TROUT POND West Bowdoin College Grant (T8R10), Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S., Sebec Lake, Me.

Fishes

Salmon Brook trout (squaretail) Longnose sucker Minnows Creek chub Lake chub Blacknose dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 20 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 73° F.

Maximum depth - 23 feet

21 feet - 44° F.

Principal Fishery: Brook trout

With the exception of a small area of deep water at the northwest end, most of Trout Pond is quite shallow, and aquatic vegetation is common throughout the shallow water. A rocky shelf surrounds most of the shoreline. Away from this shelf the bottom of the pond is covered with soft mud.

During the summer months warm water temperatures limit the distribution of brook trout in the pond. While an oxygen deficiency occurs in the deepest water of the pond, a small area of cool water with adequate oxygen levels does exist which can support trout through the summer.

Another factor influencing the number of trout the pond can produce is the competition from suckers and the minnow species. These fish consume much of the food in the pond which could otherwise be utilized by the trout.

Trout Pond has one major tributary brook. At the present time a large beaver dam blocks the passage of trout upstream to traditional spawning areas. This dam has innundated a large area immediately above the pond, including all of the natural stream bed. The outlet from Trout Pond, a tributary to Long Pond approximately 3/4 mile downstream, does provide suitable spawning areas for the brook trout in Trout Pond. Except for periods when beaver dams are constructed on sections of the brook, fish passage is possible up this brook from Long Pond to Trout Pond. Since salmon are present in Long Pond, this explains why salmon are occasionally caught in Trout Pond, even though it is not considered typical salmon habitat.

Access to Trout Pond is over and old tote road. Because it is not accessible by two-wheel drive vehicle, and because there is no development around the shore, Trout Pond has been zoned as a remote trout pond and it will be managed for its wild trout population. We cannot expect the pond to produce large numbers of brook trout, but with low fishing pressure the pond can produce some good trout fishing.

Present regulations prohibit the use of possession of live fish as bait, and limit the daily bag to 5 trout.

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