

BIG CLEMMONS POND Hiram Twp., Oxford Co. U.S.G.S. Kezar Falls/Brownfield, Me. (7.5')

Fishes

Brook Trout Rainbow smelt Smallmouth bass Largemouth bass Yellow perch Chain pickerel Minnows Golden shiner Blacknose dace White Sucker Redbreast sunfish Hornpout (bullhead) Pumpkinseed sunfish American eel

Physical Characteristics

Area - 85 acres

Maximum depth - 44 feet

Temperatures: Surface - 77°F 43 feet - 45°F

Principal fisheries: Brook trout, rainbow smelt, largemouth bass, and chain pickerel

Residential and camp development occurs only along the northeastern shoreline. The remaining shoreline is characterized by unaltered natural riparian vegetation and bottom substrate. The pond thermally stratifies during the summer months, but areas below 23 feet typically experience an oxygen deficiency. Despite this limitation there is suitable water quality to support a coldwater fishery, although the presence of competing warmwater fish further compromise efforts to manage for trout. Big Clemmons Pond is managed for cold and warmwater fisheries.

There is insufficient spawning and recruitment to sustain a brook trout fishery, which is maintained under and annual stocking program utilizing legal-size trout. In addition, wild trout and Atlantic salmon may occasionally migrate into Big Clemmons from Ten Mile Stream. The current stocking program was developed to have minimal impact on the smelt population, which provides a popular hook and line fishery.

A previous brook trout stocking program was suspended in 1981, when public access was lost. Stocking was resumed in 2001 when the Town obtained property for use as public access. The town-owned hard surface boat ramp exists at the north end of the Pond, on a narrow property located off the "Clemmons Cove Road". Parking occurs along the narrow entrance road, which will accommodate only a few vehicles.

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