

WEST GRAND LAKE

T5ND, T6ND, T6R1, and Grand Lake Stream,
Washington Co. T5R1, Penobscot Co.
U.S.G.S. Scraggly Lake & Wabassus Lake, ME(7½')

Fishes

Landlocked salmon	Minnows(con't)
Lake trout(togue)	Blacknose dace
Brook trout	Creek chub
Lake whitefish	Fallfish(chub)
Rainbow smelt	White sucker
Smallmouth bass	Hornpout(bullhead)
White perch	Burbot(cusk)
Yellow perch	Banded killifish
Chain pickerel	Threespine stickleback
Minnows	Ninespine stickleback
Golden shiner	Pumpkinseed sunfish
Bridled shiner	American eel
Common shiner	

Physical Characteristics

Area- 14,340 acres	Temperatures
	Surface- 73°F
Maximum depth- 128 feet	100 feet- 52°F

Principal Fishery: Salmon, lake trout, lake whitefish, smallmouth bass

West Grand Lake is one of the largest salmon lakes in Maine. Relatively few camps dot the shoreline which remains largely forested and undeveloped. A newly upgraded public boat launching facility is maintained by Georgia-Pacific Corp. adjacent to the dam. Anglers can also launch small boats at a site at Farm Cove.

The salmon fishery, which is of statewide significance, attracts numerous non-residents from the eastern seaboard every spring. The West Grand Lake area supports the highest concentration of sporting camps and guides in eastern Maine. Many of the salmon populations now established in eastern Maine result from West Grand stocks.

The lake provides superb habitat for coldwater sportfish. The salmon fishery is maintained by annual stockings. Management strategy emphasizes the production of good numbers of 2-pound salmon. Growth rate is generally good with periods of excellent growth

correlated with abundant populations of smelt. The long-term average length and weight of salmon angled in the spring is 16.6 inches and 1 pound, 8 ounces, respectively. In the better years, between 40-50% of the salmon harvest is comprised of fish weighing 2 pounds or more.

Every fall, Grand Lake Stream hatchery personnel trap salmon above the dam to collect eggs. The fertilized eggs are hatched, and the young salmon are reared for stocking in numerous lakes throughout Maine.

The lake supports a good lake trout fishery. Although occasional stockings were made throughout the 1980's, recent data show that naturally produced lake trout are increasingly abundant. The fishery is now sustained by wild fish. Most angled togue weigh from 3-3 1/2 pounds although 4-6 pound fish are not uncommon. The lake is one of the top three producers of trophy lake trout in eastern Maine. Georgia-Pacific Corp., which controls the lake level, attempts to maintain a stable water level from October 15-April 1 to enhance natural reproduction of lake trout.

During the winter, the lake supports eastern Maine's most important lake whitefish fishery. The Bear Island-Junior Bay area is especially productive. A sizeable "village" of ice shacks appears each winter as anglers concentrate on whitefish. Some anglers catch limits of 8 fish on the better days. Although more 18 inch whitefish have been caught in recent years, a distinctive feature of this fishery is the general lack of size variation. Most whitefish measure from 15-16 inches and weigh 1 1/4 pounds, 2 ounces to 1 pound, 4 ounces.

Smallmouth bass provide a seasonally important fishery in the summer. In an effort to increase abundance of larger bass, an experimental slot limit is in effect. Consult your lawbook for details.

Surveyed- August, 1952

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WEST GRAND LAKE

T6 R1, T6 ND, GRAND LAKE STREAM, T5 ND, TWPS.,
WASHINGTON CO., AND T5 R1 PENOBSCOT CO., MAINE

13,340 ACRES

