

SHAGG POND Woodstock Twp., Oxford Co. U.S.G.S. Bryant Pond, Me. (7.5')

Fishes

Brook trout Splake Rainbow smelt Minnows Golden shiner Hornpout (bullhead) Banded killifish Pumpkinseed sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 64 acres

Temperatures: Surface - 77°F 38 feet - 41°F

Maximum depth - 41 feet

Principal fisheries: Brook trout, splake

Shagg Pond is situated in a relatively remote area of the region and it offers some picturesque mountain views. The pond thermally stratifies during the summer, and a band of cool, oxygenated water develops that is suitable for salmonids. This water was chemically reclaimed in 1957 to remove competing species and allow for the intensive management of brook trout. Unfortunately, most of the nonsalmonid fishes now present in the pond have been illegally introduced by bait dealers or anglers. It is quite possible that the bullhead were not entirely eradicated during the reclamation process. Also, yellow perch have been reported, but their presence has not been confirmed by the Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

This pond is currently managed for brook trout and splake. Annual stocking of brook trout is required to maintain the fishery due to limited spawning and nursery areas for this species. Splake, a cross between a female lake trout and a male brook trout, have been stocked since the early 1990's to provide some variety and size quality. In addition, splake will forage on many of the illegally introduced species.

This pond is a potential candidate for reclamation, but funding such a project could prove to be difficult. If a reclamation is conducted, the regulations should include no live fish as bait (NLFAB) and be closed to bait dealers to discourage the introduction of competing species.

A small, dirt boat access is located off the Shagg Pond Road a short distance from the outlet.

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