

MOOSE POND (Little Moose Pond) Waterford Twp., Oxford Co. U.S.G.S. Waterford Flat, Me. (7.5')

Fishes

Brook trout Rainbow smelt Largemouth bass White perch Yellow perch Chain pickerel Minnows Fallfish White sucker Hornpout (bullhead) Pumpkinseed sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 181 acres

Maximum depth - 43 feet

Temperatures: Surface - 78°F 43 feet - 43°F

Principal fisheries: Brook trout, smelt, largemouth bass, white perch, and chain pickerel

There are very few camps and residential dwelling along the shores of Moose Pond. Aquatic vegetation is sparsely scattered along the shore, providing limited habitat for warmwater fish. The pond is managed for both cold and warmwater fisheries.

Water transparency is excellent and general water quality is suitable for both warmwater and coldwater fish. The pond thermally stratifies during the summer months, but areas below 25 to 30 feet are deficient in oxygen. Despite this limitation there is suitable water quality to support a coldwater fishery. Interspecific competition and predation by warmwater fish significantly compromise efforts to manage for brook trout. Brook trout fisheries are sustained through an annual maintenance stocking program. Larger spring yearling trout are stocked to reduce predation mortalities and increase angler returns.

Abundant white perch are above average in size quality and are commonly caught between 9 and 14 inches long. Largemouth bass were established as a result of an unauthorized introduction.

Traditional public boat access is located on private land located off the Ben Hale Road (Fire Lane 78). The access site is at the end of an unimproved tote road that terminates at the pond. The launch is best suited for car-top boats and parking is very limited. Current public access provisions are tentative and could be terminated by the landowner in the future. There is a need to secure permanent public access provisions to Moose Pond.

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