Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows Lake chub Finescale dace

## **Physical Characteristics**

Area - 28 acres

Temperatures Surface -  $72^{\circ}$  F.

Maximum depth - 6 feet

Principal Fishery: Brook trout

Spaulding Pond is a shallow body of water located a short distance to the north of Long Pond in Dole Brook Township. A recently constructed logging road has improved access to within a hundred feet of the shore of the pond. People who have fished there in the past report no success in catching trout.

The shoreline of Spaulding Pond consists of gravel, with some areas of soft, fine materials. The bottom of the pond is covered with a layer of fine mud. Water quality is typical for small ponds in the northern Maine forests. It is slightly acidic, and very low in productivity. Water temperatures are similar from top to bottom and during periods of hot summer weather, areas influenced by springs would be very important if trout are to survive there.

Our survey of Spaulding Pond found no trout, only two minnow species. It is possible that the pond may be susceptible to winter kill during extremely harsh winters. Nevertheless, the pond's characteristics are similar to those of many others which support good trout populations. Thus, in the fall of 1978 brook trout were experimentally stocked, and the pond will be evaluated in the future to determine if these trout provide a fishery.

There are no significant permanent tributaries to Spaulding Pond, though several springs enter the pond along the shore. These provide areas for brook trout spawning. The outlet flows for 1/8 mile into Long Pond. It has sections of gravel and rocky riffles suitable for trout spawning and nursery areas. There is evidence of past beaver activity around the outlet, but at present there are no barriers to fish movement.

General law fishing regulations apply at Spaulding Pond. If a trout fishery develops as a result of the stocking, a five-fish limit and a regulation prohibiting the use of live fish as bait will be recommended for the pond.

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

