

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Section of Fisheries**

**Lake Survey Report**

Division of Waters inventory number: 86-0031-00	Starting date of survey: 04/21/2004
Lake name: Pelican	Alternate name: N/A
Lake class: N/A	Alternate classes: N/A
Area code: 340	Map ID: N/A
Survey type: Special assessment	
Note: Winterkill recovery evaluation	

**Lake Location Information**

Counties: Wright	Nearest town: ANNANDALE
Legal description: Township - 120N; Range - 24W; Sections - 5, 6, 7, 8	
Township - 120N; Range - 25W; Sections - 1, 2, 11, 12	
Township - 121N; Range - 24W; Sections - 30, 31	

**Public Access**

ID #:	Ownership:	Type:	Location Description and Comments:
AC- 2	Minnesota DNR	Concrete	off county road 15
AC- 1	Fish & Wildlife Service	Carry-in	off county road 15

**No record of previous surveys or investigations found**

**Lake and Watershed Characteristics**

Lake area (acres): 2793	Shoreline length (mi): 30
Area in MN (acres): 2793	Maximum fetch (mi): N/A
DOW area (acres): 2793	Fetch orientation: N/A
Littoral acres: N/A	Watershed size (acres): N/A
Maximum depth (feet): 9.0	Major watershed number: 18
Mean depth (feet): N/A	Minor watershed number: 086
Primary USGS Quad map code: R14a	

**Net Catch Summary for STN  
Special sampling with trap nets.**

Number of sets: 16 (set-days)  
 First net set on: 04/21/2004  
 Last net lifted on: 04/23/2004  
 Sampling method: 3/4" double frame trap nets  
 Target species: None

**Summary by Numbers**

Species	Total Fish	Number per Set	Quartiles for Lake Class		
			25%	50%	75%
Black Bullhead	5462	341.38			
Black Crappie	50	3.13			
Bluegill	60	3.75			
Hybrid Sunfish	10	0.63			
Largemouth Bass	22	1.38			
Northern Pike	1	0.06			
Pumpkinseed Sunfish	4	0.25			
White Sucker	7	0.44			
Yellow Bullhead	61	3.81			
Total fish/set:		354.81			

**Summary by Weight (lbs)**

Species	Total Weight	Lbs per Set	Mean Weight	Quartiles* for Lake Class		
				25%	50%	75%
Black Bullhead	ND	ND	ND			
Black Crappie	ND	ND	ND			
Bluegill	ND	ND	ND			
Hybrid Sunfish	ND	ND	ND			
Largemouth Bass	ND	ND	ND			
Northern Pike	ND	ND	ND			
Pumpkinseed Sunfish	ND	ND	ND			
White Sucker	ND	ND	ND			
Yellow Bullhead	ND	ND	ND			
Total lbs fish/set:		ND		* Quartiles for mean weight		

**Length Frequency Distribution for STN  
Special sampling with trap nets.**

for Field Work between 4/21/2004 and 4/23/2004

Length Category	BLB	BLC	BLG	LMB	NOP	PMK	WTS	YEB
< 3.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[ 3.00 - 3.49)	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
[ 3.50 - 3.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[ 4.00 - 4.49)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[ 4.50 - 4.99)	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
[ 5.00 - 5.49)	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[ 5.50 - 5.99)	13	2	1	-	-	1	-	-
[ 6.00 - 6.49)	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
[ 6.50 - 6.99)	1	-	12	-	-	1	-	-
[ 7.00 - 7.49)	3	-	34	-	-	-	-	1
[ 7.50 - 7.99)	22	-	3	-	-	-	-	1
[ 8.00 - 8.49)	23	1	-	-	-	-	-	6
[ 8.50 - 8.99)	30	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
[ 9.00 - 9.49)	13	4	-	-	-	-	-	9
[ 9.50 - 9.99)	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	8
[10.00 - 10.49)	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	8
[10.50 - 10.99)	4	14	-	-	-	-	-	2
[11.00 - 11.49)	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1
[11.50 - 11.99)	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
[12.00 - 12.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
[13.00 - 13.99)	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-
[14.00 - 14.99)	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-
[15.00 - 15.99)	-	-	-	4	-	-	3	-
[16.00 - 16.99)	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	-
[17.00 - 17.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[18.00 - 18.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[19.00 - 19.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[20.00 - 20.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[21.00 - 21.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[22.00 - 22.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[23.00 - 23.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[24.00 - 24.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[25.00 - 25.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[26.00 - 26.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[27.00 - 27.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[28.00 - 28.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[29.00 - 29.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[30.00 - 30.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[31.00 - 31.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[32.00 - 32.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[33.00 - 33.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[34.00 - 34.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[35.00 - 35.99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
=> 36.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total by station	129	50	56	22	1	2	6	50
Min. Length (inch)	4.53	4.96	3.31	11.69	16.14	5.98	15.12	7.20
Max. Length (inch)	10.94	11.50	7.72	16.54	16.14	6.65	16.46	12.36
Mean Length (inch)	7.53	10.00	6.92	14.26	16.14	6.32	15.88	9.84
Number Measured	48	48	54	22	1	2	6	39
No Lengths For	5333	0	4	0	0	2	1	11

*Discussion*

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Pelican Lake is a large (3,078 acres) shallow lake in Wright County that is managed for waterfowl. The lake has a history of winterkill, most recently in 2001 when a limited trapnet survey found no gamefish but high numbers of small black bullhead. Pelican Lake has no natural outlet and recent water levels have been very high. Flooding has prompted investigation into constructing an outlet. DNR Wildlife is concerned that high water levels and recent mild winters are preventing winterkill in the lake.

In April 2004, 18 trap nets (3/4 inch) were used to assess the fish population on Pelican Lake. Black bullhead were abundant (303/net), whereas all other species were sampled in low numbers. Several game species were captured, including bluegill (3.3/net), black crappie (2.8/net), largemouth bass (1.2/net), pumpkinseed (0.2/net), and northern pike (0.1/net). Other species included yellow bullhead (3.4/net), and white sucker (0.4/net).

Growth rates were high for all game species sampled. Largemouth bass ranged in age from 2-8; most bass were age 3 and reached 13.6-15.5 inches. Bluegill were age 2-6 and reached 7.7 inches at age 4. Black crappie were age 2-4 and reached 11.3 inches at age 3.

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*Paul Rudruch*

Area Fisheries Supervisor

*1/28/05*

Date

*Dan M. Wilson for Dan Kela 06-11-05*

Regional Fisheries Manager

Date

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