MARY PETUCHE POND T4 R4, Somerset Co. U.S.G.S. Penobscot Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows Creek chub Finscale dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 10 acres

Temperatures Surface - 58° F.

Maximum depth - 20 feet

16 feet - 56° F.

Mary Petuche Pond is a small trout pond forming the headwaters of a chain of ponds which flow into the South Branch of the Penobscot River. The pond has nearly equal water temperatures at all depths, with a high oxygen content present throughout the pond. Mary Petuche Pond has no inlets. The outlet is obstructed by a series of beaver dams, but the uppermost dam is holding a useful 3-foot head of water on the pond. Bog vegetation surrounds much of the pond, except along the eastern shoreline where patches of gravel are present.

Restricted spawning sites apparently limit trout production to a small number which permits them to grow rapidly. A substantial number of creek chubs eat food and live in habitat otherwise suitable for trout. However, trout do eat small creek chubs. Finescale dace are present in the pond, and they offer an excellent forage fish for trout because they are available to trout during their entire life span. The fly-fishing-only regulation should prevent the introduction of additional species into Mary Petuche Pond.

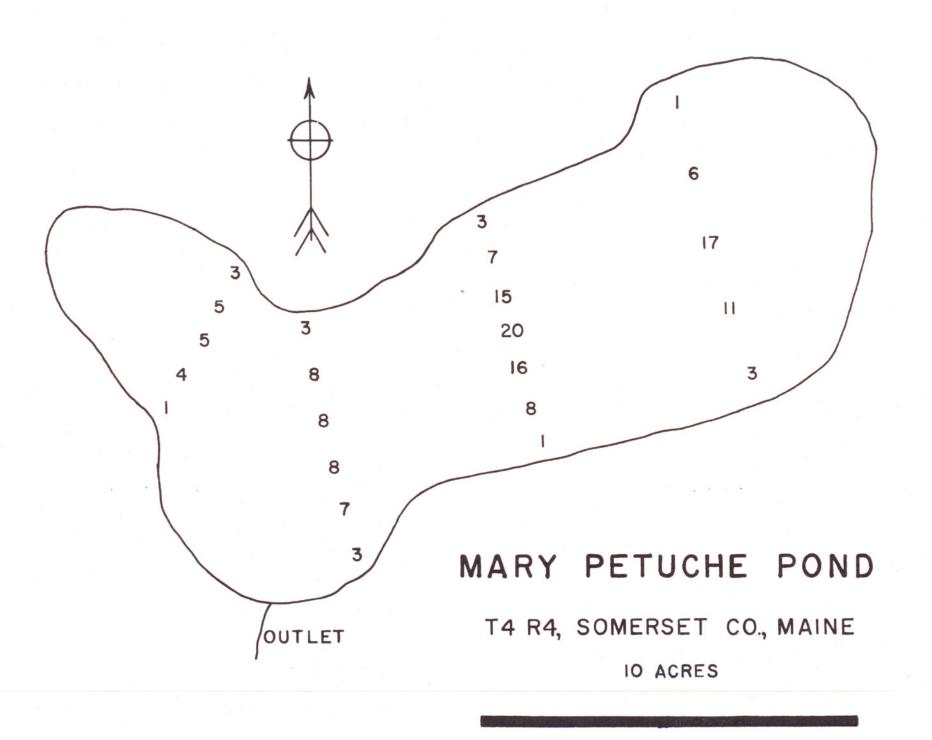
Fishermen travelling to Mary Petuche Pond should leave U. S. 201 about 4 miles south of the Canadian border, follow the Kelley Dam Road along the South Branch of the Penobscot River, and take the branch leading to Duncan Pond. A 4-wheel-drive vehicle becomes necessary if you plan to ride beyond Duncan Pond. An old road follows the stream between Duncan and Hall Ponds and brings you within a 10-minute walk of Hall Pond. Then walk from Hall Pond to

Mary Petuche Pond by following the Mary Petuche Pond outlet.

Historians will be interested to know that this pond was named for a notorious woman who entertained many early lumberjacks of the area.

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TENTH OF MILE