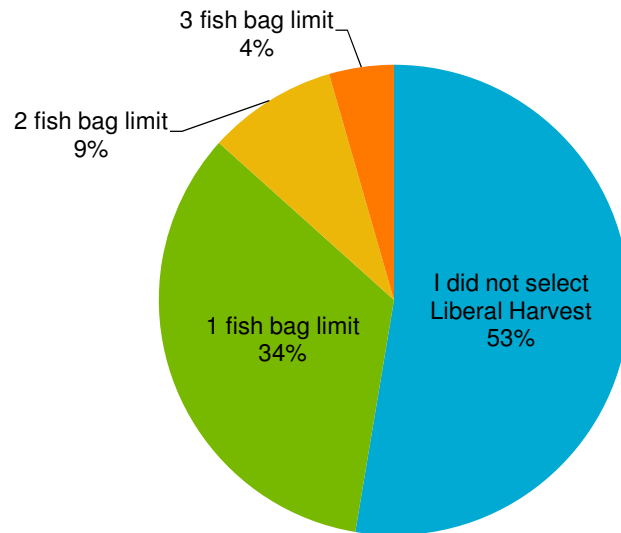
The following sections contain the question and corresponding results from each of the surveys posted on the TalkAEP site.

ES2 – Jackfish Lake

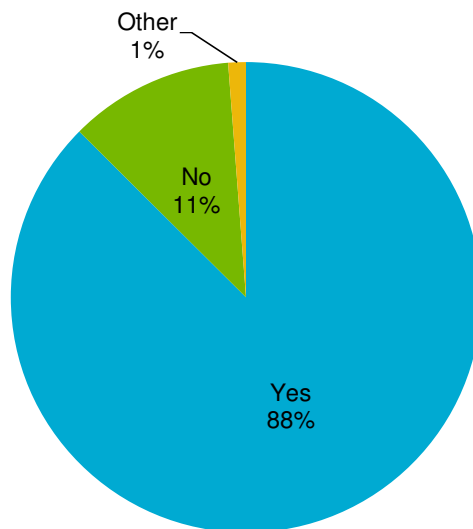
Which proposed management objective for Walleye do you support?



If you identified Liberal Harvest as your preferred management objective for Walleye, which of these regulations do you prefer?

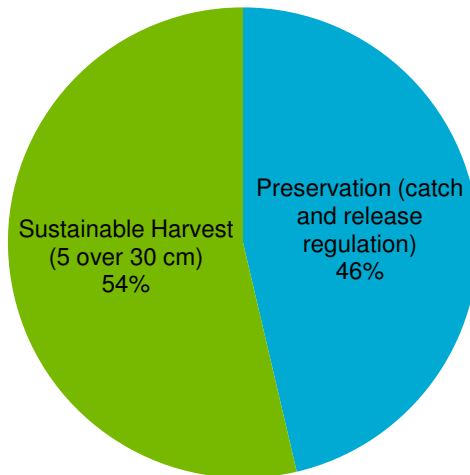


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Jackfish Lake?

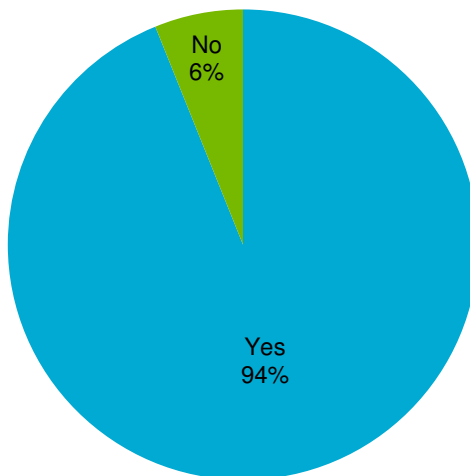


ES3 – Athabasca River

Which proposed management objective for mountain whitefish do you support?

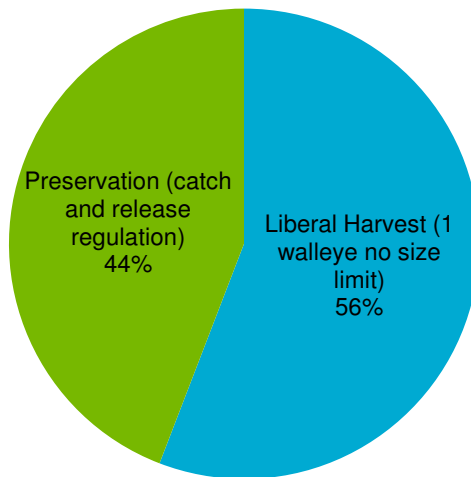


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Athabasca River?

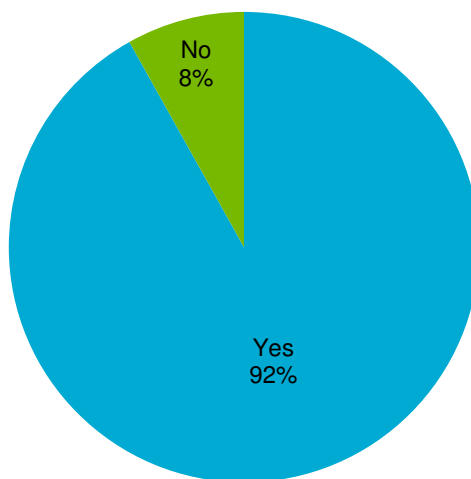


ES3 – Long Lake

Which proposed management objective for Walleye do you support? Walleye are not currently meeting the Sustainable Harvest objective and the remaining options are Liberal Harvest or Preservation.

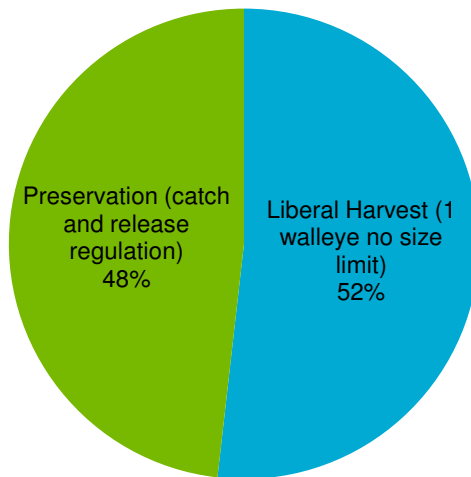


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Long Lake?

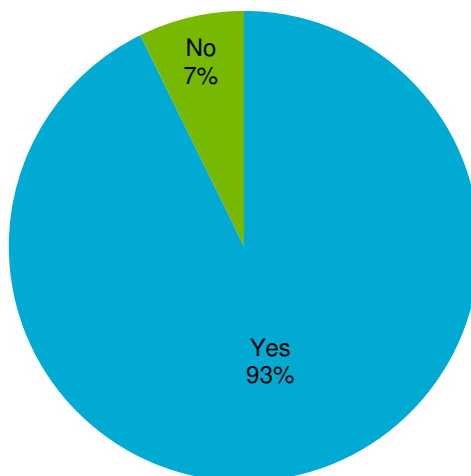


ES3 – Wolf Lake

Which proposed management objective for Walleye do you support? Walleye are not currently meeting the Sustainable Harvest objective and the remaining options are Preservation and Liberal Harvest.

