## UPPER OXHEAD POND

T40MD, Hancock Co. U.S.G.S. Nicatous and Saponac, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail) White sucker Pumpkinseed sunfish Sticklebacks Minnows Redbelly dace Golden shiner Fathead minnow

## Physical Characteristics

Area - 87 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 74°F. Maximum depth - 10 feet 10 feet - 70°F. Principal Fishery: None (Brook trout to be stocked experimentally)

Upper Oxhead Pond is ringed by large granite boulders interspersed with gravel and some sand. Most of the bottom is covered with soft, floculent silt and algae. There is little rooted aquatic vegetation with only a few patches of water lilies. Mature hard and softwood trees surround the pond behind a margin of dry heath.

Water quality is suitable for brook trout — though warm during summer months. A few trout have been reported by anglers. One small, cool, spring trickle enters the pond and may provide refuge for trout when summer temperatures are high. No trout spawning habitat exists in the pond or outlet.

Present species are not abundant and would not be expected to compete heavily with brook trout. An experimental trout stocking is planned for Fall 1978. If successful, annual or alternate year stocking will be necessary to maintain a fishery. Ice fishing should be prohibited as trout are vulnerable to overfishing in small ponds.

Access to Upper Oxhead Pond is via a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile 4-wheel drive road from Middle Oxhead Pond. Car-top boats or canoes are recommended as there is no trailer ramp.

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