UMBAZOOKSUS LAKE T6 R13, Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Chesuncook, Me.

Fishes

White perch Yellow perch Lake whitefish White sucker Longnose sucker Minnows Fallfish (chub) Golden shiner

Physical Characteristics

Area - 1,590 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 72° F.

Maximum depth - 15 feet

14 feet - 66° F.

Principal Fishery: White perch, yellow perch, lake whitefish

Umbazooksus Lake, located at the northern tip of Chesuncook Lake, is surrounded by spruce and fir wilderness. In former years access to the lake was limited to canoeing up Umbazooksus Stream from Chesuncook Lake. This route still plays an important role in some of the Allagash River trips, as from Umbazooksus Lake one can portage across the Carry Trail to Mud Pond and continue on into Chamberlain Lake. Now a new logging road extends from the thoroughfare connecting Chamberlain and Telos Lakes almost to the shore of Umbazooksus Lake. This road crosses Umbazooksus Stream about ¼ mile below the dam at the outlet to the lake.

The dam on the outlet is in good repair, and can hold at least a six-foot head of water on the lake. However, at the time of survey the gate on the dam was open, leaving a large area of rocks and gravel exposed around the shore of the lake, with grassy areas extending quite a distance from shore into the shallow waters.

Water quality conditions are adequate for trout and salmon. At the time of the survey neither species was found in the lake, but with the gate on the dam open it would be very easy for trout and salmon to migrate up into Umbazooksus Lake from Chesuncook Lake. Thus we cannot entirely rule out the presence of these species. The two inlets to the lake could provide excellent spawning and nursery areas for any trout and salmon present.

While the physical and chemical conditions of Umbazooksus Lake are suitable for management of coldwater species, the large populations of yellow perch, white perch, whitefish, and suckers living there make it impractical at present.

The general fishing regulations now in effect should be liberalized to permit ice fishing from freezeup until March 31st. This would allow fishermen to utilize the large perch and whitefish populations which up to this time have been relatively unexploited.

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