

## **Management Summary-Caribou Lake**

- Walleye and Northern Pike are the primary management species (2010 Management Plan)
- Current management goals: Maintain a self-sustained Walleye population with a minimum gill net catch of 13.0 fish/net. Maintain a minimum Northern Pike gill net catch of 1.2 fish/net, with some fish over 25 inches present
- Additional species present include Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch, Black Crappie, Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, White sucker, various minnow species
- Walleye (fry) have been stocked periodically since 1978, last stocked in 2009
- Current evaluations: Determine whether a resumption of stocking is needed to meet the walleye long-range catch goal. Determine whether a walleye population meeting the long-range goal provides satisfactory walleye fishing.
- Creel surveys not funded in 2014 or 2017
- 2017 survey summary
  - Walleye catch below goal (5.67 fish/net), but within normal range for lake class
  - Strong 2013 and 2015 Walleye year classes, comprised 60% of the total catch
  - Reproduction remains consistent, no missing year classes through age-8
  - Northern Pike catch below goal, but size goal met
  - Smallmouth Bass less abundant than past, but in normal range for lake class
  - Bluegill and Black Crappie remain present in low numbers, compared to other regions
- Adult Walleye Population Estimates (DNR, 1854 TA, FDL data combined)
  - 2005: 4,248 Walleye  $\geq$  10 inches
  - 2008: 4,048 Walleye  $\geq$  10 inches
  - 2014: 2,013 Walleye  $\geq$  11 inches
  - 2017: 2,150 Walleye  $\geq$  11 inches
- Management plan will be revised Winter 2019