

HOUSE POND
Lee Twp., Penobscot Co.
U.S.G.S. Winn, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)	Minnows
Eel	Blacknose shiner
White sucker	Fathead minnow
	Banded killifish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 12 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 77° F.
Maximum depth - 4 feet	4 feet - 77° F.

Suggested Management

House Pond is classed as a bog pond, but it is a peculiar bog pond in that the water level has dropped below the level of the surrounding sphagnum mat, leaving firm gravel shores with little vegetation. The open water of the pond is characterized by a "false bottom" of suspended sediment which floats 2 to 4 feet below the surface of the water. This sediment supports essentially no rooted aquatic vegetation. A stratum of relatively clear water may exist below the false bottom. The depth to mineral substrate is unknown.

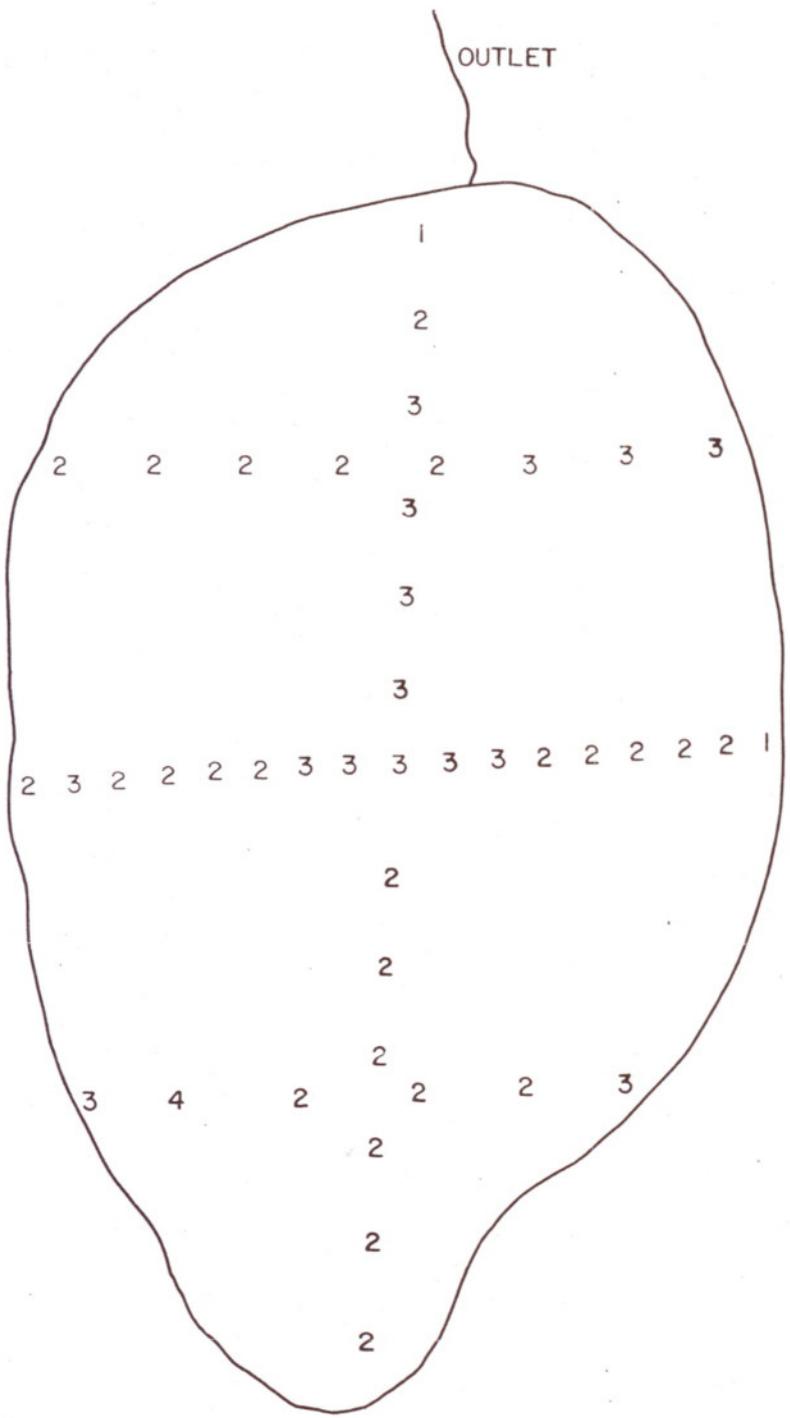
Water temperatures above the false bottom become very high in summer but they drop rapidly a few inches below the surface of the sediment. There are also several springs with summer temperatures as low as 43° F. Brook trout and suckers were congregated in the spring areas at the time of the survey and they could not be driven away from these cool-water areas. The minnows and killifish were not confined to the springs but were widely distributed in the warm water.

The brook trout in the spring areas ranged in length from approximately 2 to 10 inches and in age from young-of-the-year to three-year-olds. House Pond is not ordinarily stocked and so the presence of these various ages and sizes indicates that these trout are the result of natural reproduction. The pond has no tributaries and the outlet is not suitable for natural repro-

duction of trout. It is obvious, therefore, that reproduction must occur in the spring areas or on the gravel shores.

At the time of the survey, it appeared that sufficient trout were present to fully utilize the limited summer habitat. The ease of censusing this trout population with skindiving gear when the trout are congregated in the spring areas suggests the feasibility of periodic checks on the status of the population. Stocking can be used to supplement the population when or if a reduction in numbers so indicates.

Surveyed - July, 1958
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game



HOUSE POND

LEE TWP., PENOBSCOT CO., MAINE

AREA 12 ACRES

