

CENTER POND
T2 R3 NBKP (Soldiertown), Somerset Co.
U.S.G.S. Seboomook Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)
White sucker

Minnows
Lake chub
Redbelly dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 51 acres

Temperatures

Maximum depth - 16 feet

Surface - 66° F.
16 feet - 66° F.

Center Pond is one of many small ponds that were once known for good trout fishing. Since we have little previous information we cannot say for certain what happened to change this. We can only analyze the conditions we find at the time of the survey.

Center Pond has a saucer shaped bottom. Starting from the shoreline it deepens rather quickly to 8 or 10 feet, and then very gradually to a maximum of 16 feet. The bottom near the shoreline is mostly gravel and sand, with many old logs and some muddy areas.

The temperature is practically the same from top to bottom, and the water quality is very good for brook trout. Unfortunately a large population of suckers dominates the pond, and trout are very few in number. Chubs also add to the competition for food and space.

Center Pond has only one tributary. This is very small, and it probably dries up at times. It has little value as a spawning or nursery area for trout. The outlet has good spawning and nursery areas, but a beaver dam at the pond makes it very difficult, if not impossible, for trout to travel into and out of the pond.

The ideal management for Center Pond would be to kill all the fish now inhabiting it. A small barrier dam would have to be built some distance down the outlet to prevent suckers from entering the pond again. Trout could then be re-introduced, and they would thrive without competition. Since the

pond is not easily accessible to the public, this management procedure may not be justifiable.

The alternative to reclamation is an occasional stocking of spring yearling trout. The beaver dam at the outlet should be removed to allow some reproduction and immigration. This should result in some trout catches for the fishermen who are willing to walk a couple of miles, and for the camp-owner who has an interest there.

Surveyed - August, 1962

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game

CENTER POND

T2 R3, SOMERSET CO., MAINE

51 ACRES

