

LOWER SABAO POND
T35MD, Hancock Co.
U.S.G.S. Nicasious Lake and Lead Mt., Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)	Smelt
White perch	White sucker
Yellow perch	Minnows
Chain pickerel	Banded killifish
Hornpout (bullhead)	Pumpkinseed sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 755 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 73°F
Maximum depth - 34 feet	32 feet - 70°F

Principal Fisheries: White perch, chain pickerel

Lower Sabao Lake is located at the headwaters of the West Branch of the Machias River in a remote area of T35MD. You can drive right to the lake over the Sabao Road, which leaves Rt.9 (the "Airline") in T30MD. Be prepared for a long drive of more than 10 miles over gravel roads. Beautiful wilderness scenery abounds at Lower Sabao. Tall red pines overlook the lake's reddish-brown waters, and wide, sand beaches nearly encircle the lake. There is a good boat landing and a fine Forest Service tenting site.

The lake's habitat is ideally suited to management for white perch and chain pickerel. Anglers report that the catch rate is above-average, and September perch fishing is especially popular.

When the old outlet dam was removed in the mid-1970's, fish gained free access through the lake. A few trout are caught, probably originating either from the outlet or one of the tributaries. We recommend no stocking of coldwater gamefish species.

Smelts were introduced in 1985-86 in an attempt to provide a fishery for sport fishermen and bait dealers. Fishermen have reported observing schools of smelts in the lake as well as finding them in fish stomachs. Biologists found indications of smelt reproduction in the spring of 1987.

Surveyed - August, 1960
(Revised - 1988)

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