

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

**Fishes**

Brook trout (squaretail)	Minnows
	Redbelly dace

**Physical Characteristics**

Area - 110 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 70° F.
Maximum depth - 15 feet	15 feet - 61° F.

**Principal Fishery: Brook trout**

Big Grenier Pond is located northwest of Penobscot Lake in an area that was, until recently, quite remote. In 1976 road access was created near the pond because of timber harvesting operations around it. With this easy access, fishing pressure increased and good trout fishing was reported.

The pond has three distinct basins. The southern end is very shallow, and to reach it requires passage through a very rocky thoroughfare. A forested island is located in the middle basin of Big Grenier, where the deepest water was found. The northern end of the pond has the largest area of open water. A large ledge protrudes above the water in this basin, and serves as a roosting area for the mergansers which frequent the pond. All around the pond the shoreline consists of rocks and gravel, with some areas of sand, and others of ledge.

Water conditions in the pond are excellent for brook trout at all depths. In addition to trout, only one other species, a small minnow, was observed. These do not seriously compete with the trout for food, and they offer an excellent forage source for trout that attain fish eating size.

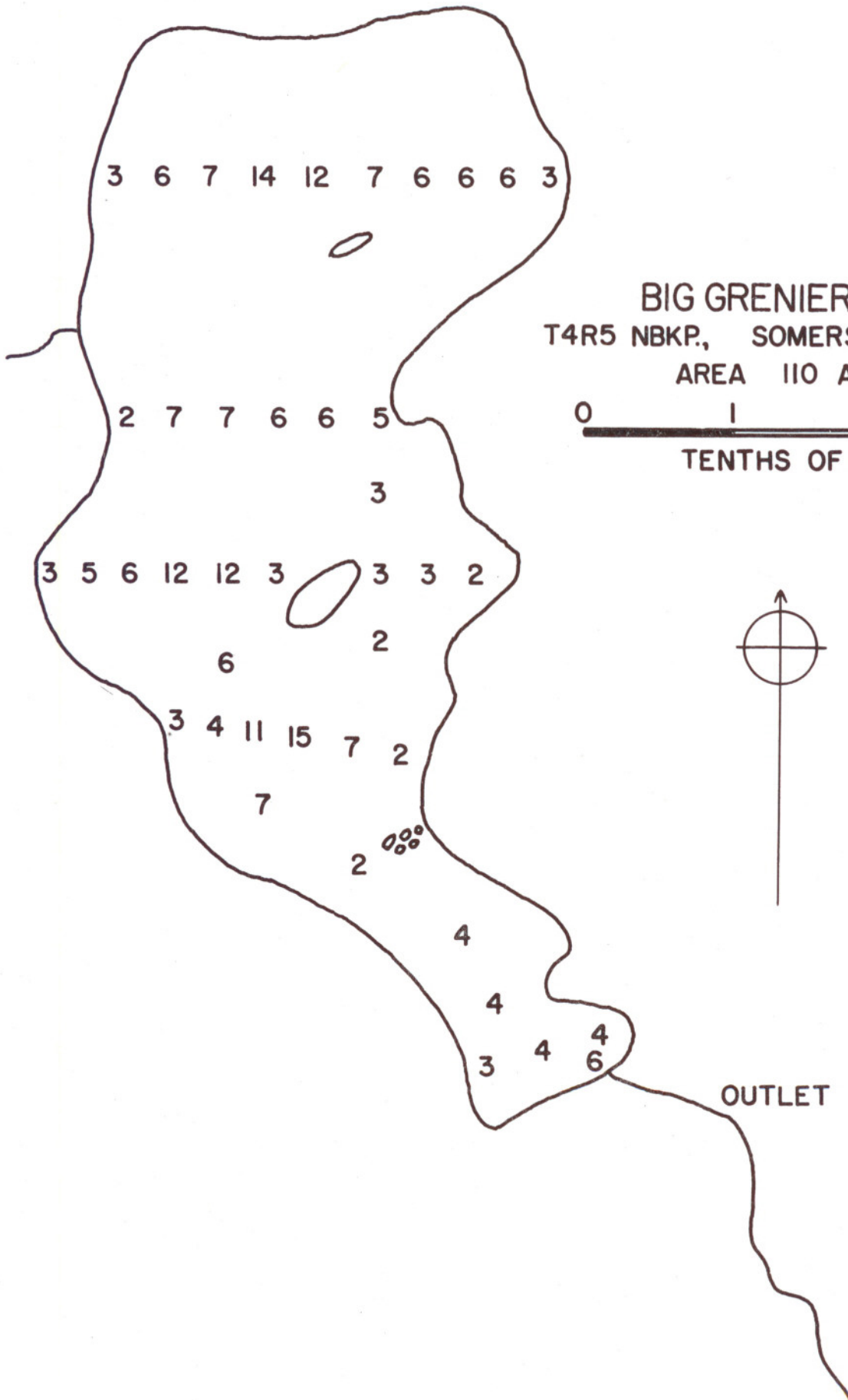
Several springs and one brook, which flows into Big Grenier from the Middle and Upper Grenier Ponds, provide trout spawning areas. However, the recent cutting operation to the west of Big Grenier has altered the brook by opening it to sunlight, and culvert construction on a winter road has altered the main stream channel. Such changes are not favorable to maintaining good trout spawning and nursery habitat in the brook. No young-of-the-year trout were observed in it.

The outlet of Big Grenier flows out of the southern end of the pond. It is a tributary to Penobscot Lake. A series of ledge falls at the outlet prevents the passage of fish from the outlet into the pond. Thus, trout produced in the outlet cannot enter Big Grenier Pond.

Big Grenier will be managed for its wild trout population. No stocking is recommended as it is unlikely that the pond has ever been stocked. Regulations prohibiting the use or possession of live fish as bait, and limiting the catch to five trout have been established.

Now that timber harvesting in the area has been completed, the access road near Big Grenier should be discontinued and the pond returned to its former status as a remote pond.

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 T4R5 NBKP., SOMERSET CO., MAINE  
 AREA 110 ACRES

