

2021-22 Sport Fisheries Management Engagement

Regulation Changes Summary

From January 15 to February 8, 2021 Alberta Environment and Parks invited public feedback through an online survey. The objectives of the 2021-22 sport fisheries management engagement were to

- Collect public feedback on options to enhance the Special Harvest Licence.
- Obtain public feedback on sportfishing regulation options at a series of waterbodies throughout the province.
- Inform the public of recommended 2021-22 sportfishing regulation changes at 15 identified waterbodies.

Updates to the Special Harvest Licence have been posted on our website and can be viewed [here](#).

This document summarizes the regulation changes (both notification and consultation items) and provides information as to why each change was made.

Fisheries Management Zone	Waterbody	2020/2021 Regulation	Options provided for public feedback	2021/2022 Regulation	Explanation
ES1	Quarry Lake	Two trout any size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue Arctic grayling brood stock and stock (10-12 years before establishment) • Manage lake for trout with options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two trout, no size limit • One trout larger than 30 cm • Zero harvest limit (catch and release) 	One trout over 50 cm	Public support through engagements to manage as a higher quality harvest stocked fishery.
	Wedge Pond	Two trout any size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue Arctic grayling brood stock and stock (10-12 years before establishment) • Manage lake for trout with options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two trout, no size limit • One trout larger than 30 cm • Zero harvest limit (catch and release) 	One trout over 50 cm	Public support through engagements to manage as a higher quality harvest stocked fishery.

Fisheries Management Zone	Waterbody	2020/2021 Regulation	Options provided for public feedback	2021/2022 Regulation	Explanation
ES1	Bear Pond	Two trout any size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursue Arctic grayling brood stock and stock (10-12 years before establishment) Manage lake for trout with options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One trout larger than 50 cm for Two trout, no size limit One trout larger than 30 cm Zero harvest limit 	One trout over 30 cm	Public support through engagements to manage as a quality harvest stocked fishery.
	Big Iron Lake	Two trout any size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursue Arctic grayling brood stock and stock (10-12 years before establishment) Manage lake for trout with options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One trout larger than 50cm for Two trout, no size limit One trout larger than 30 cm Zero harvest limit 	One trout over 30 cm	Public support through engagements to manage as a quality harvest stocked fishery.
ES2	Tay River and tributaries	Currently, not a listed stream; regulated with ES2 default regulations	Notification	Tay River and tributaries; Open Apr 1 to Aug 31, Bait ban; 5 Mountain whitefish over 30 cm; two trout any size	Listing the Tay River provides this threatened bull trout population protection particularly during their spawning season.

Fisheries Management Zone	Waterbody	2020/2021 Regulation	Options provided for public feedback	2021/2022 Regulation	Explanation
ES2	Cow Lake	One Northern pike over 100 cm; five trout any size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero Northern pike (catch and release), 15 yellow perch any size, not stocked with rainbow or brown trout; • Zero Northern pike (catch and release), 15 yellow perch any size, five rainbow trout any size, five brown trout any size; • Zero Northern pike (catch and release), 15 yellow perch any size, five any size rainbow trout, zero brown trout (catch and release); • Three Northern pike any size, 15 yellow perch any size, five any size rainbow trout, five any size brown trout; • Three Northern pike any size, 15 yellow perch any size, five any size rainbow trout, zero harvest limit brown trout 	Zero Northern pike (catch and release); 15 yellow perch any size; five rainbow trout any size; Zero brown trout (catch and release)	Public support through engagements to recover the pike population, provide harvest on rainbow trout and have zero limit on brown trout.
	Burnstick Lake	One walleye over 50 cm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One walleye any size; • One walleye under 50cm; • Zero walleye (catch and release) 	Zero walleye (catch and release)	Public support through engagements to recover the walleye population.
PP1	Cowoki Irrigation Canal	Open May 8 to Sept. 30 and Dec. 1 to Mar. 15	Notification	Open May 8 to Sept. 30 and Dec. 15 to Mar. 15	Conservation concern; reduced season to align with connected reservoirs and conserve aggregations of lake whitefish.

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PP1	Outpost (Police) Lake	One rainbow trout over 50 cm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One rainbow trout over 50 cm; Two rainbow trout between 20 and 30cm 	One rainbow trout over 50 cm	Due to the marginal difference between votes, additional comments from the survey were taken into consideration and it was decided to retain the current quality harvest objective for the stocked fishery.
PP2	Blindman River	Bait: Only maggots allowed	Notification	All bait allowed	Allowing bait supports increased harvest opportunities for Prussian Carp.
	Upper and Middle Chain Lakes	Three Northern pike over 63cm	Notification	One Northern pike any size	As both lakes periodically winter and summer kill, liberal harvest aligns the regulations to the environmental conditions and adjoining Magee Lake, and provides a harvest opportunity.
	Isle Lake	Zero yellow perch (catch and release)	Notification	10 yellow perch any size	Aligns to provincial default (sustainable harvest objective) regulation for yellow perch.
		Zero Walleye (catch and release)	Notification	One walleye any size	Long term water quality concerns and winter and summer kills limits the population; liberal harvest aligns to the environmental conditions and provides an angling opportunity.
Wabamun Lake	Zero lake whitefish (catch and release); Zero burbot (catch and release)	Notification	Five lake whitefish any size; two burbot, zero burbot from Feb. 1 to Mar. 31 (catch and release)	Change in management objectives to allow harvest of lake whitefish and burbot.	

