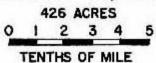


NARRAGUAGUS LAKE T9 SD, TIO SD, AND TI6 MD TWPS., HANCOCK CO., MAINE



NARRAGUAGUS LAKE

T16MD, T10SD, T9SD, Hancock Co. U.S.G.S. Molasses Pond, ME (7 1/2')

Fishes

Brook trout Hornpout (bullhead)

Rainbow smelt Ninespine stickleback

Minnows Redbreast sunfish
Golden shiner Pumpkinseed sunfish

Common shiner American eel Fallfish (chub) Alewife

White sucker

Physical Characteristics

Area - 426 acres Temperatures:

Surface - 68°F 33 feet - 52°F

Maximum depth - 34 feet

Principal fishery: Brook trout

Narraguagus Lake is a relatively shallow, boulder-strewn lake located in a fairly remote area of Hancock County. Access is via an extremely rough and rocky 4-wheel-drive road which heads north off Route 182. Although there is no well-defined landing, a few areas exist where a small boat/canoe can be carried down to the lakeshore.

This water supports a population of wild brook trout, some of which reach lengths of 16-17 inches. Most anglers like to fish the pond within 2 weeks after ice-out, before the fallfish become active. Most angler trips produce little or nothing, but when fortunate anglers "hit it right", they are well rewarded for their efforts. Despite low angler use and highly restrictive harvest regulations designed to maximize natural reproduction, fishing quality has declined over the years. The trout must cope with severe competition exerted by the abundant hornpout, fallfish, sucker, and sunfish populations. This factor limits the lake's trout productivity.

The outlet, Spring River, is a major tributary to the West Branch of the Narraguagus River. Spring River provides some fine trout fishing in the spring. It's likely that some of the trout that are hatched in several tributaries of Spring River, rather than moving down Spring River, move up into Narraguagus Lake.

Despite the decline in the wild trout fishery, this water should never be stocked. Wild trout are much hardier than their hatchery-reared counterparts when it comes to coping with strong competition. Because of the fragile status of the fishery, the lake should remain closed to ice fishing.

Surveyed - August, 1962 Re-surveyed - 1997 (Revised - 1980, 2001) Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Funded in part by the Federal Aid in Restoration Act under Federal Project F-28-P

L4414C