

NICKERSON LAKE New Limerick and Linneus, Aroostook Co. U.S.G.S. Linneus, Maine (7 1/2')

Fishes

Brown trout Lake trout (togue) Brook trout Rainbow smelt Smallmouth bass White perch Yellow perch Chain pickerel White sucker Banded killifish Pumpkinseed sunfish Slimy sculpin American eel

Physical Characteristics

Area - 234 acres

Average depth - 34 feet Maximum depth - 107 feet Temperatures: Surface - 75⁰F 25 feet - 55⁰F 105 feet - 42⁰F

Principal fisheries: Brown trout, lake trout, brook trout, white perch, chain pickerel

Water quality of Nickerson Lake is excellent for coldwater gamefish. A large volume of water below 25 feet is cold with a high level of dissolved oxygen during warm summer months However, continued shoreline development without adequate riparian buffers may eventually degrade water quality.

Brook trout and brown trout are stocked annually to provide a sport fishery for these species. Lake trout were introduced to Nickerson Lake in 1959 and subsequently established a self-sustaining population. Stocking of lake trout was discontinued in 1994. Water quality and lake characteristics are ideal for lake trout except that the lake is unusually small compared to other lakes with viable togue fisheries. Growth and condition of lake trout and brown trout varies annually due to large fluctuations in forage abundance, primarily smelt. Chain pickerel and white perch also provide angling opportunity at Nickerson Lake. The presence of smallmouth bass was reported during the late 1990s and whether bass will provide a fishery attractive to anglers is unclear at this time.

A public boat launch facility exists at the southeastern end of the lake that provides easy access to Nickerson Lake.

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