

## ECHO LAKE

(Crotched Pond)

Fayette, Mt Vernon and Readfield Twps.,

Kennebec County

U.S.G.S. Fayette, Maine

### Fishes

Salmon	Minnows
Brown trout	Golden shiner
Lake trout (togue)	Common shiner
Brook trout	Fallfish (chub)
Splake	White sucker
Rainbow smelt	Hornpout (bullhead)
Smallmouth bass	Burbot (cusk)
Largemouth bass	Redbreast sunfish
White perch	Pumpkinseed sunfish
Yellow perch	Slimy sculpin
Chain pickerel	American eel

### Physical Characteristics

Area - 1185 acres

#### Temperatures

Surface - 71° F.

109 feet - 42° F.

Maximum depth - 117 feet

Principal Fishery: Togue, Brook trout, Splake, Smallmouth bass, Largemouth bass, Chain pickerel, White perch, Cusk

Echo Lake is very scenic body of water in central Maine. Its deep, clean cool waters provide suitable habitat for coldwater species. Although hampered by competition from numerous warmwater species, the coldwater fisheries are considered satisfactory. Echo Lake is one of the few central Maine lakes with a natural reproducing lake trout population. Annual stockings of a small number of togue are necessary to maintain an acceptable fishery.

Landlocked salmon were stocked for a number of years until it became evident that salmon would not provide anglers with an acceptable fishery.

In an effort to provide more diversity for anglers, experimental stockings of brook trout and splake were implemented. Brook trout should provide high angler catch rates, and it is hoped the splake will "hold-over" and produce larger older fish for anglers.

Echo Lake's rocky shores and shoals are excellent smallmouth bass habitat. Unfortunately, the bass fishery may be compromised by the bass tapeworm parasite, common to many Maine waters, which causes slower growth and limits bass reproduction.

The spring smelt run in the inlet by the "chimney" at the north end of the lake is very popular with smelt dippers. The inlet itself is closed to dipping, but anglers dip smelt from boats anchored off the mouth. This allows for unmolested spawning once the smelts enter the stream.

A very nice boat launch facility with ample parking is located on the north shore in West Mt Vernon off State Route #41.

Surveyed - August, 1940

Revised - 1963, 1977, 2000

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ECHO LAKE  
 FAYETTE, MT. VERNON, AND READFIELD TWPS., KENNEBEC CO., ME.  
 AREA 1185 ACRES

