CATHANCE LAKE

Cooper and Plt. 14 Twps., Washington Co. U.S.G.S. Lake Cathance, ME (7 1/2')

Fishes

Salmon Minnows
Brook trout Fallfish(chub)
Rainbow smelt White sucker
Alewife Banded killifish
Smallmouth bass Threespine stickleback
Yellow perch American eel

Physical Characteristics

Area- 2,905 acres Temperatures
Surface- 69°F
Maximum depth- 75 feet 45 feet- 62°F

Principal Fishery: Salmon, smallmouth bass

Cathance Lake is a popular water located in central Washington County. Although the western shoreline along Route 191 is lined with camps, much of the shoreline is undeveloped. Boats can be launched at the public boat ramp recently constructed by the Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife off Route 191.

The lake provides excellent habitat for salmon. Although the salmon growth rate fluctuates in accordance with smelt abundance, the salmon fishery is one of the most consistent in eastern Maine. Age III fish caught by ice anglers typically range from 17 to 19-inches. In recent years, the lake has provided good fishing for 2-3 pound salmon. During a 1993

trap-netting survey conducted by fishery biologists, 18% of the catch consisted of salmon weighing 3 pounds or more.

Brook trout are produced in several tributaries, and anglers catch some 10 to 12 inch fish in the lake. A few 14 to 16 inch trout are caught in most years.

Smallmouth bass are abundant and of generally small size with most fish measuring between 8 and 10 inches. The proportion of both 11 inch and 15 inch fish in the population is substantially below the statewide averages. To encourage anglers to harvest more bass, a "no size or bag limit" regulation is in effect.

Surveyed- July, 1951 (Revised, 1975, 1977, 1995) Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Funded in part by the Federal Aid in Restoration Act under Federal Project F-28-P L 9661 C

