WEST MONROE POND T43MD, Washington Co. U.S.G.S. Wabassus Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail) Minnows

Ninespine stickleback

Golden shiner

Physical Characteristics

Area- 13 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 74°F

Maximum depth - 36 feet

36 feet - 42°F

Principal fishery: Brook trout

West Monroe Lake is located in a remote area south of West Grand Lake. It is easily accessible by 2-wheel drive vehicle by taking an old woods road north of the so-called "Stud Mill Road". The boat landing is poor, but light boats and canoes can be launched with a little "persuasion" to get them angled properly to slide into the water between the hummocks of vegetation.

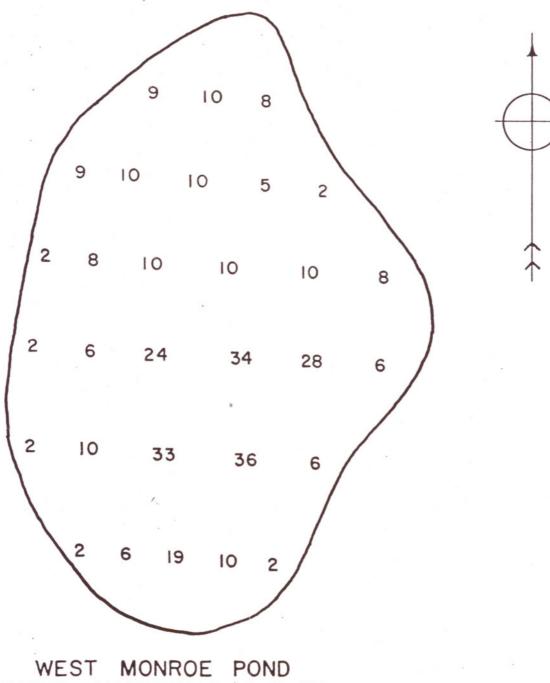
This pond is being managed for brook trout through alternate year stockings of fall fingerlings, followed by a closure to all fishing for a year after each stocking. In other words, the pond is stocked on odd-numbered years during the month of October. Then it is closed to fishing during each even-numbered year, allowing the trout to grow for a year before any fish are removed by anglers. Biologists trapnet the pond one year after each stocking to assess growth and survival of trout, usually comparing two hybrid brook trout strains to see if one yields better returns or growth.

Anglers have expressed strong interest and support for the alternate year fishing season at West Monroe Pond. As soon as there is a patch of open water along the shore in April, anglers travel over snow-covered or muddy roads in hopes of catching an 11 to 15 inch trout. Early spring fishing is good, and most of the annual catch occurs by mid-May.

The pond is closed to ice fishing, and the use of live fish as bait is prohibited.

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WEST MONROE POND T43MD WASHINGTON CO., MAINE AREA 13 ACRES

ONE TENTH MILE