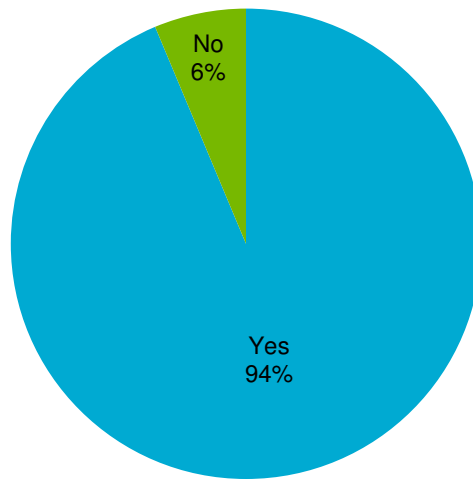


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Wolf Lake?

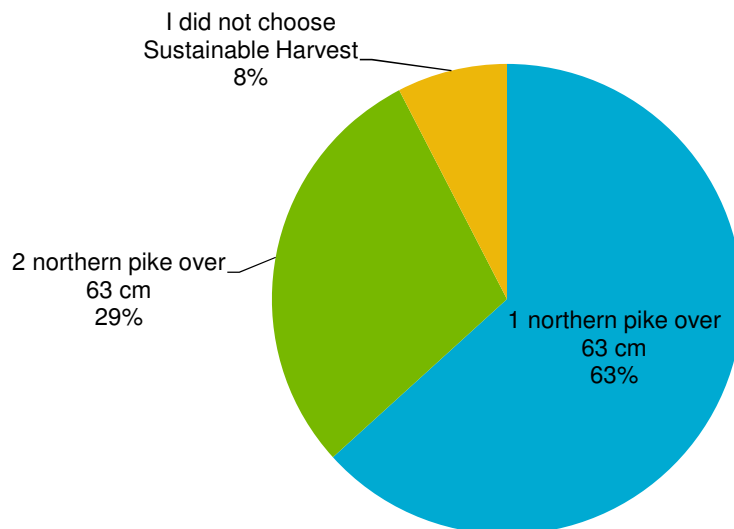


ES4 – Meekwap Lake

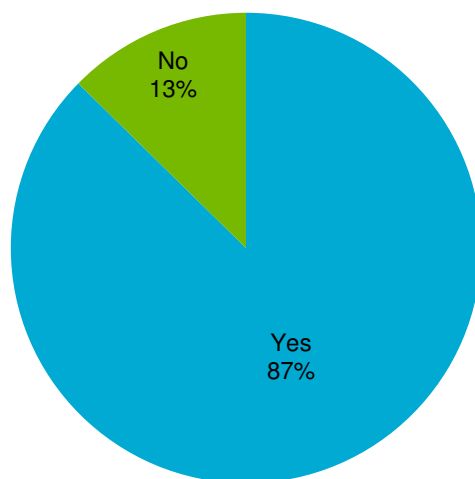
For Northern Pike, a management objective of Sustainable Harvest is recommended. This objective has more than one regulation option. Do you support this management objective?



Given the recommended objective of Sustainable Harvest, which of these regulation options do you prefer?

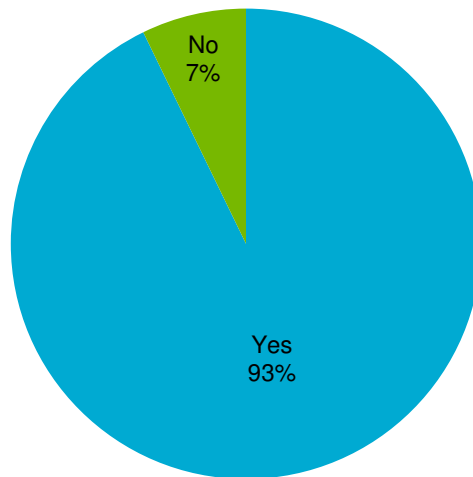


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Meekwap Lake?

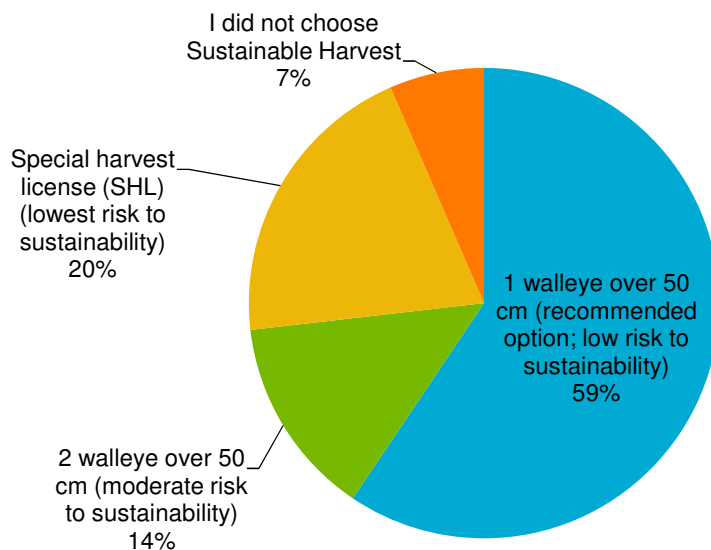


ES4 – Snipe Lake

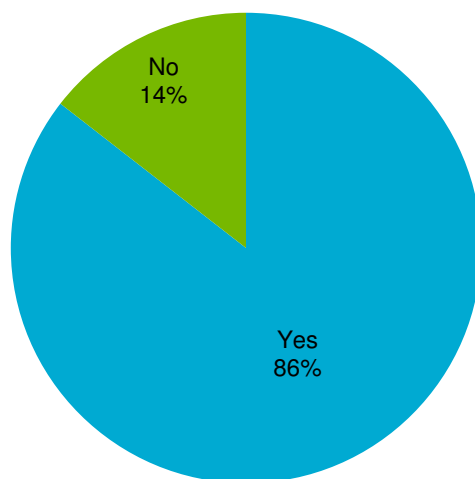
For Walleye, a management objective of Sustainable Harvest is recommended and more than one regulation option is available. Do you support this management objective?



Given the recommended objective of Sustainable Harvest which of these regulation options do you prefer for Snipe Lake?

