LITTLE PUSHAW POND Hudson Twp., Penobscot Co. U. S. G. S. Boyd Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Smallmouth bass

White sucker

White perch

Yellow perch
Chain pickerel

Eel
White sucker

Minnows
Banded killifish
Redbreast sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area – 411 acres Temperatures

Surface – 79° F. 15 feet – 59° F.

Maximum depth -18 feet 15 feet -59° I

Principal Fishery - Smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel

Little Pushaw Pond is a shallow, warmwater pond with numerous rocks and ledges around its shore. The water is quite shallow and weedy for some distance out from the edge of the pond, providing excellent habitat for the bass and pickerel. Adequate oxygen is present in the water at all depths.

The shore is surrounded primarily by deciduous growth, although there are some nice conifers near the outlet. The area in the vicinity of the inlet is quite boggy. Near the outlet is a small, grassy island on which loons have been known to nest.

Hudson Brook, the only tributary to the pond, is suitable for sustaining a population of brook trout. The area of the brook near the pond should be kept free of beaver dams to permit free movement of trout to and from the pond.

The outlet, Pushaw Stream, is deadwater down from the pond to its confluence with Bear Brook, and from there it alternates between riffle areas and deadwater down to Pushaw Lake. Fish may pass quite freely between the two bodies of water.

While some brook trout are caught in Little Pushaw Pond during the ice fishing season, and also in the inlet and outlet during the spring, the majority of fishing is done for smallmouth bass, white perch and pickerel. There are good populations of these species in the pond and they demonstrate good growth, creating a very desirable fishery.

The trout that are caught probably have dropped down from Hudson Brook, or come up Pushaw Stream from Bear Brook. While conditions in the pond may be suitable to support a small trout population during the summer months, competition from warmwater fish precludes management for brook trout. Therefore, Little Pushaw Pond should be managed for its warmwater species.

In addition to being open for fishing under the general open water and ice fishing laws, Little Pushaw Pond is open to fishing for all fish except trout, salmon and togue from October 1 to October 31. These regulations should be continued.

Access to Little Pushaw Pond is by gravel road, and there is a small area from which a boat may be launched. There are a number of

camps around the pond, especially along the east shore. Some of the camp owners have bulldozed rocks and weeds from the water in front of their property in order to create better beaches and boat landings. This practice should not be continued, as it could be very detrimental to the bass and pickerel which spawn in such areas along the shore. Also, as the area around the shore is quite low, camp owners on Little Pushaw Pond should be very careful about the proper disposal of sewage. This shallow, warmwater pond is extremely vulnerable to rapid eutrophication from nutrients that might escape from a poorly placed or poorly designed septic system.

Surveyed – July, 1972 Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game Published under Appropriation No. 4223

