LITTLE DINGLEY POND

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

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows

Redbelly dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 17 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 68° F.

Maximum depth - 6 feet

4 feet - 59° F.

Principal Fishery: Brook trout

Little Dingley, the second, or middle, in a series of 3 ponds located northwest of Penobscot Lake, is much smaller than the first or lower pond, but quite similar in depth, bottom composition and aquatic vegetation. The forest cover on the shoreline is predominantly cedar, spruce, and fir with some white pine and hardwoods. It is less than ¼ mile from the lower pond.

The water is quite clear and fairly cool at the bottom for such a shallow pond, and there is no oxygen problem at this depth. The inlet has a variety of rocky areas, old beaver dams, blowdowns, and some small patches of gravel where trout may spawn. We saw many small trout in the long distance between this pond and the upper pond.

Little Dingley Pond is suited for trout and has a fair-sized population, but they are not large trout. The trout we caught were all the same age (in their second summer), and this could mean that most of the older fish are killed during some winters. The medium-sized falls below this pond are difficult to evaluate because of their shape. However, it looks as though they are impassable to trout most of the time and there may be little chance for trout to immigrate from below except when the stream is in flood stage.

The pond is protected from introductions of other species by the fly-fishing-only regulation. A 5-fish limit should be imposed to help spread the catch over the season.

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