Green Lake, a part of the Union River drainage, is one of the original homes of the landlocked salmon. The lake’s proximity to the Ellsworth-Bangor area coupled with the decent fishing pressure it receives accounts for the heavy fishing pressure it receives. A good public boat launching facility maintained by the city of Ellsworth is located along the southern shore. Another public site (a fee is charged) is available at the western end.

The lake provides excellent habitat for coldwater sportfish. Salmon and lake trout provide reasonably good fisheries in most years. Salmon growth rate fluctuates in response to changes in smelt abundance. 1989 was an especially productive year when anglers caught salmon up to 4 1/2 pounds. In the following ice fishing season, salmon averaged a more typical 16 inches. In recent years, salmon growth rates have been below the 1990 figure. Substantial numbers of wild salmon are produced in Great Brook and Jellison Brook. Creel surveys indicate that wild salmon comprise from 30-45% of the salmon harvest in some years.

The lake trout fishery is entirely dependent upon stocking. Winter togue fishing is generally "slow" as catch rates are below the statewide average. Knowledgeable open water anglers trolling deep in the summer make some good catches. Most angled togue range from 3-3 1/2 pounds. They grow well; age IV fish sampled in the 1990 winter season averaged 20.3 inches long. The favorable growth rate is attributed to heavy predation on smelts, suckers, and sticklebacks. A distinctive and appealing feature of the togue fishery is that most fish are routinely in superb shape. Six to 8 pound togue are caught with sufficient frequency to spur increased angler interest.

Biologists have confirmed the presence of a relic population of Sunapee charr. Interestingly, a number of unusually small (5-7 inch), sexually mature charr have been captured, as well as a 15-inch specimen.

Although the lake is best known for its salmon and togue, it also produces some fine smallmouth bass. Surveys have shown that bass in the attractive 15 to 17-inch range comprise a better than average proportion of the population. Of further interest is the fact that the lake yields a few 3 1/2 to 4 pound smallmouths in most winters.

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GREEN LAKE  P 1564
DEDHAM AND ELLSWORTH
TWPS. IN HANCOCK CO.
ELEV. 156 FT  AREA 2989 ACRES