ST. GEORGE LAKE Liberty Twp., Waldo County U.S.G.S. Liberty, Maine

Fishes

Landlocked salmon Brook trout Rainbow smelt Smallmouth bass Largemouth bass White perch Yellow perch Chain pickerel Minnows Golden shiner White sucker Hornpout (bullhead) Banded killifish Pumpkinseed sunfish American eel

Physical Characteristics

Area - 1,017 acres

Temperatures Surface - 73 degrees F 60 feet - 44 degrees F

Maximum depth - 65 feet

Principal fisheries: Landlocked salmon, brook trout, smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel.

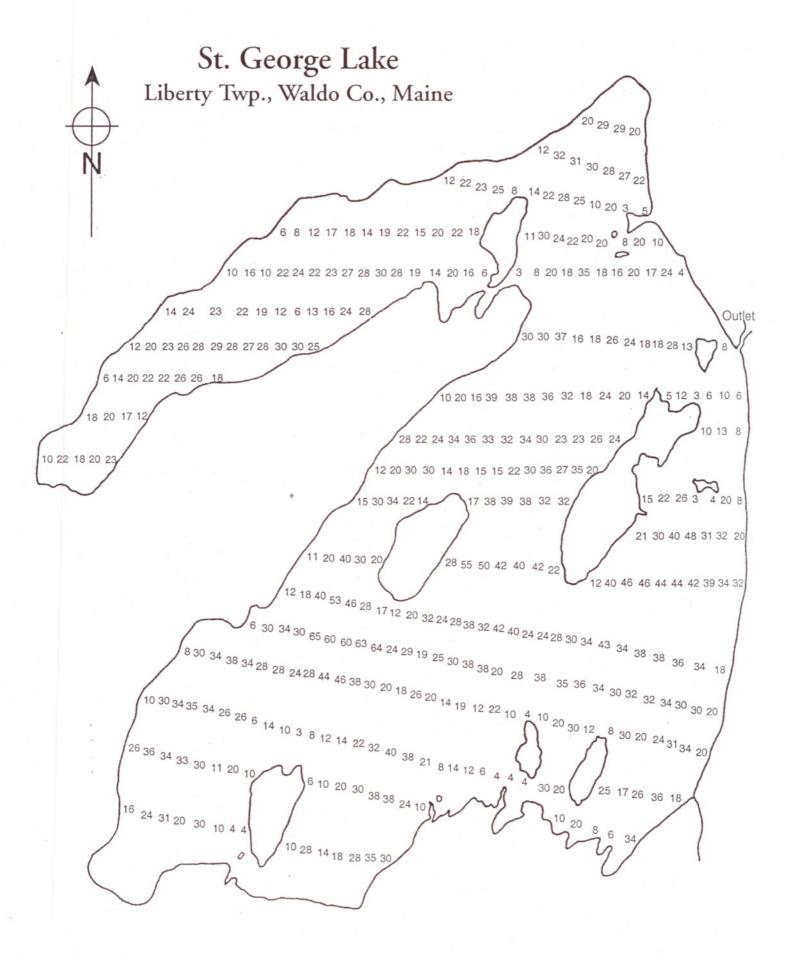
St. George Lake is a picturesque body of water located in southwestern Waldo County. A small state park encompasses a portion of the northwest shore. Numerous undeveloped islands are distributed throughout the main basin of the lake and contribute to a pleasurable fishing experience. The lake has an excellent boat launch and parking facility located off Route 3. Access to the lake is also gained at an unimproved launch near Marshall Shore.

St. George Lake's water quality is suitable to support coldwater gamefish. Coldwater fishery management has historically focused on landlocked salmon. During the 1970's St. George Lake had a reputation for producing trophy-size salmon. By the mid-1980's the size quality of salmon had declined. Fishing pressure had so increased, particularly during the winter, that very few salmon survived to reach a large size. A two-month ice fishing season and a two line limit were establised in 1985 in an attempt to reduce winter exploitation and allow more salmon to reach a large size. Creel survey data showed that these regulations failed to produce the desired result. Consequently, a 16-inch minimum legal length limit was established in 1988. Evaluation of the effectiveness of the increased length limit has not been completed.

St. George Lake has received annual plantings of brook trout since 1980. These fish can provide fast fishing for anglers who choose to target them. The lake also supports fine populations of smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, and white perch. Largemouth bass are also present.

Anglers are urged to assist the Department in monitoring our management program at St. George Lake by keeping a record of their fishing trips. Record booklets suitable for maintaining a fishing diary are available, free of charge, upon request to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Augusta, Maine, 04333-0041.

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