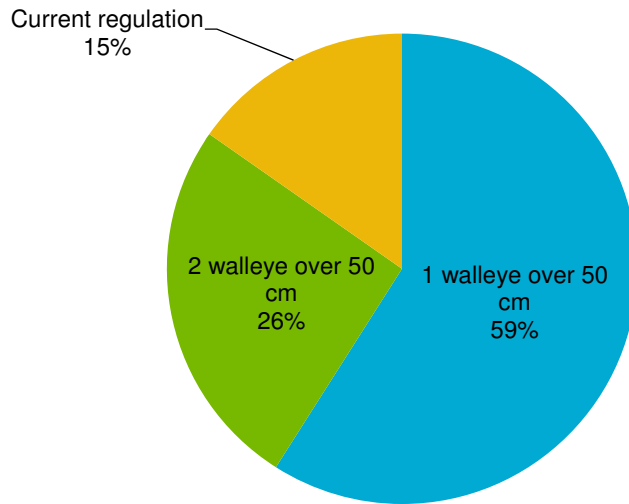


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Snipe Lake?

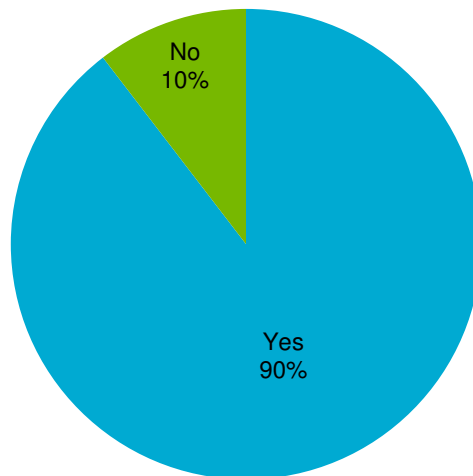


ES4 – Sturgeon Lake

For Walleye, a management objective of Sustainable Harvest is recommended. Which harvest option do you support?

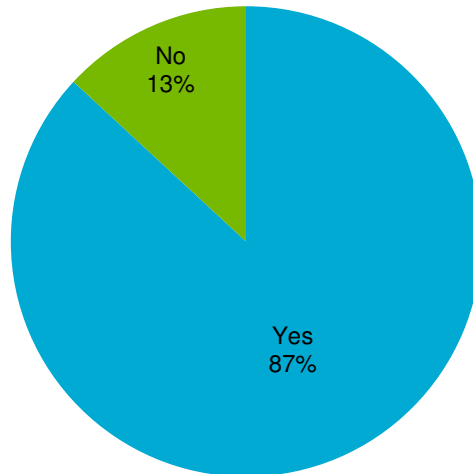


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Sturgeon Lake?

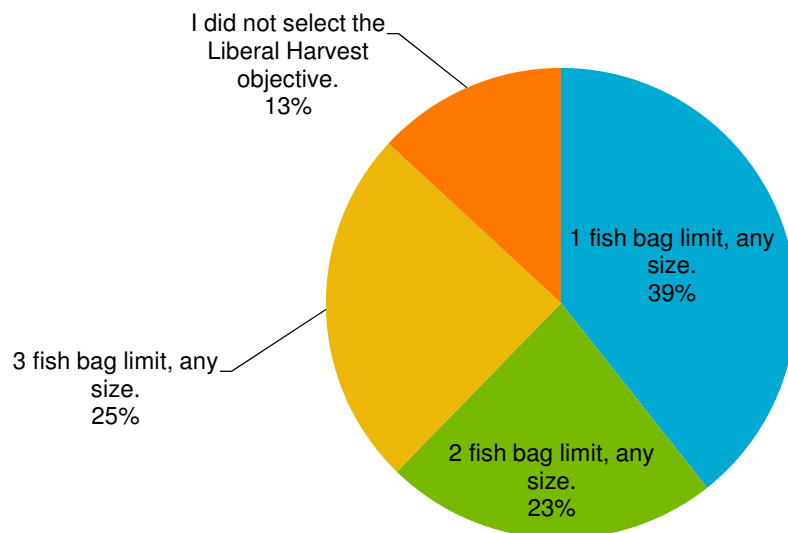


NB1 – Claude Lake

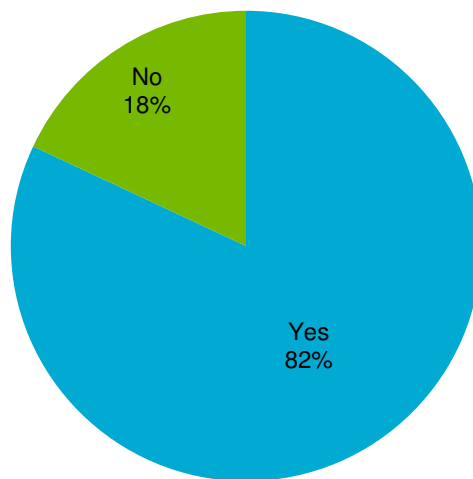
Do you support a Liberal Harvest management objective for Walleye?



If you identified Liberal Harvest as your preferred option, which of these regulation options do you prefer? The tradeoffs should be considered (for example, higher bag limits will deplete the population faster).

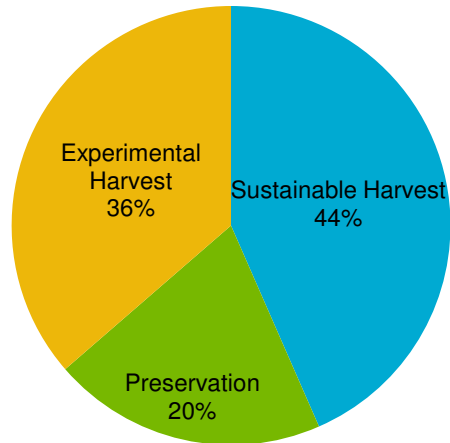


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Claude Lake?

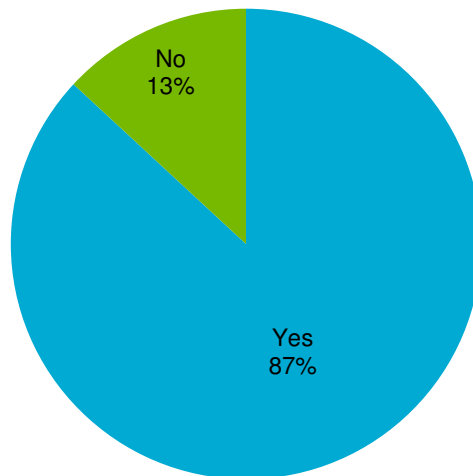


NB1 – Lac Bellevue

What proposed management objective for Walleye do you support?

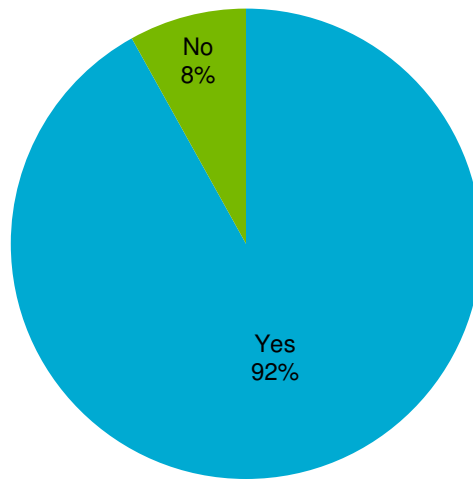


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Lac Bellevue?

