BIG DUCK POND

East Middlesex Canal Grant, Piscataquis Co. U. S. G. S. Northeast Carry, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail) Yellow perch White sucker

Minnows Finescale dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 79 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 76° F.

Maximum depth - 13 feet

10 feet - 73° F.

Big Duck Pond is a shallow, silty pond surrounded by dense stands of conifers and mixed hardwoods. You can reach Big Duck Pond via a 1/2 mile trail from the Forest Service campsite in Big Duck Cove on the shore of Moosehead Lake.

Conditions for brook trout are marginal due to high water temperatures, although some trout may concentrate in isolated cool areas. No trout were taken in the survey, but they have been reported by fishermen. Prolonged high temperatures and competition from the suckers and yellow perch probably limit the brook trout population seriously.

The outlet and tributary provide a limited amount of spawning and nursery area for trout. An old driving dam at the outlet is not a barrier to trout, but several beaver dams below the driving dam prevent the passage of trout except at high water levels. In hot, dry weather the tributary is probably dry.

Yellow perch probably entered the pond from Moosehead Lake a few years ago. Chemical reclamation to remove the existing species would be the most desirable management. Reclamation is not practical unless a good barrier can be constructed to prevent re-entry of undesirable species.

The general law regulations now in effect are sufficient to protect the fishery at this time.

Surveyed - August, 1965 Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game Published under Appropriation No. 7750

BIG DUCK POND

