MONKEY POND T-A R11, Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Jo-Mary Mountain, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows Finescale dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 30 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 72° F.
Maximum depth - 10 feet	10 feet - 72° F.

Principal Fishery - Brook trout

Monkey Pond is located in the northwest corner of T-A R11. The area around the pond is the site of an old forest fire, but the forest has grown back. White pine, spruce and white birch can be found around most of the shoreline, with red pine dominating on the east shore. Several large boulders protrude above the water on the west shore.

Monkey Pond is quite shallow, and the water appears milkyblue. Under calm conditions the reflections of the surrounding forest on the surface of the pond have inspired some people to call it Mirror Pond. Water temperatures are similar from the surface to the bottom, and during the summer, warm temperatures may cause trout to seek refuge in cool areas influenced by springs.

A wild brook trout population is present in Monkey Pond. Only one other fish species was observed, the finescale dace. These small minnows do not seriously compete with trout, and can be a source of forage to trout that attain larger sizes.

Monkey Pond has no significant tributary brooks which trout can utilize as spawning areas. Water does enter the pond through spring seepage at various points along the shore, and young trout were observed in these areas. The remains of old beaver dams partially block the outlet of the pond, and limit its potential as a spawning and nursery area for the trout in the pond. While no spawning areas of significance were observed during the survey, the trout have survived in Monkey Pond, and undoubtedly reproduce within the pond.

Monkey Pond will be managed for its wild brook trout popu-

lation. The present fly-fishing-only, five-trout bag limit adequately protect the trout fishery and prevent introductions of new fish species that would compete with the trout.

The condition of the trail to the pond indicates that fishing pressure is light and seasonal. A gate approximately one mile from the pond restricts vehicular road access into the township.

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