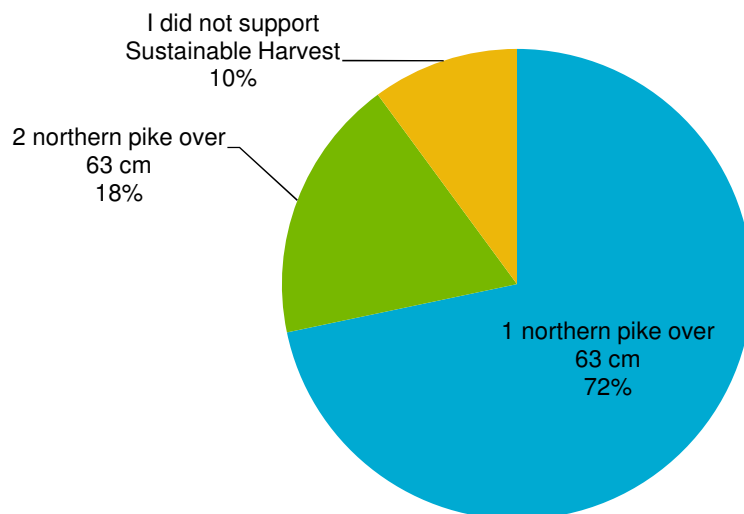


NB2 – Lac La Nonne

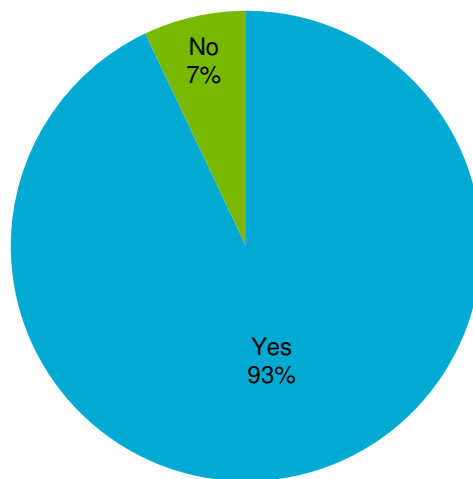
For Northern Pike, a management objective of Sustainable Harvest is recommended and more than one regulation option is available. Do you support this management objective?



Given the recommended objective of Sustainable Harvest, which of these regulation options do you prefer?

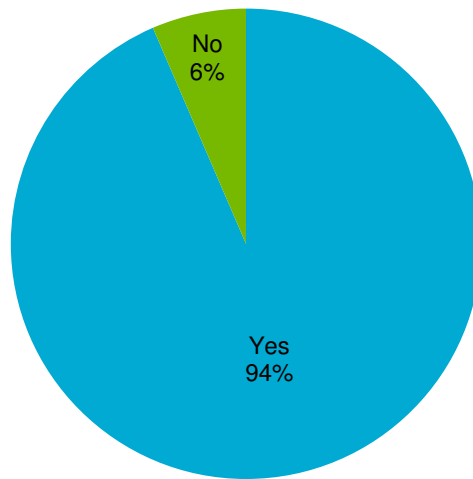


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Lac La Nonne?

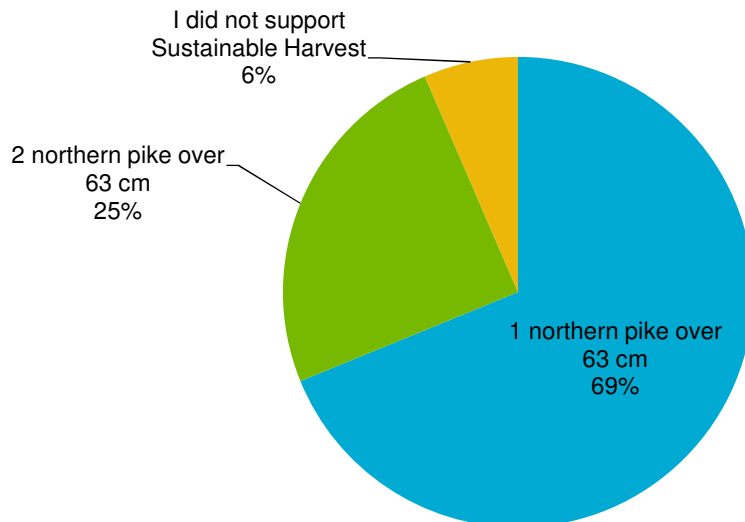


NB2 – Long Island Lake.

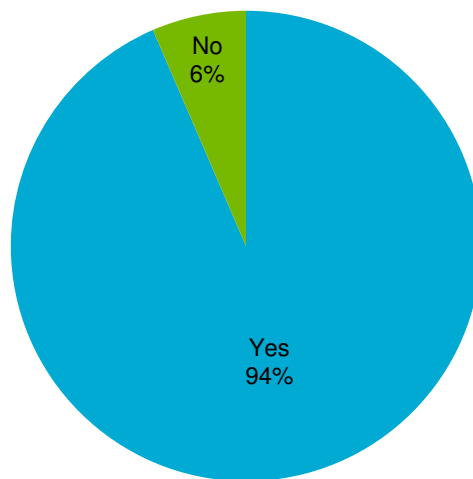
For Northern Pike, a management objective of Sustainable Harvest is recommended and more than one regulation option is available. Do you support this management objective?



Given the recommended objective of Sustainable Harvest, which of these regulation options do you prefer?

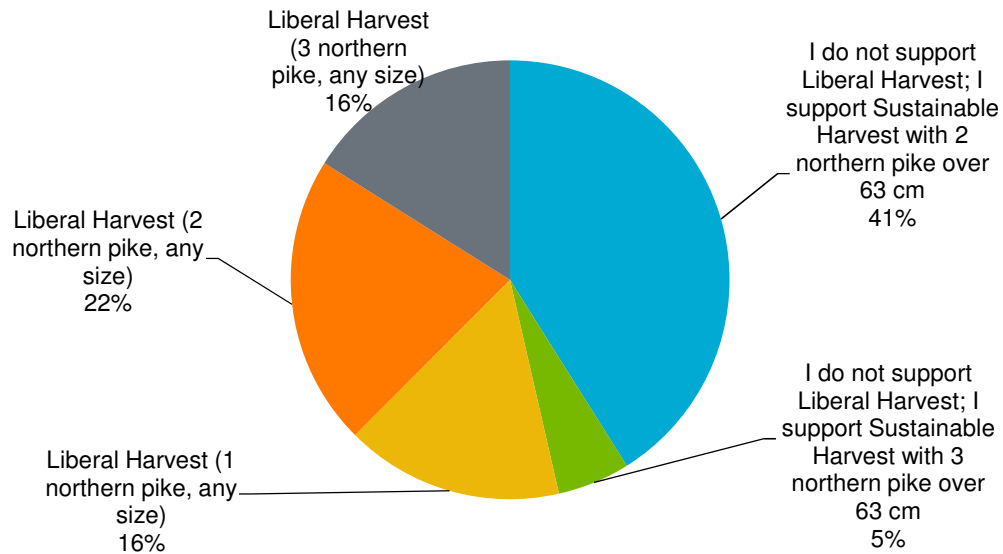


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Long Island Lake?

