



Summary of Activities

Date: November, 2018

To: Ian Kitch
MB Sustainable Development -
Fisheries Branch, SVSFE Board

From: Brock Koutecky, Holly Urban & Megan
Paterson - Swan Valley Sport Fishing
Technical Staff

Contact Info:
swanvalleysportfish@gmail.com

Subject: 2018 Cache Lake Stock Assessment

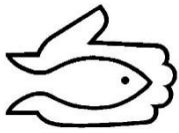
Location: Cache Lake, Duck Mountain Provincial Park, MB, 14 U 368078 5721674

History: As an effort to establish a new stocked walleye fishery in the Duck Mountains, Cache Lake was stocked with 400,000 walleye fry in May 2010. Although Cache Lake lies along PTH 366, the lake receives very little angling pressure as there is not an established boat launch. In the years following the initial stocking there had been no angling reports of walleye stocking success. As a recipient lake from the Beautiful Lake Walleye Transfer, Cache Lake received 602 juvenile walleye (avg 17cm FL) in the fall of 2016, and then again with 451 juvenile walleye (avg 24.5cm) in the fall of 2017.

Objective: As an effort to monitor stock response, survival, and growth SVSFE investigated the fishery in late spring 2018.

Methods and Results: On May 31st 2018 while depth sounding Cache Lake, technicians brought along a monofilament random gang net with 15m of each mesh size (2", 2.5", 3", 3.5", 4") assembled in random order. Three sets for a total effort of 3 hours yielded 4 pike and 12 white sucker. Northern pike ranged from 420-510mm (FL) with an average of 467.5mm (FL). White suckers ranged from 380-490mm (FL) with an average of 440mm (FL). Also, white suckers were observed spawning near shore on the south-east corner of the lake. From June 18th-20th, 2018 SVSFE set two overnight fine mesh trap nets for a total effort of 45.5hrs. Trap net hauls yielded 17 pike and 527 juvenile yellow perch. Northern pike ranged from 360-600mm (FL) with an average of 466.5mm (FL). Pike ages ranged from 2-5 years. An effort map showing gill and trap sites seen on page 2, and the bathymetric map from collected sounding data can be seen on page 3. No walleye were captured in the 2018 netting efforts.

Discussion: Unfortunately, Cache Lake lacks suitable walleye habitat. Much like it's sister waterbody (Marge Lake), the waters are very clear with lack of littoral habitat and submergent vegetation. At this time, it is not recommended to continue walleye stocking due to poor survival. In 2010, rainbow trout stocking was also completed with no success. Another factor restricting this fishery is lake access. The current "launch" near the Marge Lake corner poses safety concerns and should not be promoted. Currently, it is not feasible to invest in an alternative landing/launching area if the lake does not offer a valuable fishery for anglers. If in the future, managers deem the lake as a beneficial fishery, creating a safe access is a priority.

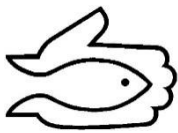


Summary of Activities

Subject: 2018 Cache Lake Stock Assessment

2018 Cache Lake Effort Map





Summary of Activities

Subject: 2018 Cache Lake Stock Assessment

