

SPECTACLE POND  
Blanchard Plt., Piscataquis Co.  
U.S.G.S., Kingsbury, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Banded killifish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 60 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 76° F.

Maximum depth - 4 feet

4 feet - 74° F.

Principal Fishery: Brook trout

Spectacle Pond is one of several small trout ponds located in the southwest corner of Blanchard Plantation. It is comprised of two separate, shallow basins separated by a narrow thoroughfare. The forest extends right to the shoreline around most of the pond. A thick layer of organic material covers the bottom of the pond.

Because Spectacle Pond is so shallow, water temperatures become very warm during the summer months, and at times exceed the limits considered tolerable by brook trout. Under these conditions, spring areas within the pond become very important in sustaining the brook trout that are found in the pond.

The brook trout population is maintained through natural reproduction that occurs within the pond, and in the outlet. The only tributary to Spectacle Pond is a meandering deadwater area that passes through several old beaver flowages. No suitable trout spawning areas were found in this brook. The outlet flows through an old beaver dam. Gravel areas above the dam and in the outlet below the dam, provide suitable trout spawning habitat. Passage upstream through the beaver dam is possible, allowing young trout produced in the outlet to enter the pond. The narrow thoroughfare between the two basins has a slight flow, and is also suitable for trout spawning.

Only one other fish species was found in Spectacle Pond. The banded killifish did not appear to be very abundant and therefore provide little competition for the trout. The trout should be using the killifish as a source of food, and may be keeping their numbers down through predation.

Access to Spectacle Pond is over a rough gravel road which ends at the shore of the pond. Fishing pressure appears seasonal. The pond will be managed for its wild trout population. The use or possession of

live fish as bait should be prohibited to protect the pond from introductions of new fish species that could compete with the trout. The daily bag limit should be reduced to 5 trout.

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