## LITTLE ROCKY POND

T-A R11, Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Jo-Mary Mountain, Me.

## **Fishes**

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows Redbelly dace Finescale dace

## Physical Characteristics

Area - 14 acres

Temperatures
Surface - 74° F.

Maximum depth - 4 feet

Principal Fishery - Brook trout

Little Rocky Pond is situated on a forested height of land approximately ½ mile to the northwest of Big Pleasant Pond. It is appropriately named, as granite rocks and boulders are found along the shore and throughout the southern end of the pond.

In recent years a beaver dam on the outlet held the water level in the pond two feet higher than it is at present. This dam has been abandoned. With a lower water level emergent aquatic vegetation is common throughout the pond.

Little Rocky Pond supports a wild brook trout population. While warm surface water temperatures appear to be a limiting factor, areas influenced by cool spring water must sustain the trout through the summer months. Two species of small dace are present along with the trout, and provide a source of forage in addition to the excellent insect hatches there. Trout growth in Little Rocky is very good.

One small tributary enters from a boggy area at the north end of the pond, but offers no potential as a trout spawning or nursery area. The outlet is rocky with a few gravel areas that are suitable for trout spawning. At present, the remains of the old beaver dam on the outlet prevents fish movement into the pond. Thus the brook trout population is maintained by spawning in suitable areas within the pond.

Access to Little Rocky requires a hike of more than ½ mile. Fishing there is presently restricted to fly fishing only, with a daily bag limit of five trout. This remote pond will be managed for its wild trout population.

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