PORTAGE LAKE

Portage Lake Twp., Aroostook County U.S.G.S. Portage Lake East, Me. (7 1/2'); Portage Lake West, Me. (7 1/2')

Fishes

Landlocked salmon Lake trout (togue) Brook trout Round whitefish Rainbow smelt Yellow perch Minnows

Lake chub
Golden shiner
Common shiner
Redbelly dace
Finescale dace
Blacknose dace
Creek chub
Fallfish (chub)

Longnose sucker
White sucker
Hornpout (bullhead)
Burbot (cusk)
Banded killifish
Threespine stickleback
Ninespine stickleback

Physical Characteristics

Area - 2,474 acres

Temperatures

Alca 2,474 acres

Surface - 67°F

Maximum depth - 25 feet

23 feet - 65°F

Principal fishery:Landlocked salmon, brook trout, rainbow smelt

Portage Lake is one of the two shallowest lakes in the Fish River chain of lakes. The lake does not stratify into warm and cold layers, and water temperatures are about equal at all depths during summer months. In spite of these water quality conditions, Portage Lake should be managed for salmon and brook trout.

Spawning and nursery areas are available for salmon in the main inlet and outlet, Fish River. Natural reproduction is occasionally supplemented with hatchery salmon. Adequate brook trout spawning and nursery areas are present.

Coarse fishes such as suckers, fallfish, and yellow perch are abundant in Portage Lake, taking advantage of extensive shallow areas. These species limit brook trout production by competing for food and space.

Development on Portage Lake is considered heavy. It includes seasonal as well as year-round residences. A public boat landing and beach is available in the town of Portage.

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