LOWER HUDSON POND T10 R10, Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Musquacook Lakes, Maine

Fishes

Landlocked salmon Brook trout Rainbow smelt Minnows
Blacknose dace
Creek chub
Pearl dace
White sucker

Physical Characteristics

Area - 108 acres

Temperatures
Surface - 66° F
50 feet - 40° F

Maximum depth - 50 feet

Principal fishery: Landlocked salmon, brook trout, smelt

Lower Hudson Pond is located at the headwaters of Mooseleuk Stream drainage of the Aroostook River. The pond is nestled among the mountains in a setting of exceptional scenic beauty. Access is by 4-wheel drive vehicle over an old logging road.

Water quality characteristics are favorable for coldwater fishery management, although a mild dissolved oxygen deficiency occurs below 40 feet in late August. The shoreline is predominantly rubble and boulders, but a mud bottom supporting aquatic plant growth occurs at the extreme north end of the pond.

Lower Hudson Pond was reclaimed in 1961 for the purpose of establishing a salmon fishery in a small pond with few competing species. A natural falls at the outlet was altered to provide a barrier to upstream fish passage. The first successful salmon stocking was made in 1963. Smelts were established by successful egg transfers of 1967 and 1968. Brook trout, now sustained by natural reproduction, became reestablished by drop-downs from Upper Hudson Pond, which contains only brook trout.

The pond continues to be managed for a salmon fishery. An increase population of native salmon has led to a reduction in numbers of stocked salmon. Salmon growth is considered good due to an abundant smelt population.

The native brook trout fishery produces angler catches of moderate-size trout. The smelt population contains many fish large enough to be caught by hook and line and anglers are urged to take advantage of this fishery.

Lower Hudson Pond is closed to ice fishing and no live fish are permitted as bait.

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