

EAGLE LAKE

(Big Eagle Lake)

T8R13, T9R13, T7R12, T8R12, T7R13 Piscataquis Co.
 U.S.G.S. Churchill Lake, ME (7 1/2')
 Soper Mountain, ME (7 1/2')
 Tramway, ME (7 1/2')
 Clarkson Pond, ME (7 1/2')

FISHES

Lake trout (togue)	Blacknose dace
Brook trout	Creek chub
Lake whitefish	Fallfish (chub)
Round whitefish	Pearl dace
Rainbow smelt	Longnose sucker
Minnnows	White sucker
Lake chub	Hornpout (bullhead)
Common shiner	Burbot (cusk)
Blacknose shiner	Threespine stickleback
Redbelly dace	Slimy sculpin
Finescale dace	

Physical Characteristics

Area - 9500 acres

Maximum depth - 124 feet

Temperatures

North Part

Surface - 70°F
 35 feet - 60°F
 100 feet - 46°F

South Part

Surface - 64°F
 35 feet - 58°F
 75 feet - 53°F

Principal fisheries: Lake trout, brook trout, lake whitefish, burbot

Eagle Lake is the first, largest, and deepest lake in the present Allagash River system. As with the other lakes located on the Allagash River, the shoreline is owned by the state of Maine under the control of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway and essentially remains naturally wooded and undeveloped.

Water level in the lake is determined by a dam at the outlet of Churchill Lake operated by Allagash Waterway personnel. The dam is used for water storage purposes to facilitate canoeing the Allagash River during summer low flows. The dam is fitted with a fishway to permit fish passage.

The lake is separated into two basins, both of which remain ideal in water quality characteristics for lake trout and brook trout since the initial survey in 1958. The large volume of deep water is cold with abundant dissolved oxygen throughout the hottest part of summer.

The many tributaries provide extensive spawning and nursery habitat for brook trout. Although numerous shoal areas are present

present within in the lake, lake trout spawning has only been identified at a single location to date. Operation of Churchill Dam to maintain adequate water level over rocky shoals during fall and winter months is crucial to the success of lake trout reproduction. Fall concentrations of lake whitefish have been reported at the base of Lock Dam and are suspected to have been on a spawning run. More extensive fieldwork is necessary to identify lake trout, lake whitefish, and burbot spawning areas.

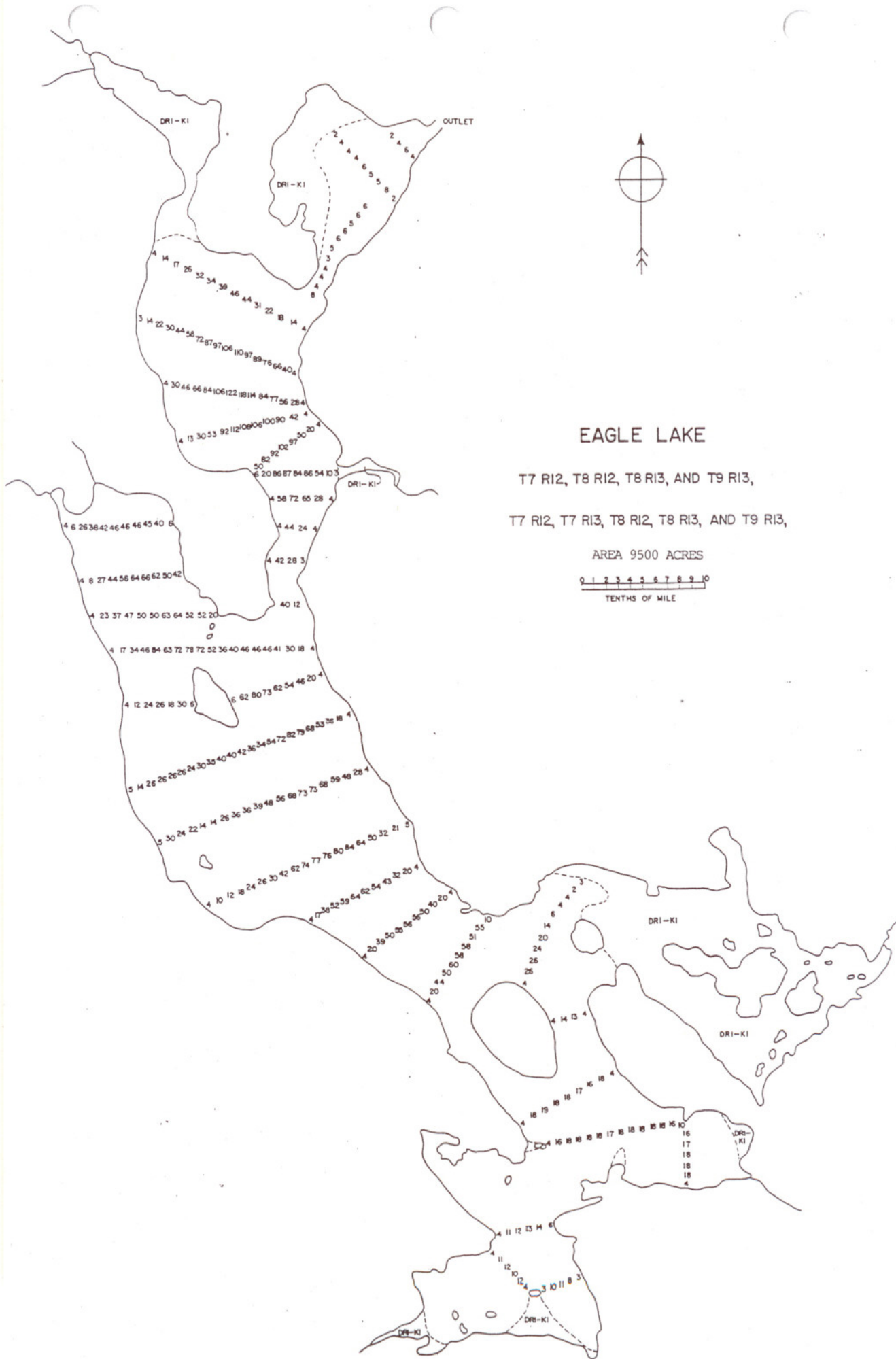
Sport fishery management in Eagle Lake emphasizes native, wild populations of lake trout, brook trout, lake whitefish, and burbot. Conservative fishing regulations have been implemented to maintain and enhance these sport fish populations. The upper Allagash River exists today as the only drainage in northern Maine not yet to be impacted by the presence of yellow perch. Introduction of this or other warmwater species would severely limit wild brook trout production.

Vehicle access to Eagle Lake is via improved private gravel roads maintained by large landowners for forest management purposes. Watercraft use and access restrictions have been implemented by the Allagash Wilderness Waterway. Recreational inquiries not pertaining to sport fishing should be directed to this state agency for current rules and regulations.

Surveyed - August, 1958

(Revised - 1990)

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EAGLE LAKE

T7 R12, T8 R12, T8 R13, AND T9 R13,

T7 R12, T7 R13, T8 R12, T8 R13, AND T9 R13,

AREA 9500 ACRES

