## MOOSE POND T1 R9, Piscataquis Co. U. S. G. S. Norcross, Me.

## Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail) Minnows Finescale dace Fathead minnow Minnows (cont'd) Golden shiner Banded killifish

## **Physical Characteristics**

| Area - 4 acres         | Temperatures     |
|------------------------|------------------|
|                        | Surface - 57° F. |
| Maximum depth - 8 feet | 6 feet - 53° F.  |

Moose Pond is a very small, shallow pond with a mud bottom and dark water. The pond, surrounded by a floating mat of bog plants, is located about 1/8 mile south of the West Branch of the Penobscot River. It can be reached by boating up the West Branch from Ambajejus Lake, or down the river from Passamagamet Lake. A trail may be taken from the shore of the river directly to the pond.

There are no tributaries, but the outlet has some fairly good spawning gravel. Small boulder cascades may make the outlet impassable during low water. A beaver dam on the outlet may have served as a barrier to fish migration for many years. There are many additional species just below the pond in the West Branch of the Penobscot River, but none of them have yet become established in Moose Pond.

Although there are several other species present in the pond, they do not seem to be competing too seriously with the trout for available food and space. The use or possession of live fish as bait should be prohibited to prevent the introduction of any additional species. Because of the size of the pond and the lack of suitable spawning area, a 5-fish limit should be considered to prevent over-exploiting the present fishery.

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