

PISTOL LAKE, LOWER
T3 ND, Hancock Co.
U.S.G.S. Spring Lake, ME (7½')

Fishes

Landlocked salmon	Blacknose dace
Brook trout	Creek chub
Rainbow smelt	Fallfish
White perch	White sucker
Yellow perch	Brown bullhead
Minnnows	Banded killifish
Golden shiner	Redbreast sunfish
Common shiner	Pumpkinseed sunfish

Physical characteristics

Area - 979 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 72°F.
Maximum depth - 36 feet	35 feet - 59°F.

Principal fishery: White perch

Lower Pistol Lake is located in the Passadumkeag River drainage in northern Hancock County. The lake is surrounded by a predominately spruce and fir forest with some hardwoods and pine. There are very few camps on the lake at the present time. The remains of an old logging dam that held the water level from 4 to 5 feet higher than the present level are still visible on the outlet. The higher water level eroded the soil from what is the present shoreline which gives the shoreline a very rocky appearance. There are several sand beaches on the lake and a generally sandy bottom beyond the rocky shoreline. The coves have a mostly sandy bottom with little emergent vegetation.

Water quality is marginal for salmon and trout. The lake stratifies during the summer months, but in most years there is insufficient oxygen for coldwater fish in the deep water. Neither salmon nor trout are currently stocked, but both are present in small numbers from

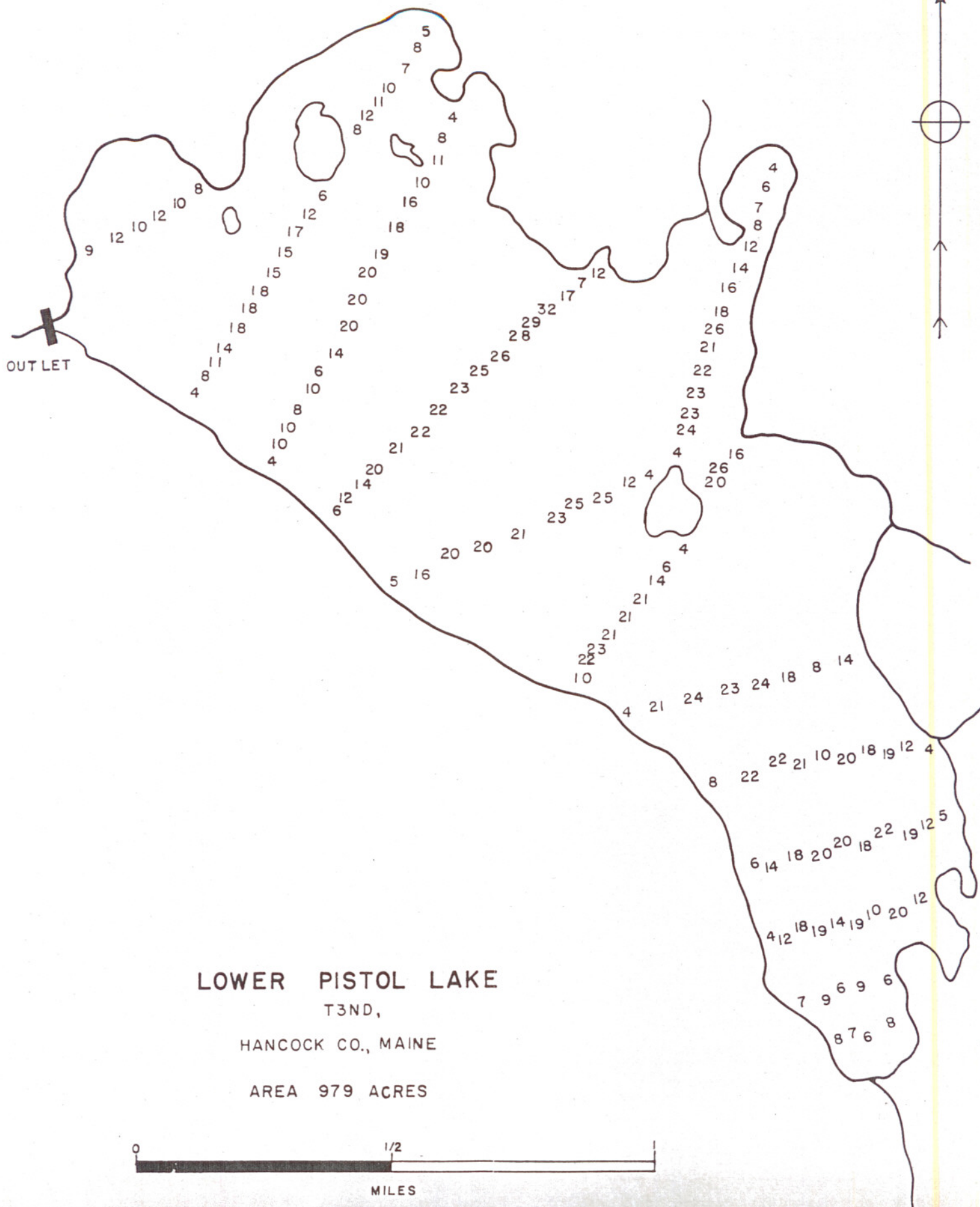
natural reproduction in Pistol Stream, the largest tributary. Past stockings of salmon and trout failed to produce a significant fishery. White perch are the dominant species in the lake, but they do not attain a very large average size. Lower Pistol is unusual in that there are no bass or pickerel present. Natural barriers on the outlet have prevented movement of these species from the Passadumkeag River. It is possible that if either splake or brown trout were introduced into this lake they could provide a good fishery, because both are better able to compete with the large perch population.

Access is by a gravel road from the Nicatous Road through "Pistol Green". The last 100 yards to the lake are extremely rough and marginal for 2-wheel drive vehicles.

Surveyed - August, 1954

(Revised - 1996)

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LOWER PISTOL LAKE

T3ND,

HANCOCK CO., MAINE

AREA 979 ACRES

