NEQUASSET POND Woolwich Twp., Sagadahoc County U.S.G.S. Bath, Maine

Fishes

Salmon Brook trout (squaretail) Brown trout Rainbow trout Smallmouth bass Largemouth bass White perch Yellow perch Chain pickerel Hornpout (bullhead) Smelt Alewife Eel White sucker Minnows Golden shiner Banded killifish Pumpkinseed sunfish Redbreast sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area — 392 acres

Maximum depth -63 feet

Temperatures Surface — 72°F 60 feet — 56°F

Principal Fishery: Brown trout, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, white perch, pickerel

Nequasset Pond provides a limited amount of suitable water for coldwater fish. In the past salmon, brook trout and rainbow trout were utilized to provide a fishery through stocking programs. However, each species had little success in sustaining a fishery for a variety of reasons including heavy competition from other fish species and low oxygen levels in the cooler, deeper water during the summer.

Despite our lack of success in establishing a stable coldwater fishery in the pond the Department decided in 1980 to attempt to provide a brown trout fishery through stocking. Brown trout are able to withstand unfavorable competition and water quality better than most other salmonids. Since Nequasset Pond lacks tributaries suitable for natural reproduction periodic stockings of brown trout will be necessary.

Nequasset Pond is the water supply for the city of Bath. The multiple use provided by this water is good for all concerned. Each entity insures that its part of the resource is adequately protected.

Nequasset Pond also provides a commercial alewife fishery. This resource is dependent on a sufficient number of adult alewives entering the pond to spawn. The fishway on the outlet must be kept in good repair to realize maximum benefits. Access to Nequasset Pond is possible with a small boat at the pumping station near the outlet or on the inlet at the north end of the pond off the Old Stage Road.

Anglers can help fishery managers in evaluating results of the brown trout stocking program by reporting their catches to:

Regional Fisheries Biologist 8 Federal Street Augusta, Maine 04333

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