ROUND POND

T7SD and T10SD, Hancock Co. Steuben Twp., Washington Co. U.S.G.S. Tunk Lake, Me.

Fishes

Salmon

Brook trout (squaretail)

Rainbow trout

Smelt Eel

White sucker

Minnows

Golden shiner Fallfish (chub)

Banded killifish

Threespine stickleback Ninespine stickleback

Pumpkinseed sunfish

Redbreast sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 205 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 76° F.

Maximum depth - 26 feet

25 feet - 72° F.

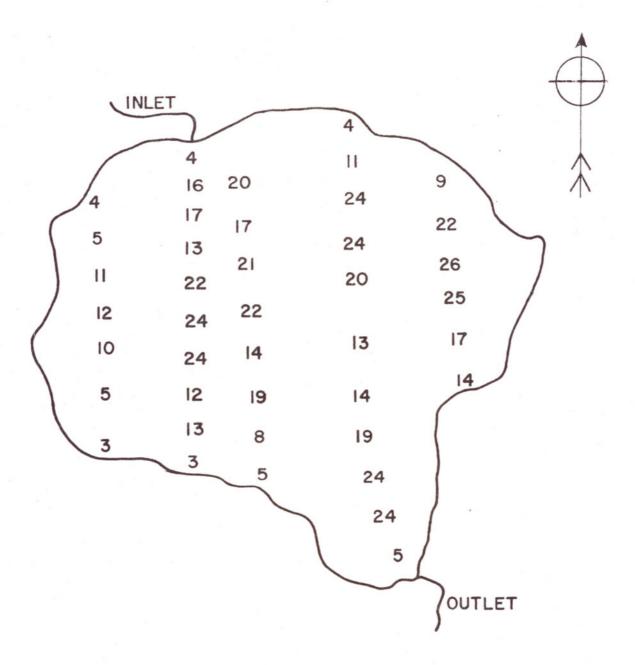
Principal Fishery: Salmon, rainbow trout

Round Pond provides marginal coldwater gamefish habitat. Summer temperatures in this homothermous pond generally exceed the levels considered most desirable for trout and salmon. Nonetheless, salmon were introduced into Round Pond on an experimental basis in 1965. Growth was excellent for a number of years following the introduction; salmon anglers enjoyed some good fishing. However, as seems to be the case quite often in salmon populations established via introductions, salmon growth had slowed considerably by the mid-1970's. The pond was check-netted during the 1976 field season to determine the growth rate of the stocked salmon. Age III+ fish averaged 320mm(12.6") in length and 326g(11 oz.) in weight; age IV+ salmon averaged 389mm(15.3") in length and 604g (1lb., 5oz.) in weight. These figures indicated that Round Pond salmon were growing at a rate below the statewide average. Additionally, access by the general public during the open water season became severely restricted about this time. These factors in conjunction with the light fishing pressure the pond received constituted the basis for the decision to cease the stocking of salmon. Some salmon and rainbow trout which have dropped

down the outlet of Long Pond (only ¼ mile upstream) will continue to be caught in Round Pond. Since this pond is part of the Tunk River drainage which contains no warmwater gamefish, anglers should exercise caution when using live bait. An accidental introduction of spiny-rayed fish via the bait pail could have a disastrous effect on the coldwater fisheries of this drainage.

An interesting feature of the pond is its abundant population of sticklebacks. A number of the salmon captured in our 1976 sample were gorged on sticklebacks. Fishery biologists have successfully seined large numbers of sticklebacks from Round Pond on several occasions to transfer them to other ponds. This species provides an excellent forage item in the diets of brook and rainbow trout.

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TIO SD AND T7 SD, HANCOCK CO., AND STEUBEN TWP, WASHINGTON CO., MAINE 205 ACRES