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PP2	Wabamun Lake	Zero walleye (catch and release)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Harvest Licence for walleye to allow harvest opportunities for small walleye, zero Northern pike limit (catch and release), zero yellow perch limit (catch and release), five lake whitefish any size; Zero for all species (catch and release) 	Special Harvest Licence for walleye to allow harvest opportunities for small walleye, zero harvest limit for Northern pike and yellow perch, lake whitefish five fish any size	Public support through engagements to manage walleye with a sustainable harvest objective with a Special Harvest Licence.
	Kerbe's Pond	One trout over 50 cm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One trout over 50cm, bait ban, April 1 to November 30; Five trout any size, allow bait, open all year 	One trout over 50cm, bait ban, April 1 to November 30	Public support through engagement supported continuing to manage as a quality harvest stocked fishery.
NB1	North Buck Lake	Zero Northern pike (catch and release)	Notification	Northern pike 1 fish over 63 cm	Northern pike status has improved and can support a sustainable harvest objective and provide a limited harvest opportunity.
	Pinehurst Lake	One walleye 50-55 cm (harvest slot)	Notification	Zero walleye (catch and release)	Conservation concern; recovery action is required.
	Moose Lake	One Walleye limit 50-55 cm (harvest slot); One Northern pike over 63 cm	Notification	Walleye Special Harvest Licence and zero Northern pike (catch and release)	Conservation concern; recovery actions are required.
NB2	Winagami Lake	Two Northern pike over 63 cm	Notification	Zero Northern pike (catch and release)	Conservation concern; recovery action is required.

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NB3	North Wabasca Lake	Zero walleye (catch and release)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero walleye (catch and release); • Allow limited harvest through a Special Harvest Licence; • One walleye over 50 cm 	One walleye over 50 cm	Public support through engagements to manage walleye with a sustainable harvest objective.
		Zero Northern pike (catch and release)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero Northern pike (catch and release); • One Northern pike over 75 cm 	One Northern pike over 75 cm	Public support through engagements to manage Northern pike with a quality harvest objective.
	South Wabasca Lake	Zero walleye (catch and release)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero walleye (catch and release); • Allow limited harvest through a Special Harvest Licence; • One walleye over 50 cm 	One walleye over 50 cm	Public support through engagements to manage walleye with a sustainable harvest objective.
	Nipisi Lake	Zero Northern pike (catch and release)	Notification	One Northern pike over 75 cm	Recovery actions improved the status of Northern pike; the change to quality harvest was supported by stakeholders during 2017 public engagement and provides a new harvest opportunity.
	Nipisi River	Three Walleye over 50 cm; Three Northern pike over 63 cm	Notification	One Walleye over 50 cm; Two Northern pike over 63 cm	Alignment of these regulations with the Wabasca River simplifies the regulations.
	Loon River	Three Walleye over 43 cm; three Northern pike over 63 cm	Notification	One walleye over 50 cm; Two Northern pike over 63 cm	Alignment of these regulations with the Wabasca River simplifies the regulations.

Fisheries Management Zone	Waterbody	2020/2021 Regulation	Options provided for public feedback	2021/2022 Regulation	Explanation
NB3	Muskwa River	Three walleye over 50 cm; Three Northern pike over 63 cm	Notification	One walleye over 50 cm, two Northern pike over 63 cm	Alignment of these regulations with the Wabasca River simplifies the regulations.
	Wabasca River – portion downstream of Sandy Lake to South Wabasca Lake and the portion between South and North Wabasca lakes	Zero walleye (catch and release)	Notification	One walleye over 50 cm	Regulation and objective continue to alignment with the lake regulations. The conservation closure will remain in place to protect migrating walleye and Northern pike.
	Wabasca River – portion downstream of North Wabasca Lake and tributaries except the Loon, Muskwa and Nipisi Rivers	Three walleye over 43 cm; three Northern pike over 63 cm	Notification	One walleye over 50 cm; two Northern pike over 63 cm	Managed for sustainable harvest to ensure consistency and a harvest opportunity. The conservation closure will remain in place to protect migrating walleye and Northern pike.
NB4	Big Island Lake	One Northern pike over 63 cm	Notification	Zero Northern pike (catch and release)	Conservation concern; recovery action is required.