

**DINGLEY POND**  
T4 R5 NBKP, Somerset Co.  
U.S.G.S. Penobscot Lake, Me.

**Fishes**

Brook trout (squaretail)	Minnows
	Lake chub
	Redbelly dace

**Physical Characteristics**

Area - 71 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 65° F.
Maximum depth - 6 feet	6 feet - 61° F.

**Principal Fishery: Brook trout**

Dingley Pond, largest and lowest in a chain of 3 shallow trout ponds is reached by a ½ mile walk from Penobscot Lake. The pond has a maximum depth of 6 feet, but most of it is less than 4 feet deep. The bottom can be seen anywhere on a sunny day. Except for a few small areas of open water, yellow water lilies (nuphar) and their leaves cover much of the water surface. Small islands, coves, and rockpiles make this an interesting pond. The immediate shoreline is ringed with a shrub called leather-leaf and there is a small area of true quaking bog type and some ledges. Cedar, spruce, fir, and a few pines form the forest cover.

Except for some rocky and ledge areas the bottom material is a flocculent silt over 3 feet deep in some areas. We were surprised to find the water temperature in the 60° F range when the air temperature was above 70° F. There must be some cool water influence below the silt. Although we could see bottom everywhere, no trout could be seen, yet we caught them in our nets. The trout were undoubtedly hiding in the silt to keep cool and away from the hot sun.

The inlet (from Little Dingley) is small with some gravelly patches suitable for trout spawning and abundant rocky areas for trout fry to feed and grow. The outlet has 2 ledge falls about 6 feet high, making it very difficult, if not impossible, for fish to pass from Penobscot Lake to the Dingley Ponds. Dingley Pond has only 2 species of fish (minnows) beside brook trout, and it should be managed exclusively for wild brook trout. It is possible that a prolonged snow cover without a thaw could

occasionally cause a winter kill in this shallow pond. However, the population should be allowed to recover without stocking hatchery fish.

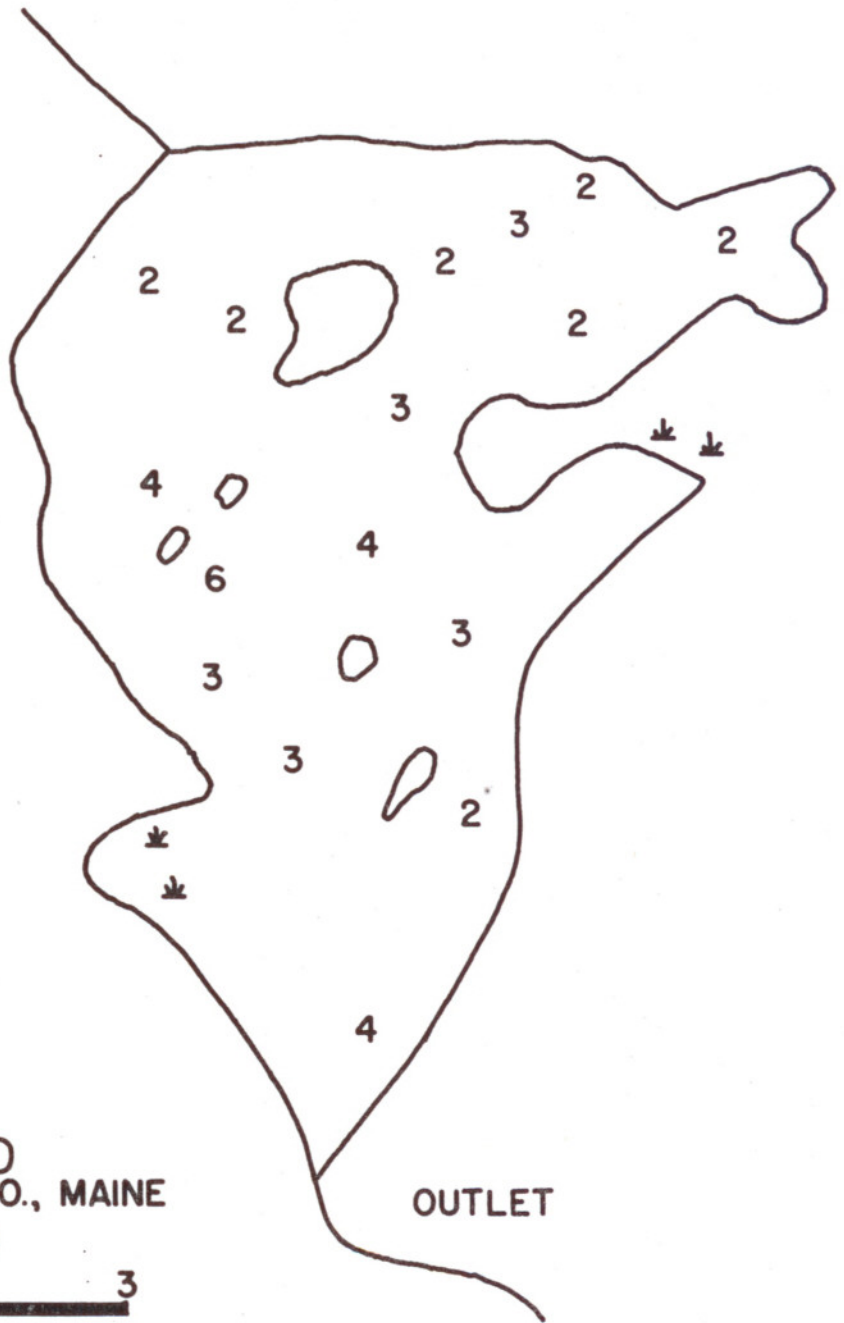
The fly-fishing-only regulation now in effect offers protection from unwarranted introductions of additional species which could compete with trout and cause great harm to this pond, and possibly to Penobscot Lake below. A 5-fish limit should be adopted to distribute the trout harvest more equitably among anglers, throughout the season, and to allow more trout to mature and grow to a larger size.

Surveyed - August, 1978

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Published under Appropriation No. 4550

A Contribution of Dingell-Johnson Federal Aid Project F-28-P,  
Maine



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T4R5 NBKP., SOMERSET CO., MAINE  
AREA 71 ACRES

