RANCOURT POND Dennistown Twp., Somerset Co. U.S.G.S. Attean, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows

Finescale dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 23 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 74° F.

Maximum depth - 21 feet

20 feet - 46° F.

Rancourt Pond is situated in the hills northwest of Jackman. Some fishermen drive a car to within ½ mile of the pond, but the road is rather rough for a modern passenger car. There is a good trail from the end of the road to the pond.

Rancourt Pond has only two species of fish; brook trout and a small minnow. Fortunately, the outlet is so steep that fish cannot enter the pond by that route. This makes an ideal situation for the trout, because they thrive best when no other fish are present.

The water quality is good for trout except for the area below 12 feet. This area is deficient in oxygen during the hottest part of the summer.

Most of the pond has a thick layer of soft mud on the bottom, and much of the shoreline is boggy. There is only one small tributary, and this is not suitable for trout to spawn in. There are no gravel areas along the shore where trout could spawn. The outlet is all rocky with some impassable falls very close to the pond.

Rancourt Pond should be managed for brook trout and will probably have to be stocked annually with fingerling trout to provide good fishing. Since the pond is fished primarily for its large trout, the trout should be stocked in small numbers so that they will have plenty of room and food for fast growth.

The present fly-fishing-only regulation prevents the introduction of other fishes through the bait pail. If this regulation is removed at any time, a regulation prohibiting the use or possession of live fish as bait should be substituted.

The present statewide bag limit of 10 trout is adequate to protect this remote pond.

Surveyed - August, 1961 Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game