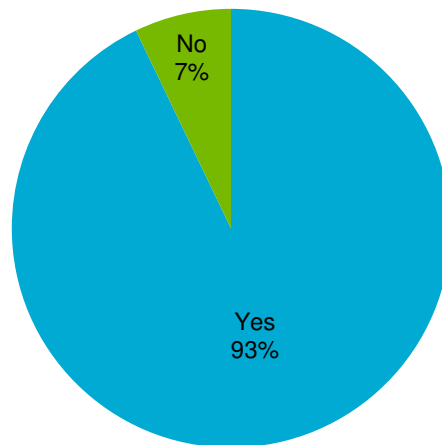


NB2 – Mitsue Lake.

The proposed management objective is Liberal Harvest. Which of these management actions would you prefer?

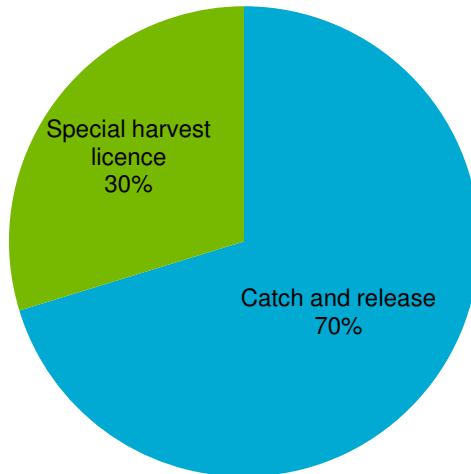


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Mitsue Lake?

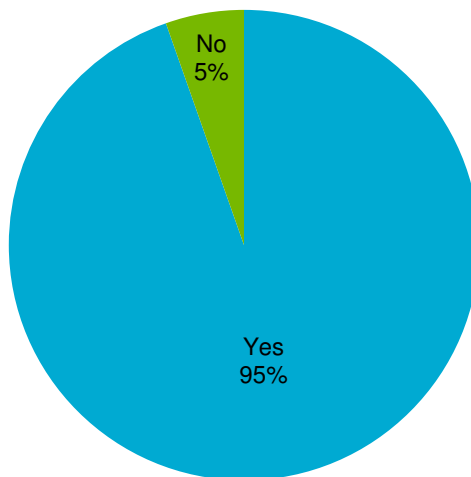


NB3 – Equisetum Lake

Which of the recovery options do you support being implemented?

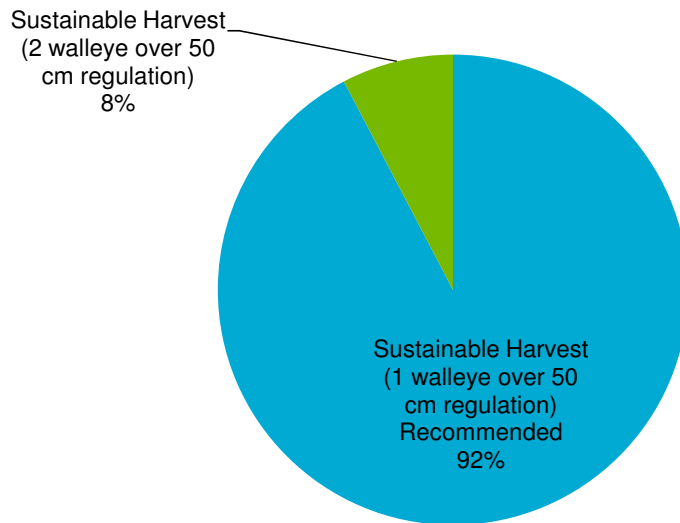


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Equisetum Lake?

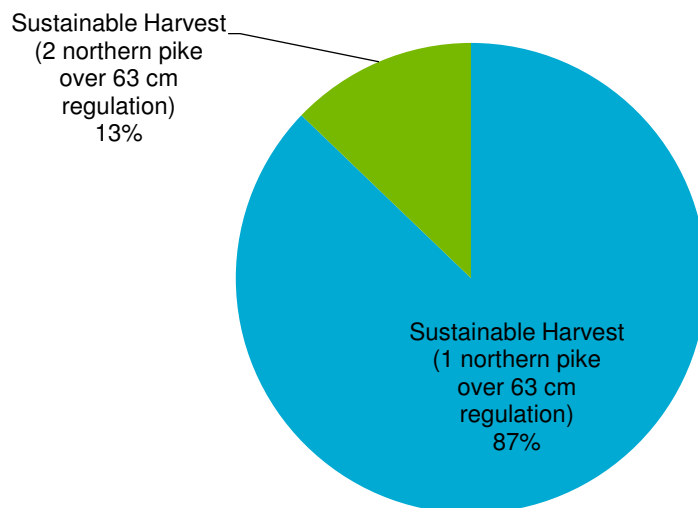


NB3 – Hutch Lake

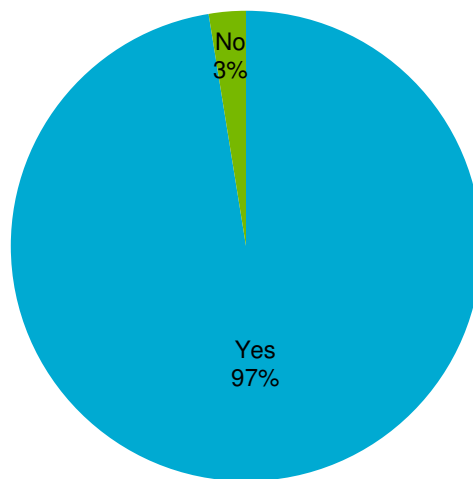
Which of the Sustainable Harvest regulation options for Walleye do you support being implemented at Hutch Lake?



Which of the Sustainable Harvest regulation options for Northern Pike do you support being implemented at Hutch Lake?

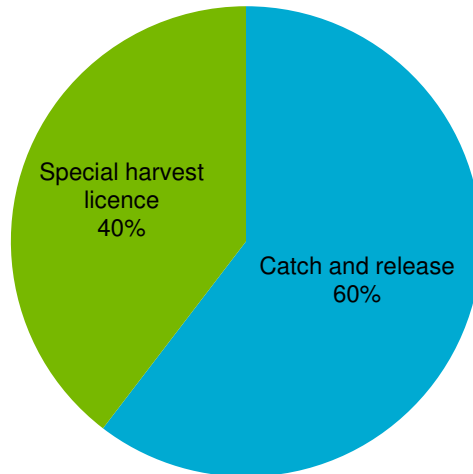


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Hutch Lake?

