## SIX-MILE LAKE

Marshfield and Whitneyville Twps., Washington Co.

U.S.G.S. Bog Lake, ME( 7 1/2')

## Fishes

Brown trout Minnows
Brook trout Golden shiner
Rainbow smelt Ninespine stickleback
American eel

## Physical Characteristics

Area- 55 acres Temperatures
Surface- 75°F
Maximum depth- 22 feet 21 feet- 62°F

Principal Fishery: Brown trout, brook trout

This small lake is located adjacent to Route 192 several miles north of Machias. The town of Marshfield maintains a public boat launching site suitable for small boats/canoes. This area is utilized by swimmers during the summer.

The pond provided a reasonably good brook trout fishery in most years based on annual stockings of fall fingerlings. However, the quality of the fishery declined substantially in the late 1980's. Investigations showed that the pond had suffered a decline in water quality. Whereas formerly there was an adequate volume of cool, oxygenated water in the deep hole in the summer, now there was only a very small area of suitable

summer habitat. The decline in the trout fishery is attributed to this factor. Brown trout were experimentally introduced in 1993 because they are more tolerant of warm water. Several anglers reported catching age II, 14-16 inch brown trout during the 1994 open water season. This species should provide a more consistent fishery(and for larger fish) than brook trout. Because the pond is a favorite of kids, small numbers of brook trout are still stocked to provide an active fishery for 7-10 inch fish in the spring.

The decline in water quality likely stems from shoreline development. A number of year-round homes and camps have been built very close to the lake. Old/malfunctioning septic systems associated with these dwellings may be the major problem. A survey of these systems should be undertaken, and deficiencies should be corrected.

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