

BALCH & STUMP PONDS

Acton & Newfield Twps., York Co. Wakefield Twp., Carroll Co., N.H. U.S.G.S. Great East Lake, Me.-N.H. (7 1/2')

Fishes

Smallmouth bass Largemouth bass White perch Yellow perch Chain pickerel Minnows
Golden shiner
Hornpout (bullhead)
White sucker
Pumpkinseed sunfish
Black crappie

Physical Characteristics

Area - 704 acres

Temperatures:
Surface - 76°F

Maximum depth - 44 feet
38 feet - 49°F

Principal fisheries: Smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel, black crappie

Balch and Stump Ponds are interconnected waters, which are located along the Maine-New Hampshire border in northwestern York County. Management of all boundary waters is shared between these two states, and anglers should be familiar with boundary water fishing regulations.

During mid-summer a small band of cold, oxygenated water is available for trout management. However, waters beyond twenty feet in depth develop an oxygen deficiency. Brown trout stockings were discontinued many years ago for several reasons including: poor water quality, lack of a good forage fish, and trout exiting the pond were unable to regain entry due to the high outlet dam. Currently, the limited amount of suitable habitat does not justify the expense of installing a fishway.

Yet, Balch Pond does have several excellent warmwater fisheries. The most popular warmwater fisheries are for largemouth bass, white perch, and black crappie. Like many other good southern Maine bass waters, fish in excess of five pounds are sometimes caught by anglers.

Anglers with canoes and car-top boats often put in near the outlet dam off Acton Ridge Road/Shady Nook Road. Those with trailered boats usually gain access at a private, for fee landing located on the northeastern side of the ponds.

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