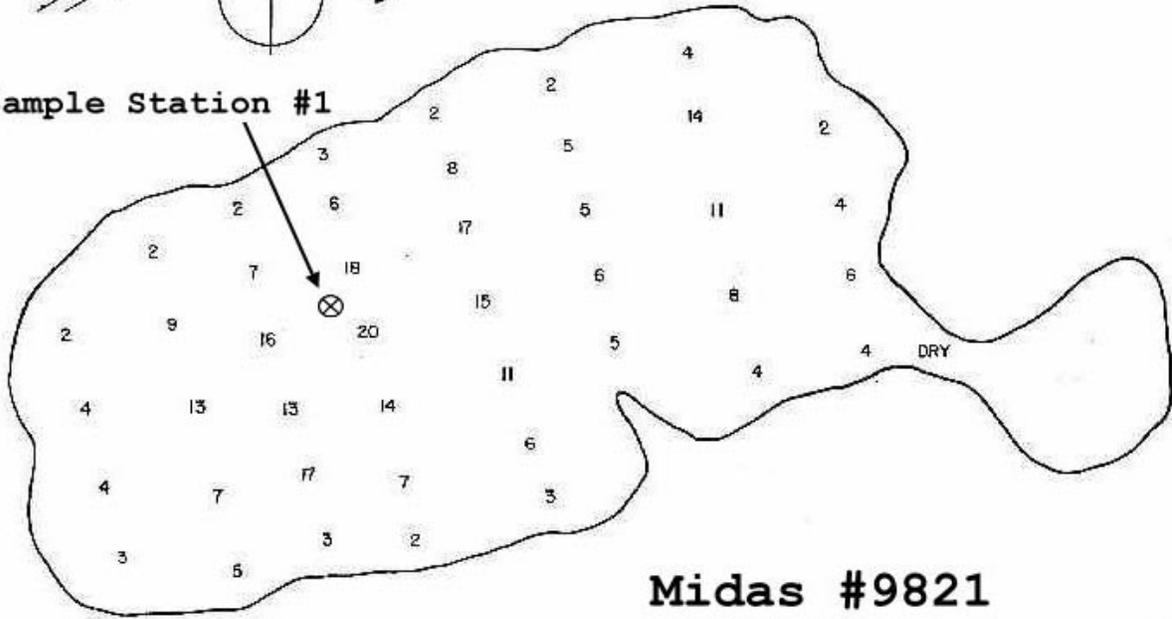


Sample Station #1



**Midas #9821
PEEP LAKE**

T30 MD, WASHINGTON CO, MAINE

AREA 32 ACRES



TENTH OF MILE

PEEP LAKE

T30MD, Washington Co.
U.S.G.S. Tug Mountain, ME (7 1/2')

Fishes

Brook trout

Ninespine
stickleback

Minnnows
Golden shiner

Physical Characteristics

Area - 32 acres

Temperatures:

Maximum depth - 20 feet

Surface - 73°F

20 feet - 72°F

Principal fishery: Brook trout

Peep Lake is a small, clear water lake located north of Route 9, the "Airline". Access is over a good International Paper gravel hauling road. A short trail leads to a spot where a canoe/small boat can be easily launched.

Back 15 years ago, this water provided a good brook trout fishery with some fish up to 14-16 inches. Since then, the "normal" spring high water elevation has declined by 3-4 feet. It's believed that a series of unusually dry, warm summers experienced in Downeast Maine over the past 10 years has taken a toll on the volume of water contained in the lake. Further, Peep sits atop an extensive aquifer that has been tapped into miles away by the blueberry industry through the drilling of water wells used in the summer to irrigate blueberries. The industry's "draw" on such water reserves has increased dramatically over the past 10 years, as they have discovered that irrigation in dry summers is essential to boost yields. Perhaps this combination of very dry summers along with vastly increased water withdrawals has created the present far less than desirable conditions. Sadly, the small band of cool water which was formerly available at the 18-20 foot level is no longer there. Because the pond is now shallower and warmer, survival of trout through the summer is negligible. A check netting effort in June 1999 captured 23 age I+ brook trout, averaging 9.4 in long, from the previous fall stocking. No holdover age II+ fish were sampled. To determine if any trout survived through the summer of 1999, the lake was again check netted in July 2000. Once again, the only age class captured was the I+'s.

Surveyed - August, 1942

(Revised - 1953, 1980, 2001)

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

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L9821C