



## Lake information

<b>WATERSHED</b>	<b>LAKE CLASS</b>
Yukon Headwaters	C
<b>SURFACE AREA</b>	<b>ELEVATION</b>
1,441 ha	575 m
<b>MAXIMUM DEPTH</b>	<b>AVERAGE DEPTH</b>
65 m	14.6 m
<b>SURFACE TEMP</b>	<b>REGULATIONS</b>
16.2°C	Special Management
<b>SAMPLING DATES</b>	<b>NET SETS</b>
July 9-10	66

### Location

Frenchman Lake is located approximately 26 km east of the Village of Carmacks within the Traditional Territory of the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation.

### Access and use

Access to Frenchman Lake is via the seasonal Frenchman Lake Road which turns north off the Robert Campbell Highway 39 km east of the Village of Carmacks and connects with the Klondike Highway at km 384, just north of Tatchun Creek. Two government campgrounds with popular boat launches are located on the lake.

## Frenchman Lake 2025

### Overall status

#### Lake trout

Harvest of lake trout from Frenchman Lake has been prohibited since 2016 to support population recovery. Results from the 2025 survey indicate that the population remains small and is similar to estimates from 2020 and 2012.

#### Lake whitefish

Based on lake whitefish catch rates and age composition, the population of lake whitefish in Frenchman Lake appears sustainable. Observed size distributions indicate a population composed of multiple size classes, which is consistent with ongoing recruitment and a stable population structure.

#### Recommendation

The 2025 survey supports maintaining current harvest restrictions on lake trout in Frenchman Lake. Multiple recent surveys indicate that this small population cannot sustain recreational harvest pressure, likely due in part to the lake's limited availability of suitable lake trout habitat. Existing restrictions should therefore remain in place for the foreseeable future to support long-term population sustainability.

## Lake trout

During the 2025 survey, 66 nets were set and 29 lake trout were caught.

### Population estimate and density

The lake trout population estimate for Frenchman Lake was **2,600** (estimate range: 0 to 7,254). This equates to a density of 1.8 large-bodied lake trout per hectare.

Given the wide range, there is considerable uncertainty in this estimate. High variability is common when population estimates are based on small sample sizes. Nevertheless, the low number of fish captured suggests a low-density population.

### Length and weight

Sampled lake trout ranged in size from 261 mm to 836 mm, with a mean fork length of 594 mm. The average weight of sampled lake trout was 1,901 g.

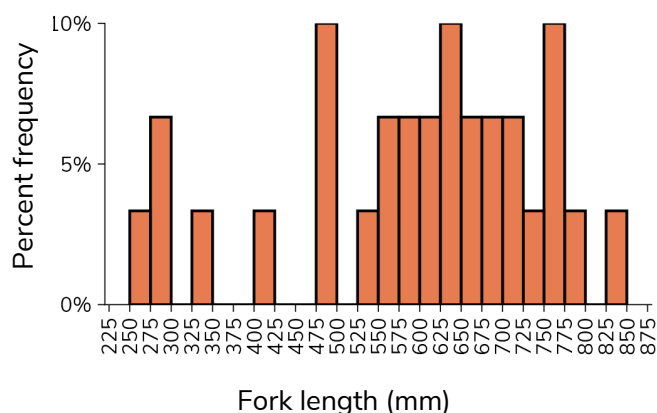


Figure 1. Length frequency distribution of sampled lake trout in Frenchman Lake (2025), n = 29.

### Age and growth

Age structures were obtained from 8 lake trout. Ages ranged from 7 to 35 years. Given the small sample size, detailed growth analysis is limited.

## Lake whitefish

There were 237 lake whitefish sampled during this survey.

### Length and weight

Sampled lake whitefish ranged in fork length from 229 mm to 465 mm, with an average fork length of 286 mm. The average weight was 280 g.

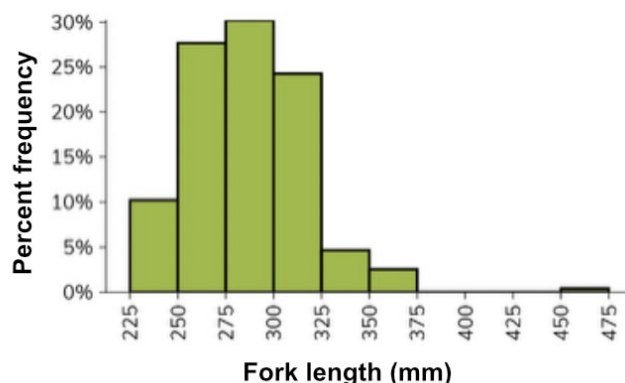


Figure 3. Length frequency distribution of sampled lake whitefish in Frenchman Lake (2025), n = 237.

### Age and growth

Age structures were interpreted from 90 lake whitefish. Ages ranged from 3 to 14 years, with a mean age of 7 years.

## Temperature and dissolved oxygen

The lake was thermally stratified, with temperatures dropping rapidly between 9 m and 15 m.

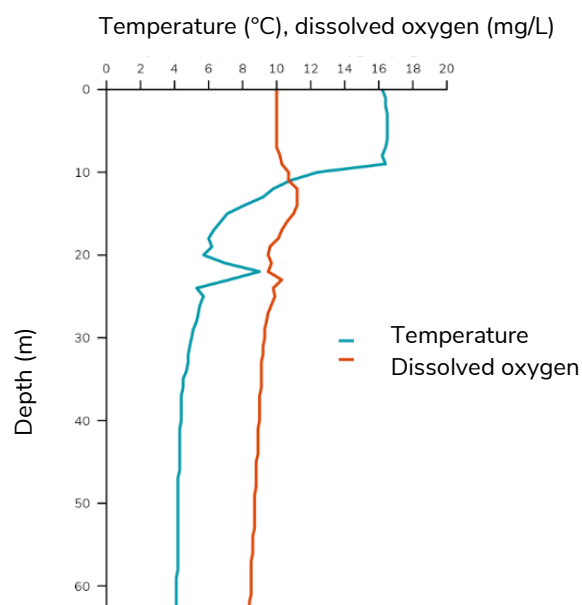


Figure 2. Temperature (°C) and dissolved oxygen (mg/L) as measured in Frenchman Lake, July 10, 2025.

### Suggested citation:

Government of Yukon. 2026. Lake Trout and Lake Whitefish Monitoring Program: Frenchman Lake 2025. Government of Yukon, Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada.