

**CRAWFORD LAKE**  
Crawford and Twp. 21, Washington Co.  
U.S.G.S. Big Lake, Me.

**Fishes**

Smallmouth bass	Alewife
Largemouth bass	Eel
White Perch	Minnnows
Yellow perch	Golden shiner
Chain pickerel	Fallfish (chub)
Hornpout (bullhead)	Banded killifish
	Pumpkinseed sunfish

**Physical Characteristics**

Area - 1,677 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 72° F.
Maximum depth - 27 feet	25 feet - 70° F.

**Principal Fishery: Smallmouth bass, White perch, Chain pickerel**

This productive warmwater lake is located just north of Route 9 in Crawford. A gravel road takes the visitor directly to an excellent public boat launching site on the lake's eastern shore. A very small percentage of the shoreline is dotted with permanent and seasonal residences.

Crawford Lake is one of the best smallmouth bass lakes in eastern Maine. The lake's rocky shoals and bars, numerous small islands, and gravel-rubble spawning areas constitute high quality bass habitat. Fishing is consistently good for bass in the 11-13 inch size range with fair numbers of larger fish in the 1½-2½ pound range caught each year. The peak of the fishery usually occurs in the 2 week period from June 10-24. Principal forage species for the bass include crayfish, young of the year alewives, yellow perch, and sunfish.

White perch are abundant and provide some fast fishing in August and September. A reasonably good percentage of the perch are in the desirable 10-12 inch size range. A sample of 60 white perch netted in July, 1973 included 10 (17%) in the 5-6.5 inch size class, 13 (22%) in the 6.5-8.5 inch range, 19 (32%) in the 8.5-10 inch range, and 18 (30%) exceeded 10 inches in length.

While smallmouth bass and white perch constitute the most

popular fisheries, certain anglers make excellent catches of pickerel in the 1½-3 pound range. An especially productive area is off the mouth of Maine Stream (the principal tributary) where pickerel are readily caught by casting lures in and around the numerous weed beds.

During the past several years, certain anglers have reported catching a few largemouth bass in Crawford Lake. In June, 1984, fishery biologists confirmed the presence of this new species by examining the head of a 4 pound specimen which an angler had frozen. Although Crawford is currently the only lake in Washington County where largemouths are known to occur, the species is likely to spread into Lower Mud Lake, Upper Mud Lake, and Pocomoonshine Lake in the near future if they have not already done so.

The outlet dam, commonly referred to as Pokey Dam, was formerly owned by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It is now the property of the newly established Crawford-Pocomoonshine Watershed Association which is making substantial repairs to the dam. A fishway permits anadromous alewives to gain access to Crawford and the other 3 upriver lakes. Young alewives constitute an important seasonal forage item for the lakes' warmwater sportfish. Each fall, a significant eel fishery occurs at Pokey Dam as adult eels migrate down the drainage on their way to the sea.

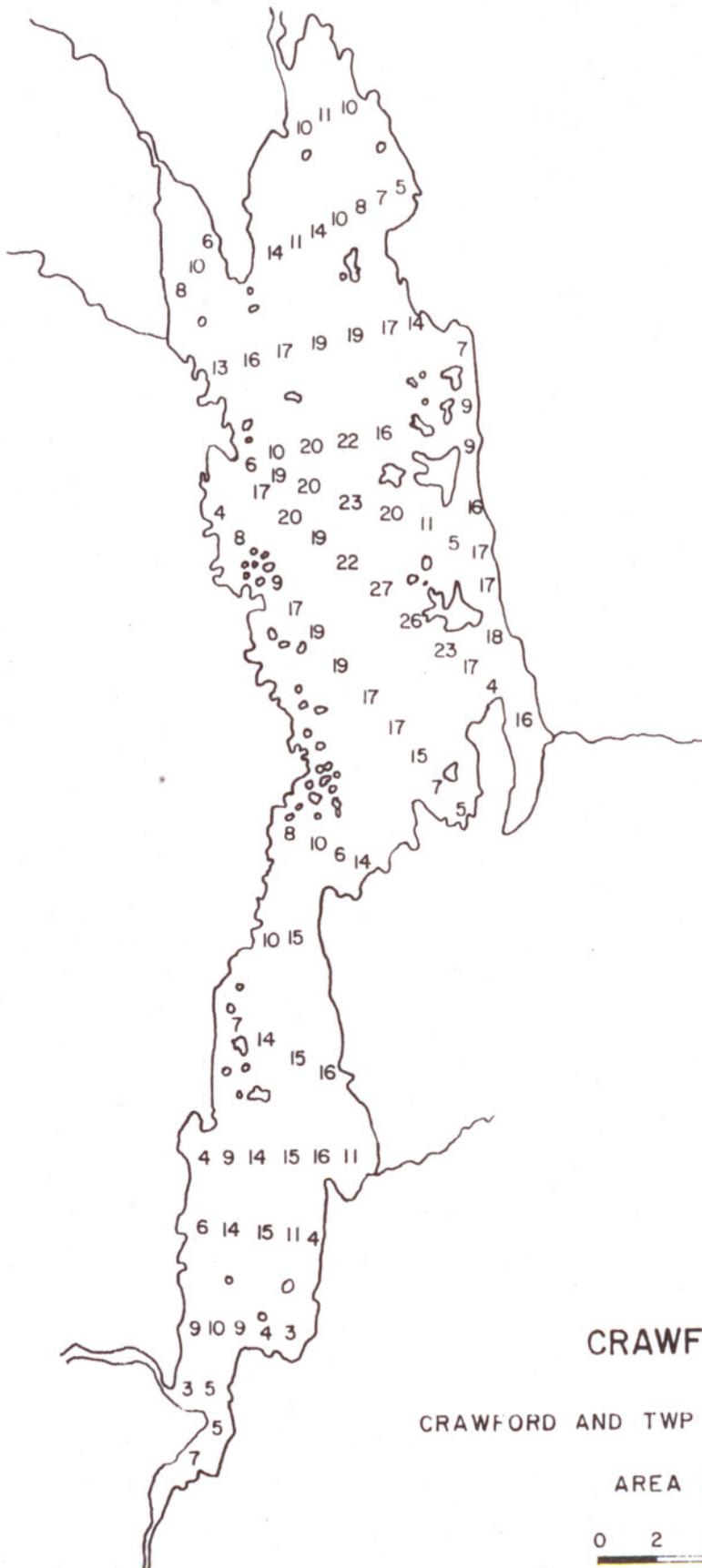
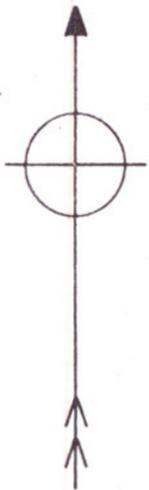
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Maine



OUTLET

# CRAWFORD LAKE

CRAWFORD AND TWP 21, WASHINGTON CO., MAINE

AREA 1677 ACRES



TENTHS OF MILE