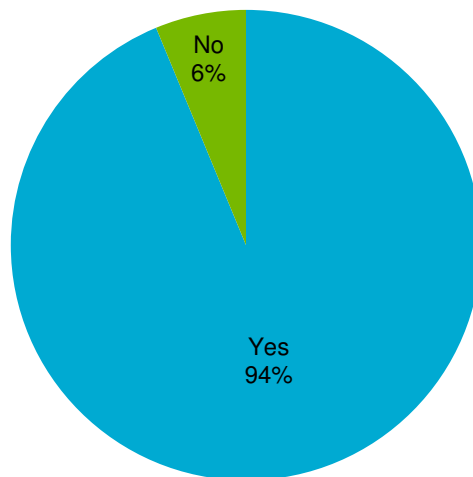


NB3 – Long Lake

Which of the recovery options do you support being implemented a Long Lake?

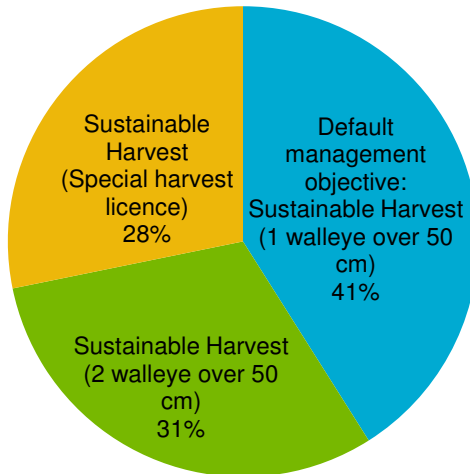


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Long Lake?

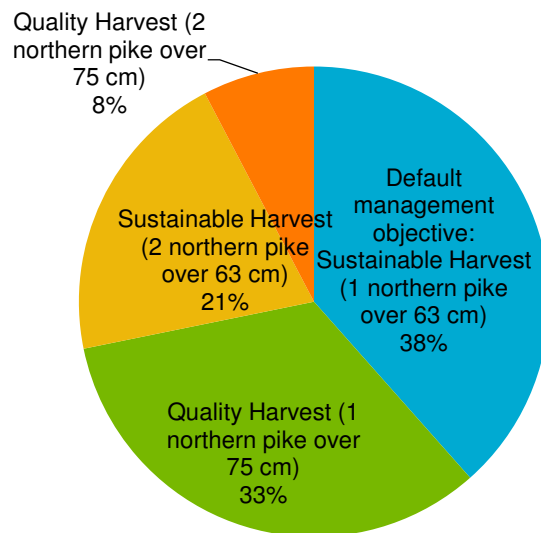


NB3 – North Wabasca Lake.

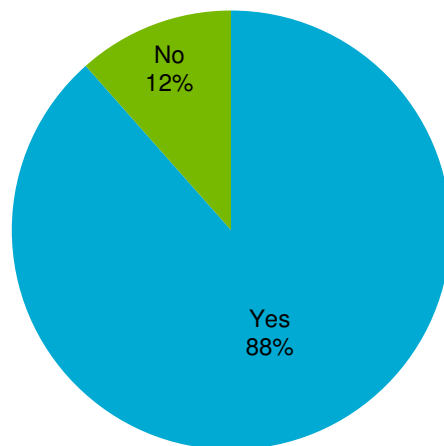
Once recovered, which management objective do you support for Walleye?



Once recovered, which management objective do you support for Northern Pike?

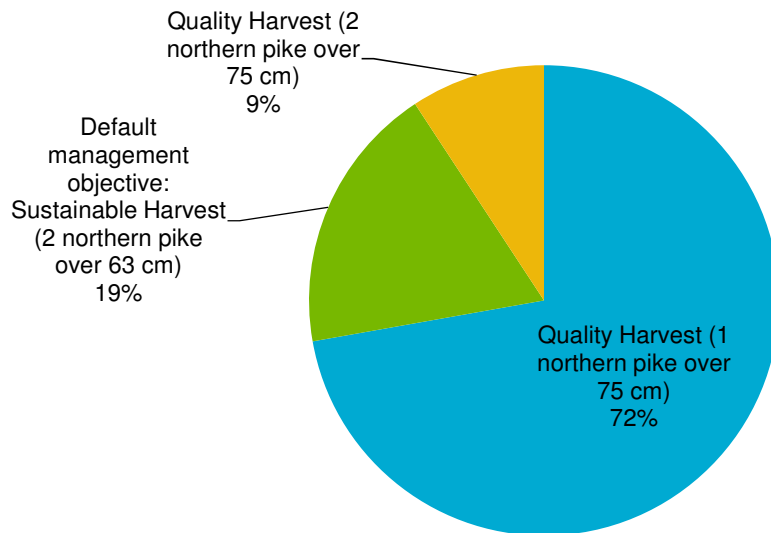


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for North Wabasca Lake?

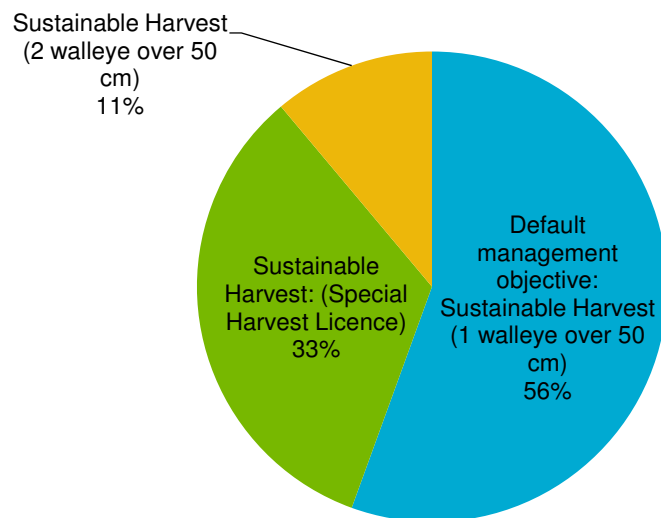


NB3 – Sandy Lake

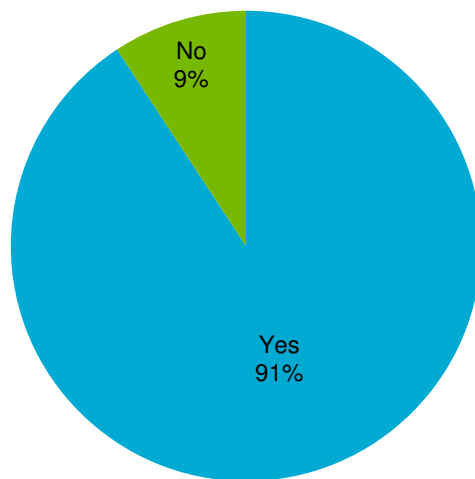
Which management objective do you support for Northern Pike?



Once recovered, which management objective do you support for Walleye?

