Middle Pond Stoneham Twp., Oxford Co. U.S.G.S North Waterford Me. (71/2')

Fishes

Brook trout Smallmouth bass White perch Yellow perch Chain pickerel Minnows Golden shiner Pumpkinseed sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 72 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 77°F
Maximum depth - 51 feet	51 feet - 44°F

Principal fisheries: Brook trout, smallmouth bass, chain pickerel

Middle Pond, formed by a dam on the Kezar River, is the largest of five ponds locally known as the Five Kezars. This pond is managed for both warmwater and coldwater fisheries. Smallmouth bass and chain pickerel are the most popular warmwater species. White perch were recently illegally introduced and it is unknown what impact this introduction will have on resident warmwater species.

Middle Pond also provides marginal habitat for brook trout. An oxygen deficiency below 15-20 feet limits the available summertime habitat, but there is enough cold, well oxygenated water to support a limited brook trout fishery. White perch will also compete intensively with the brook trout. This competition could lead to poor trout growth and survival.

There is natural reproduction of brook trout in the outlet (Kezar River), but an impassable dam prevents these fish from entering the pond. Therefore, the trout fishery at Middle Pond is maintained through an annual stocking program.

Middle Pond is open to fishing both summer and winter. Special regulations are in effect in order to distribute the catch more evenly. Outboard motors over 10 horsepower are restricted from the pond.

A carry-in site, located on Mud Pond along Lovell Road, provides the only access to Middle Pond. Small boats and cances must be used to negotiate the thoroughfare between Mud and Middle Ponds.

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