CHASE STREAM POND T2R7 (Misery) BKPWKR, T1R6 BKPWKR, Somerset Co., Maine U.S.G.S. Brassua Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows

Finescale dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 31 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 79° F.

Maximum depth - 12 feet

12 feet - 54° F.

Principal Fishery: Brook trout

Chase Stream Pond is situated in a secluded section of the hilly area known as Little Chase Stream Mountain, or its southwesterly prolongation. The pond is surrounded by spruce and fir forests with many beautiful white pines interspersed, and many hardwoods on the sides of the ridges.

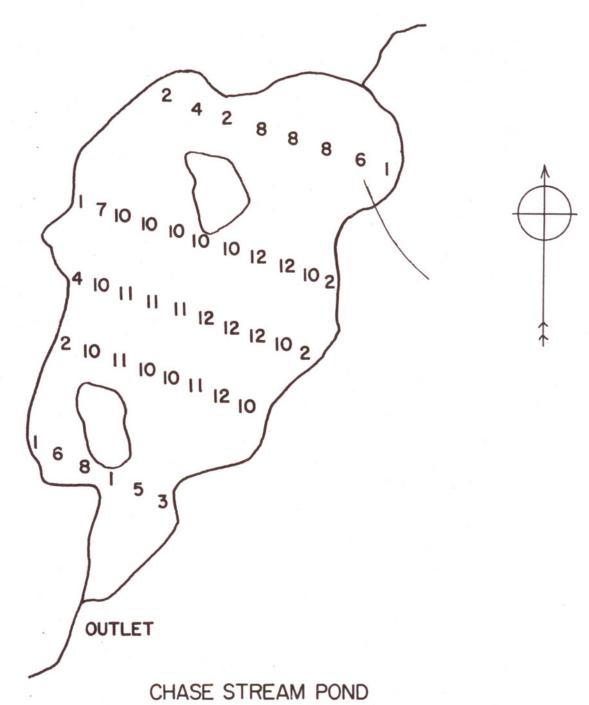
This is a small, shallow trout pond which produced good fishing for large trout until a few years ago after a gravelled logging road was built to the shore. A small logging camp was built a few feet from the shore of the pond. Since the completion of the logging operation, the road has deteriorated badly making access possible by 4-wheel drive vehicles only.

At the time of the survey, the surface temperature was high for trout, but the temperature dropped quickly only a few feet below the surface. There is sufficient oxygen for trout at all depths. The only inlets are small springs. The one at the old logging campsite has some gravel suitable for trout spawning, and it must have reared some trout. However, the logging operation caused untold damage to this tributary, and it will be many more years before the brook can grow many trout again. The outlet is rocky and steep and may be impassable most of the time, but some trout probably spawn there.

Now that the road is eroded and access is limited again, natural reproduction may suffice to restock the pond to its former level. There is one other species of fish present, a minnow, and precautions should be taken to preclude introductions of other species.

Chase Stream Pond should be managed for brook trout only, and regulations should include a 5-trout limit plus a no-live-fish-as-bait restriction.

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