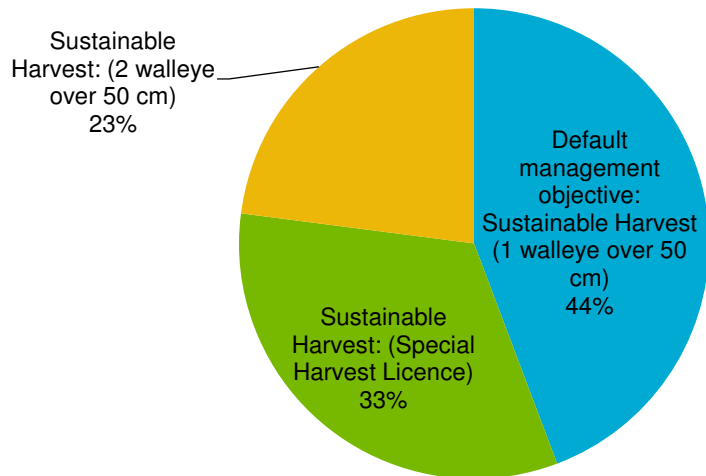


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Sandy Lake?

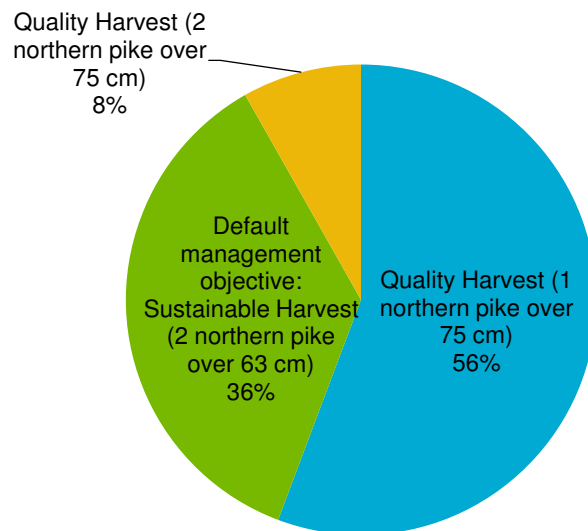


NB3 – South Wabasca Lake

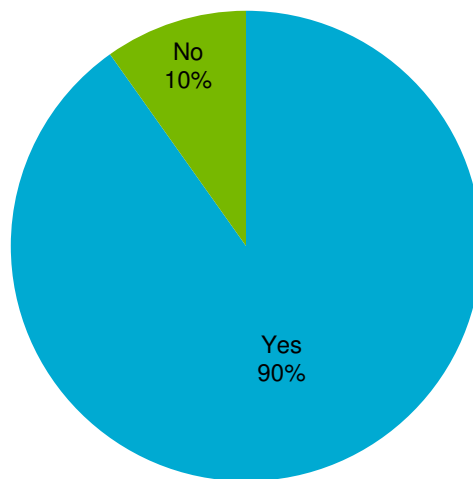
Once recovered, which management objective do you support for Walleye?



Which management objective do you support for Northern Pike?

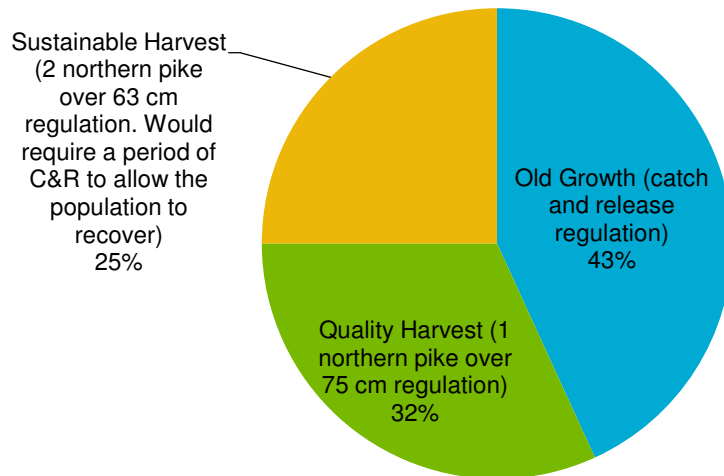


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for South Wabasca Lake?

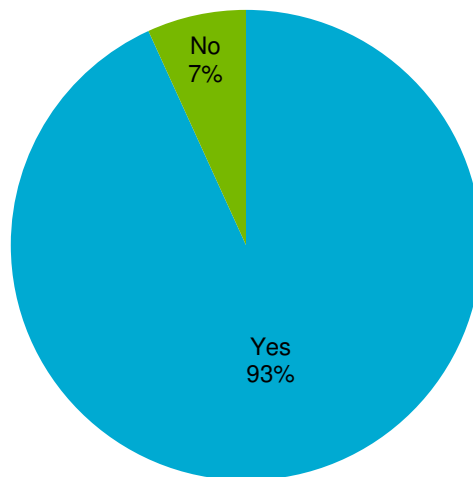


NB3 – Thurston Lake

Which of the management objectives do you support being implemented at Thurston Lake?

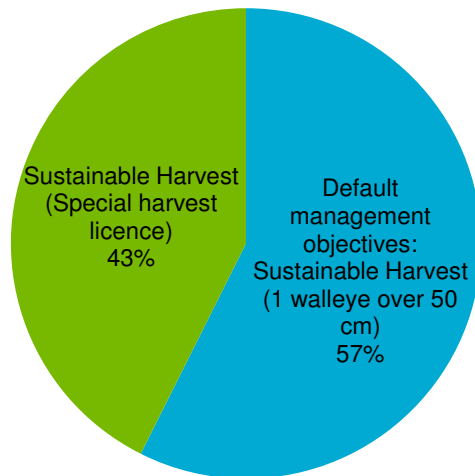


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Thurston Lake?

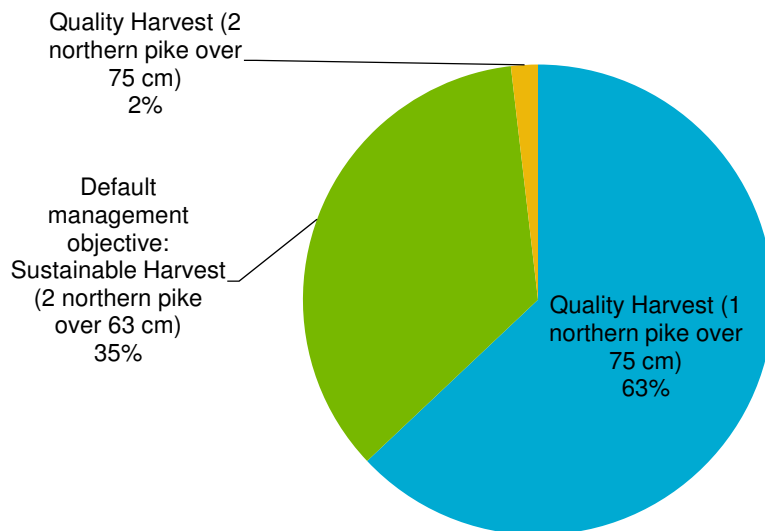


NB3 – Utikumasis Lake

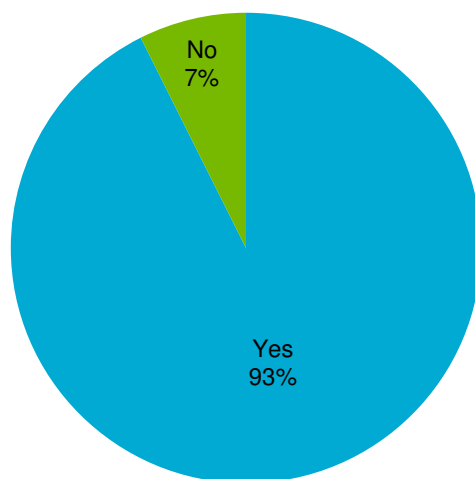
Which management objective do you support for Walleye?



