## CUXABEXIS LAKE T5 R12, T6 R 12, Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Chesuncook, Me.

## Fishes

White perch Yellow perch Hornpout (bullhead) White sucker Minnows Common shiner Golden shiner Creek chub Fallfish (chub)

## Physical Characteristics

Area - 592 acres

Temperatures Surface - 76° F. 9 feet - 65° F.

Maximum depth - 10 feet

## Principal Fishery: White perch, yellow perch, hornpout

Cuxabexis Lake is a relatively large lake located near the northeast end of Chesuncook Lake. It is surrounded by spruce and fir wilderness. From the lake one has a beautiful view of the Katahdin Range in the distance to the southeast.

The shore is lined with alders and is generally rocky, except where the inlets flow into the lake. In those areas it is quite boggy, with deadwater extending a good distance back from the lake in all cases. The lake bottom consists mainly of gravel.

Although water quality conditions are adequate for trout and salmon, neither species were found at the time of survey. However, it has been reported that in past years Cuxabexis Lake provided a good early season trout and salmon fishery.

There are excellent trout and salmon spawning and nursery areas in Cuxabexis Stream, the major inlet to the lake. Presently access to it is not blocked by any obstacles. In addition, the outlet, also known as Cuxabexis Stream, has good spawning and nursery areas for both salmon and trout. It flows directly into Chesuncook Lake and could provide passage for fish between the two lakes if a beaver dam at the outlet to Cuxabexis Lake were removed. At present the heavy competition from large populations of yellow perch, white perch, and suckers preclude the management of Cuxabexis Lake for coldwater fish.

The general fishing regulations now in effect should be liberalized to permit ice fishing from the time the ice forms until March 31st. This would allow more anglers to harvest the large populations of perch which up to this time have been relatively unexploited.

Access to Cuxabexis Lake may be either by walking up Cuxabexis Stream from Chesuncook Lake, or by canoeing up the stream during periods of high water.

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