

EIGHTEEN POND
Monson, Piscataquis Co.
U.S.G.S. Monson East, ME (7 1/2)

Fishes

Chain pickerel Minnows
 Golden shiner

Physical characteristics

Area - 15 acres Temperatures
 Surface - 73°F
Maximum depth - 22 feet 18 feet - 58°F

Principal fishery: Chain pickerel

Eighteen Pond is a very scenic body of water. Its shoreline varies from areas of mature mixed forest to the water's edge, to small coves of mixed bog plants, to exposed ledge with large white pines and spruce. Submerged aquatic vegetation abounds throughout much of the pond. The pond lies in the heart of the slate mining region of Monson. Access to Eighteen Pond is by an old road associated with nearby abandoned slate quarries.

The water quality of Eighteen Pond is suitable for brook trout. However, brook trout are not presently found there. There are no tributaries and the outlet lacks suitable habitat for trout reproduction. According to a local fisherman, brook trout were caught in Eighteen Pond in the 1940's, but it is

believed that the fish were first taken in nearby streams then transferred to the pond. Pickerel were not present at that time, but the shiners were reported to be abundant. Chain pickerel have since become established. Approximately 100 yards below the pond, the outlet passes through a series of cascades and short vertical drops creating at least an 8 foot impasse to upstream migration. It is likely that the pickerel were introduced by man.

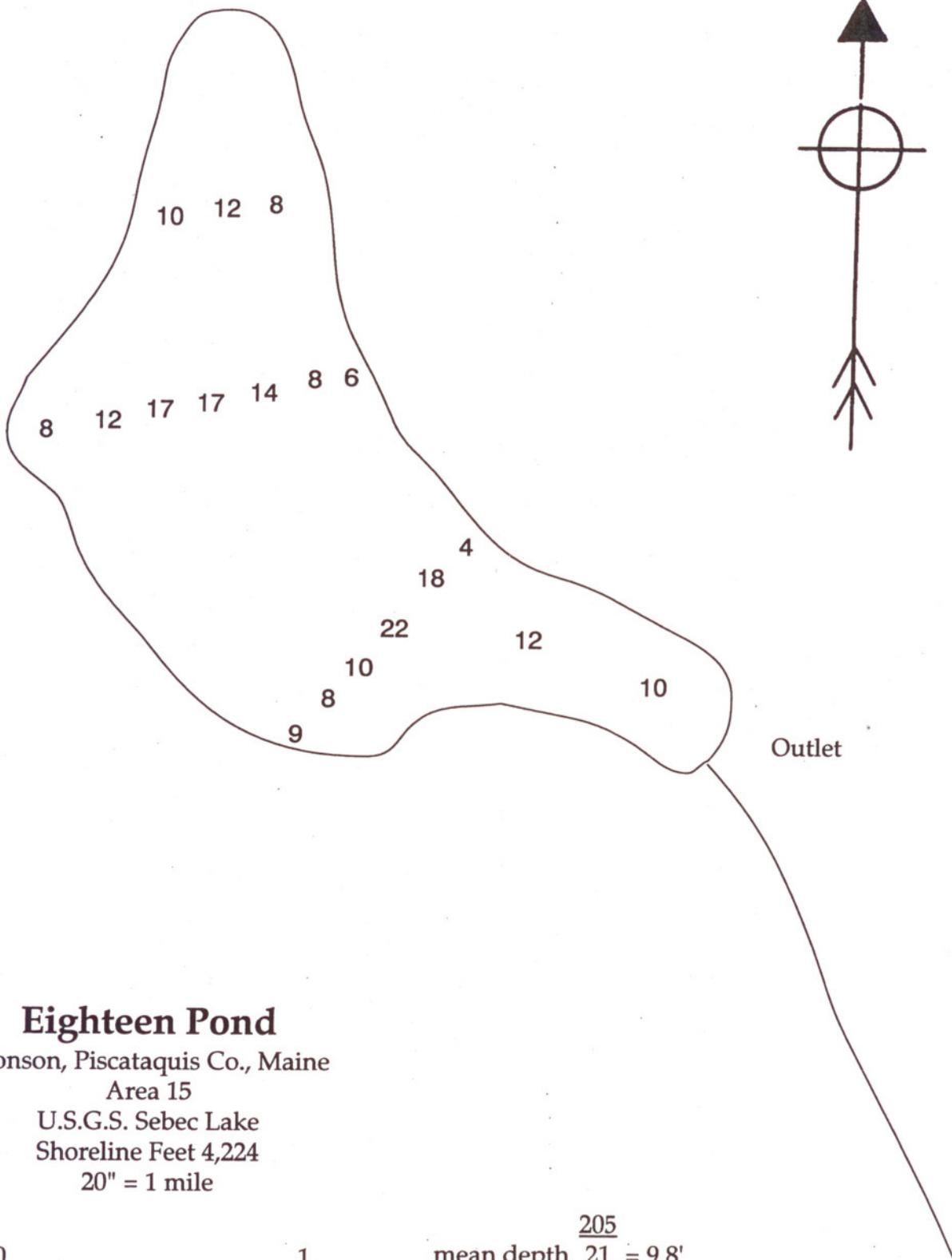
The only other species found in Eighteen Pond is the golden shiner. It is the sole source of forage for the pickerel. There is little fishing pressure under the present conditions.

An experimental stocking of fall-fingerling brook trout in 1989 proved unsuccessful, probably due to the pickerel population. If stocked again, hatchery-reared brook trout must be large enough to avoid predation by the pickerel. Eighteen Pond would be an excellent candidate for reclamation if there is ever a demand for additional brook trout ponds in the Monson area. General law regulations are adequate to maintain the present pickerel fishery.

Surveyed - August, 1989

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

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Eighteen Pond

Monson, Piscataquis Co., Maine

Area 15

U.S.G.S. Sebec Lake

Shoreline Feet 4,224

20" = 1 mile



One Tenth mile

mean depth $\frac{205}{21} = 9.8'$