Once recovered, which management objective do you support for pike?

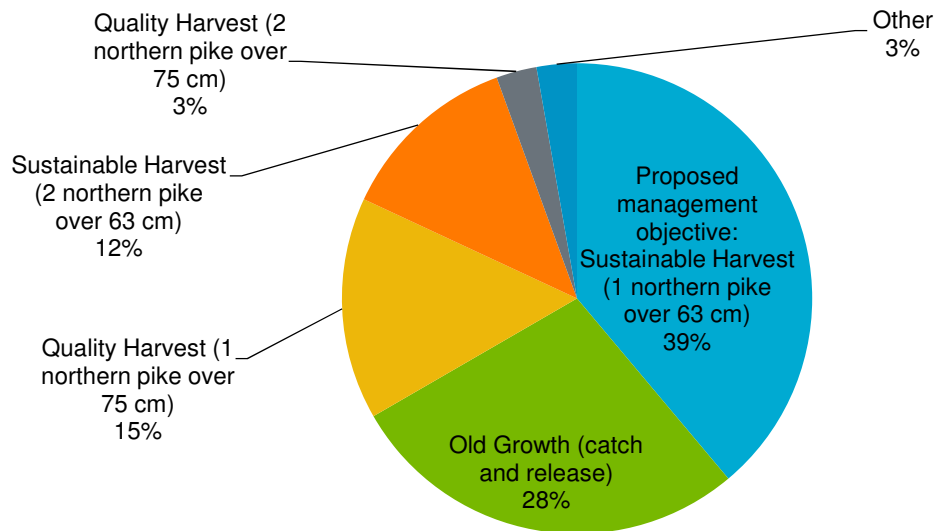


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Utikimasis Lake?

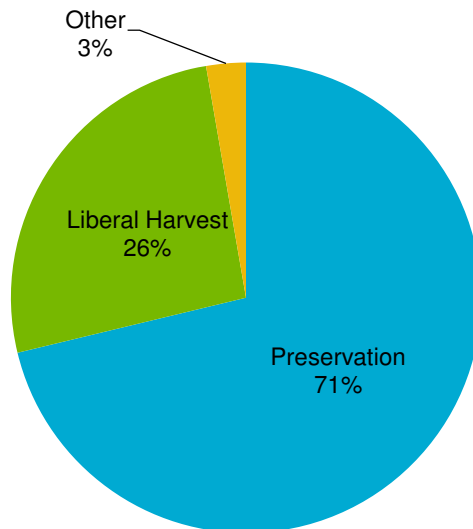


PP2 – Berry Creek/Carolside Reservoir

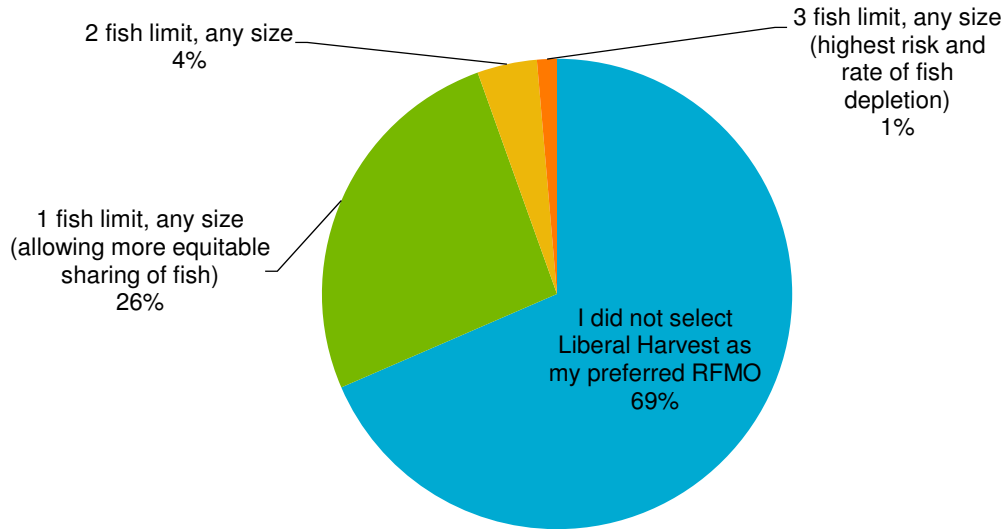
Which management objective do you support for Northern Pike?



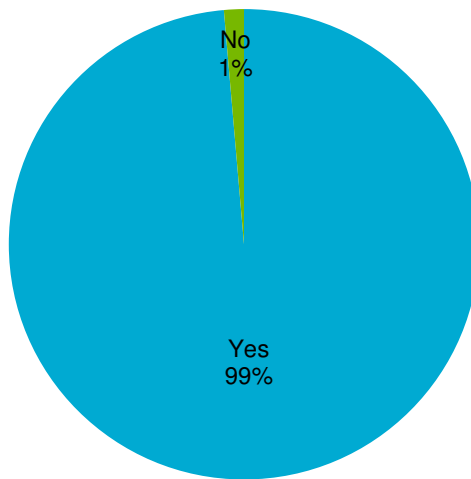
Which management objective do you support for Walleye?



If you identified Liberal Harvest as your preferred management objective for Walleye, which of these regulations do you prefer for Walleye as a Liberal Harvest fishery?

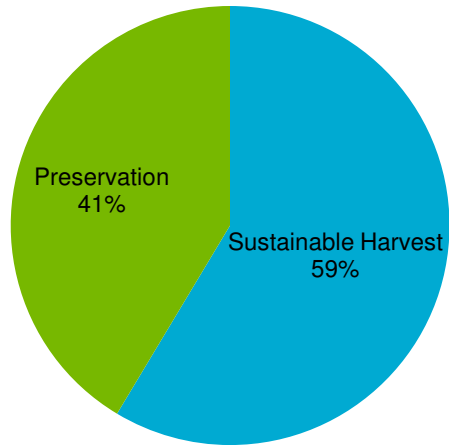


Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Berry Creek (Carolside) Reservoir?



PP2 – Isle Lake

What proposed management objective for Northern Pike do you support?



Do you feel you were well informed and able to offer meaningful feedback to the management objectives for Isle Lake?

