## DUCK POND T15R9, Aroostook Co. U.S.G.S. Fish River Lake, Me.

Fishes

Minnows Pearl dace

## Physical Characteristics

Area - 4 acres

Temperatures

Surface  $-63^{\circ}$  F. 5 feet  $-63^{\circ}$  F.

Maximum depth - 5 feet

Principal Fishery: None

Duck Pond is a very small, shallow pond with a soft, silty bottom with an abundance of rooted aquatic plants. The shoreline is a mixture of grassy heath, cedar swamp, and a section of young spruce and fir in an area which has been logged to the shore of the pond. A beaver dam on the outlet holds three feet of water on the pond.

Reports from fishermen indicate Duck Pond had a good brook trout fishery in the past. Water quality still appears suitable for trout. Springs entering the pond maintain cool water temperatures during the summer. However, oxygen depletion under the ice from decomposition of aquatic plants may occur during severe winters. This condition may have eliminated the brook trout population.

The outlet stream is small and impounded by several beaver flowages. It is fair nursery and adult brook trout habitat but contains very little spawning gravel. No streams enter Duck Pond although one large, cold spring flows into the pond on the east side.

Access to Duck Pond is by gravel road and a half-mile walk through the woods, or by a 4-wheel drive road and short foot trail.

Recommendations for management of Duck Pond include experimental stocking with brook trout and subsequent checks to determine wintering success. A "No Live Fish as Bait" law should be enacted to prevent possible introduction of competing species.

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