CARPENTER POND T7 R11, Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Spider Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows Fathead minnow Threespine stickleback

Physical Characteristics

Area - 160 acres

Temperatures Surface - 67° F.

50 feet - 48° F.

Maximum depth - 50 feet

Carpenter Pond provides good habitat for brook trout, and should be managed for this species. Routine fish collections made during the survey revealed a healthy population of brook trout with excellent growth.

Cold water below 35 feet is low in dissolved oxygen during late summer. However, warming of surface water in this region seldom becomes critical, and trout can move freely above the 35-foot level. Trout can also seek the cooling influence of springs.

The absence of other species of fish undoubtedly favors survival and growth of trout. Prolific fish such as minnows, suckers, and yellow perch often greatly outnumber trout and are serious competitors for food and space. For this reason, a no-live-fish-as-bait law has been established to prevent introductions. Fishermen should be careful to obey this law for protection of their future fishing. Carpenter Pond is also restricted to a 5-fish limit.

Limited spawning and nursery area in the small outlet is utilized by trout. A small, boggy inlet, connecting Carpenter with Little Carpenter Pond, has little or no potential as spawning or nursery area. Trout reproduction must be supplemented by shore spawning within the pond. When water levels are favorable, trout can move between the two ponds. Carpenter Pond has abundant aquatic insects available for trout food. Larger trout also feed on sticklebacks, which are abundant.

No stocking of hatchery trout is necessary at the present time since Carpenter Pond receives little fishing pressure, and natural reproduction seems adequate.

Carpenter Pond is remote. The best way to get there is by airplane.

Surveyed - August, 1961 Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game

