LaCOUTE LAKE Vanceboro Twp., Washington Co. U.S.G.S. Vanceboro, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail) Hornpout (bullhead) Minnows Creek chub Pumpkinseed sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 137 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 71° F.
Maximum depth - 11 feet	11 feet - 70° F.

Principal Fishery: Hornpout

LaCoute Lake is a shallow, scenic pond situated several miles north of the village of Vanceboro. A good dirt road leads directly to the pond where an adequate boat launching area is available. The road was constructed through the efforts of the Bureau of Parks and Recreation which negotiated a lease with the Georgia-Pacific Corporation for the property.

The lake was originally reclaimed in 1967 to permit intensive management for brook trout. Undesirable species including pickerel, hornpout and sunfish became reestablished in the early 1970's. The trout fishery declined substantially and local citizens expressed a desire to have the pond re-reclaimed; this was accomplished in 1973. Unfortunately, this second reclamation also proved to be unsuccessful. The lake was check-netted during the 1978 field season in response to several complaints received concerning the deteriorating trout fishing. Large numbers of hornpout and moderate numbers of sunfish and creek chubs were captured. The presence of these species which compete with trout for food and space dictated an immediate cessation of the trout stocking program. The evidence indicates that LaCoute Lake can not be successfully reclaimed. Accordingly, the lake will be managed for its warmwater gamefish. If sufficient interest arises among local citizens, another warmwater species such as smallmouth bass, pickerel or white perch could be introduced under the auspices of the Fish and Wildlife Department to provide additional angling opportunity.

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