BOWLES LAKE T31 MD, Washington County U.S.G.S. Tug Mountain, Me.

Fishes

Yellow perch Chain pickerel Pumpkinseed sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 64 acres

Temperatures

Surface — 76°F.

Maximum depth - 17 feet

17 feet — 62°F.

Principal Fishery: Chain pickerel

Access to Bowles Lake is over a relatively new woods road which turns north off the "Airline" (Route 9) about 4 miles east of the Machias CCC road. Proceed on this road for approximately 4 miles; then turn right onto an inconspicuous "road" which soon leads directly to the western shore down by the outlet. A fair boat launching site is present.

The shoreline is composed of mixed conifers including some tall white pines. Submergent and emergent aquatic plants are common in both the shallow outlet and northern coves. Numerous sunfish and yellow perch were observed in littoral areas.

The pond contains a small volume of cool, well oxygenated water. Although no trout were taken during the survey, this does not preclude their possible existence in the pond. Limited trout spawning gravel exists in a tiny spring seep at the northern end of the pond.

Pickerel are the principal gamefish present. Most of the pickerel obtained during the survey were on the thin side; a sample of six averaged slightly over 20 inches and one pound, fourteen ounces.

Bowles Lake is presently open to ice fishing in February and March. It is recommended that the ice fishing season be extended from the period of ice formation. October fishing for warmwater fish would provide more angling opportunities.

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