BIG BENNETT POND Guilford, Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Guilford and Sebec Lake, Me.

Fishes

Lake trout (togue)
Brook trout
Splake
Rainbow smelt
Minnows
Lake chub
Golden shiner
Common shiner

Minnows(cont'd)
Redbelly dace
Fallfish
Creek chub
White sucker
Hornpout
American eel

Physical Characteristics

Area - 61 acres

Temperatures
Surface - 77° F
42 feet - 39° F

Maximum depth - 42 feet

Principal fishery: Brook trout, splake

Big Bennett Pond is a small clear pond surrounded by a mixed softwood and hardwood forest. Although there is an oxygen deficiency below 30 feet, there is plenty of cool, well-oxygenated water to maintain a coldwater fishery.

A gravel road provides easy access to Big Bennett Pond, where there is an unimproved landing from which small boats may be launched. A camping area is located near the landing site. The only development on the pond is the remains of a one-room camp to the east of the boat launch.

The outlet of the pond, which flows into the southwest corner of Sebec Lake, has no reproductive value for brook trout. There is a limited amount of spawning and nursery habitat for brook trout in the small inlet located on the southern end of the pond.

Big Bennett Pond was reclaimed in 1958, and 1963, to remove species that compete with brook trout. Since then many minnows and other non-game species have established in the pond. These fish are competing with brook trout and splake for food; however, food habits studies indicate that splake are also utilizing them as forage.

Salmon were stocked in the mid-1970's as part of a special study by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Salmon are no longer stocked, and none have been reported in Big Bennett Pond since 1977. Lake trout were stocked once and have contributed a few fish to fishermen. However, Big Bennett Pond is not large enough to be managed for lake trout.

Splake and brook trout are providing a very good coldwater fishery at Big Bennett Pond. As long as growth continues to be good, these fish should be stocked annually. General law regulations are adequate to protect the fishery.

Surveyed - August, 1957 Revised - 1966, 1988 Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Funded in part by Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act under Federal Project F-28-P. L0844E

