

LOWER WILSON POND  
Greenville Twp., Piscataquis Co.  
U.S.G.S., Greenville, Me.

Fishes

Salmon	Minnows (con't.)
Brook trout (squaresail)	Lake chub
Lake trout (togue)	Creek chub
Hornpout (bullhead)	Common shiner
Smelt	Redbelly dace
Eel	Cusk
White sucker	Banded killifish
Minnows	Threespine stickleback
Fallfish (chub)	Redbreast sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 1,380 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 72° F.
Maximum depth - 106 feet	80 feet - 44° F.

Principal Fishery: Salmon, Brook trout, Lake trout

Lower Wilson Pond is located a short distance to the east of the town of Greenville. The forested hills surrounding the pond, and the scenic view from the pond toward Baker and Elephant Mountains in the northeast, provide a very attractive setting for the pond. Because of its proximity to Greenville and the beauty of the environment, in recent years Lower Wilson Pond has become a popular body of water for development. There are now camps around much of the shoreline. Public access to the pond is available at one site.

Lower Wilson Pond provides excellent habitat for coldwater game fish. Water quality is excellent at all depths. As camp construction continues around the shore, it is essential to maintain the quality of aquatic habitat by minimizing the effects of this development on the pond and its shoreline.

A salmon population is maintained in Lower Wilson Pond through annual stocking of yearling fish. While a few wild salmon are produced in the tributaries, salmon spawning areas in these tributaries are quite limited. Without stocking it is unlikely that the tributaries could produce the number of young salmon necessary to maintain a sizeable population in the pond.

Two dams on the outlet, both impassable to fish movement up-

stream, prevent any salmon reproduction in the outlet from contributing to Lower Wilson Pond. Even without the dams, there is only a small amount of salmon spawning and nursery area immediately below the pond which could produce fish for the pond. A short distance downstream, a series of falls provides a natural barrier to fish passage upstream. Therefore, a fishway in the outlet dam cannot be justified to improve the production of wild salmon for Lower Wilson.

In 1956, lake trout were introduced in Lower Wilson Pond. Annual stockings since then have produced a good fishery. Several shallow, exposed shoreline and shoal areas in the pond provide suitable lake trout spawning habitat. There has been some evidence of natural reproduction, but until natural reproduction is sufficient to maintain the lake trout population, annual stockings should continue.

An 18-inch minimum length limit has been established for the lake trout in order to increase the number of adult fish which may be able to spawn before being harvested by anglers. In addition to the special length limit, water level regulation in Lower Wilson Pond is critical if natural reproduction is to be successful for the lake trout. Drawdowns in the fall should be completed prior to October 5th each year, and during the winter months the water level should not be drawn down below the October 5th level.

A wild brook trout population also provides returns to anglers in Lower Wilson Pond. Some of these trout drop down from Upper Wilson, others are produced in the tributaries to Lower Wilson. No trout stocking is recommended. Fingerling trout stocked in large deep lakes generally provide few returns to the anglers.

A regulation prohibiting the use or possession of live fish as bait has been established to prevent the introduction of new fish species that would provide additional competition with the existing coldwater game fish populations.

Surveyed - September 1953

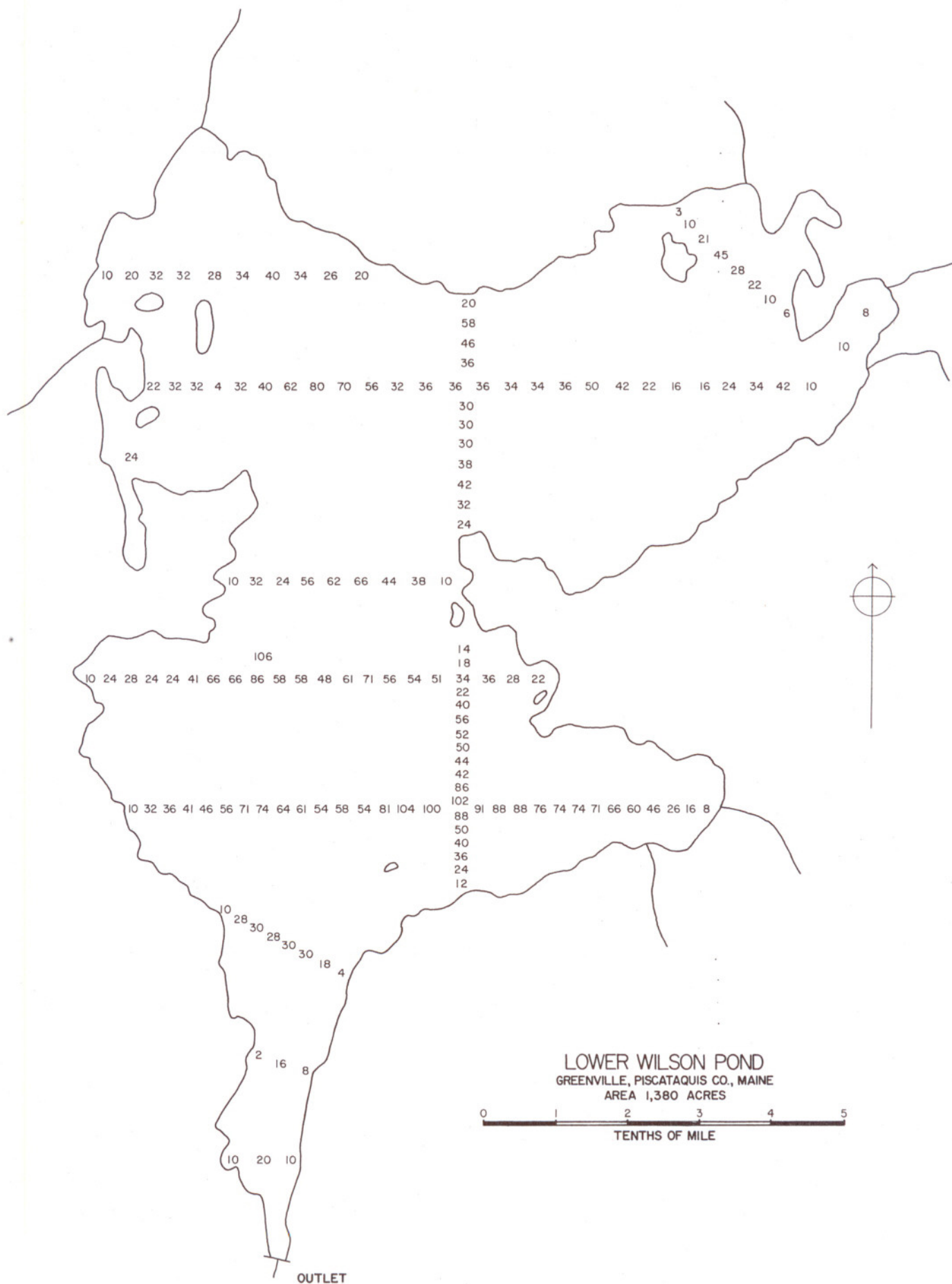
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 GREENVILLE, PISCATAQUIS CO., MAINE  
 AREA 1,380 ACRES

