

LITTLE OSSIPEE LAKE
Waterboro Twps., York Co.
U.S.G.S. Waterboro, Me. (7.5')

Fishes

Landlocked salmon	Chain pickerel
Brown trout	Minnows
Lake trout (togue)	Golden shiner
Brook trout	White sucker
Rainbow smelt	Hornpout (bullhead)
Smallmouth bass	Burbot (cusk)
Largemouth bass	Banded killifish
White perch	Pumpkinseed sunfish
Yellow perch	Slimy sculpin
	American eel

Physical Characteristics

Area - 564 acres	Temperatures:
	Surface - 77°F
Maximum depth - 72 feet	68 feet - 51°F

Principal fisheries: Landlocked salmon, lake trout, brook trout, brown trout, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, white perch, cusk

Little Ossipee Lake is a heavily developed water with three main basins. Its convoluted shoreline creates a variety of habitats that support a variety of cold and warmwater fisheries.

This water thermally stratifies in the summer, and a band of cool, oxygenated water exists for salmonid management. Suitable summer water quality for coldwater fish species exists primarily in the two southernmost basins. This popular water receives heavy fishing pressure and has limited spawning opportunities for coldwater fish species. As a result, stocking is required to maintain these fisheries. Landlocked salmon was one of the primary fisheries, but a decline in the smelt population in the late 1990's forced a temporary management change. Salmon were replaced with brown

trout in the mid 1990's due to their more opportunist feeding behaviors. The Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is currently working to rebuild the smelt population, and ultimately the goal is to return to the salmon program. In addition, brook trout are stocked to provide a popular short term fishery. A small number of lake trout are also stocked every several years to provide additional angling opportunities.

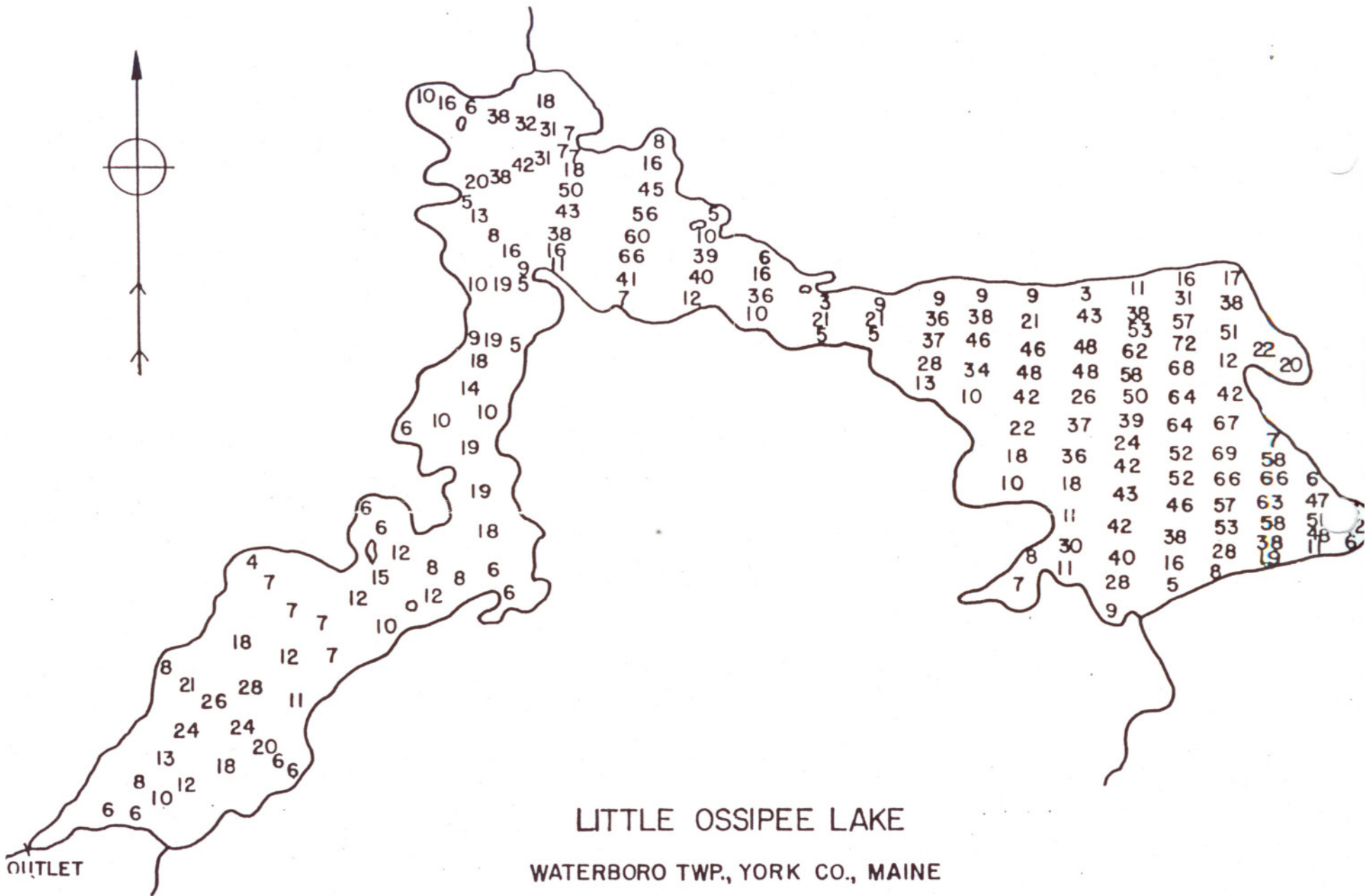
This water offers quality fishing for both smallmouth and largemouth bass due to an abundance of habitat and forage. In fact, Little Ossipee Lake has become quite popular among the bass tournament circuit.

During the 1980's and the early 1990's, white perch and cusk were illegally introduced. The white perch population has since developed into a fishery, but it is too early to determine whether or not a desirable fishery will develop for cusk. Anglers need to understand that these type of introductions often severely compromise preferred or existing fish species.

- * A state sponsored boat ramp with limited parking is located off Rte. 5 in Waterboro.

Surveyed - August 1967
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LITTLE OSSIPEE LAKE

WATERBORO TWP., YORK CO., MAINE

AREA 564 ACRES

