



Midas # 9779  
**TRAFTON LAKE**  
LIMESTONE TWP, AROOSTOOK CO., MAINE

85 ACRES



TENTHS OF MILE

# TRAFTON LAKE

Limestone Twp., Aroostook County  
Limestone, Me (7 1/2')

## Fishes

Brook trout	Fathead minnow
Minnows	Pearl dace
Common shiner	Banded killifish
Redbelly dace	Threespine stickleback

## Physical Characteristics

Area - 103 acres

Mean depth - 15 feet

Maximum depth - 50 feet

### Temperatures:

Surface - 73°F

25 feet - 65°F

44 feet - 53°F

Principal fishery: Brook trout

Trafton Lake is a flood control recreation lake supported by the Town of Limestone and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service) under the Public Law 566 Project. The Lake was created in 1969 by a large earthen dam constructed on Webster Brook.

Initially, Trafton Lake had excellent habitat for brook trout, although an oxygen deficiency was observed below 25 feet. Since construction, however, land uses within the watershed have diminished brook trout habitat. Dissolved oxygen deficiencies now occur at 15 feet, which significantly reduces the amount of summer habitat for trout. The lake once had clear water but algae blooms have become common during summer due to excessive nutrient input. Moreover, siltation from area farmland has filled in some of the cool water refuge commonly used by trout to survive the critical summer period. Worsening these continuing habitat problems is the recent development of irrigation withdrawals from Trafton Lake and its tributaries for adjacent farmland. Irrigation use occurs during the critical summer period when trout are susceptible to high water temperatures and low dissolved oxygen levels.

Despite continuing habitat loss at Trafton Lake, a good fishery for trout still exists that is maintained entirely by wild, native trout. Trout stocking is not recommended at this time, since this fishery management tool cannot overcome the habitat degradation that is occurring there.

Trafton Lake is managed with general law fishery regulations except that live fish may not be used as bait to prevent the introduction of new species of fish.

The Lake can be easily reached via a paved road on the Northwest shore where a public boat launch is available.

Surveyed - August 1969

(Revised - 2002)

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Funded in part by the Federal Aid in Restoration Act under

Federal Project F-28-P

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