

MOOSEHEAD LAKE

Piscataquis Co. Maine

U.S.G.S. Greenville, Big Squaw Pond, Lily Bay, Moosehead, Spencer Bay, Mount Kineo, Brassua Lake East, Socatean Bay, North East Carry, Seboomook, Me. (7 ½')

Fishes

Landlocked salmon	Threespine stickleback
Lake trout	Pumpkinseed sunfish
Brook trout	Slimy sculpin
Round whitefish	Minnows
Rainbow smelt	Lake chub
Smallmouth bass	Golden shiner
White perch	Common shiner
Yellow perch	Redbelly dace
Longnose sucker	Finescale dace
White sucker	Fathead minnow
Hornpout (bullhead)	Blacknose dace
Burbot (cusk)	Creek chub
	Fallfish
	Pearl dace

Physical Characteristics

Area – 74,890 acres	Temperatures
	Surface – 70 ⁰ F.
Maximum depth – 246 feet	210 feet – 43 ⁰ F.

Principal fishery: Landlocked salmon, Lake trout, Brook trout, Burbot

Moosehead Lake has been a famous sport-fishing destination for more than a century and a half. The lake's deep, cold, well-oxygenated water is ideal habitat for salmon, togue, and brook trout. Several tributaries and the outlet provide habitat for the natural reproduction of salmon and brook trout. Lake trout utilize the lake's many rocky shoals and boulder shoreline for spawning.

Landlocked salmon are stocked to augment the wild population in order to increase catch rates. Lake trout were last stocked in 1975 and the wild population has since increased in abundance. Brook trout stocking has produced poor results. The brook trout fishery depends on successful natural reproduction.

Yellow perch were introduced to Moosehead Lake in the mid-1950s, smallmouth bass in the mid-1970s, and white perch in 1984. The establishment of these three species severely compromises the lake's potential to sustain a high quality wild brook trout fishery.

Lake whitefish once occurred in Moosehead Lake but have disappeared. A few persisted until the early 1970s. Eels were present in Moosehead Lake prior to the construction of Harris Dam at the outlet of Indian Pond on the Kennebec River.

The fishery at Moosehead Lake is influenced by the abundance of togue. When their numbers increase, togue out compete salmon for the available forage; smelts. Salmon abundance and growth rates decrease. Survival and growth conditions for salmon improve as togue abundance decreases. These changes occur over periods of several years.

The success of the three major river fisheries (Roach, Moose, East Outlet rivers) associated with Moosehead Lake is directly related to the lake's adult salmon and brook trout. These are fisheries of great regional and statewide significance. Lake management must consider any potential impacts to the river fisheries.

Unique because of its size, wide-open expanses of water, scenic views, and miles of relatively undeveloped shoreline, Moosehead Lake is a true gem in a state that contains untold numbers of scenic wonders.

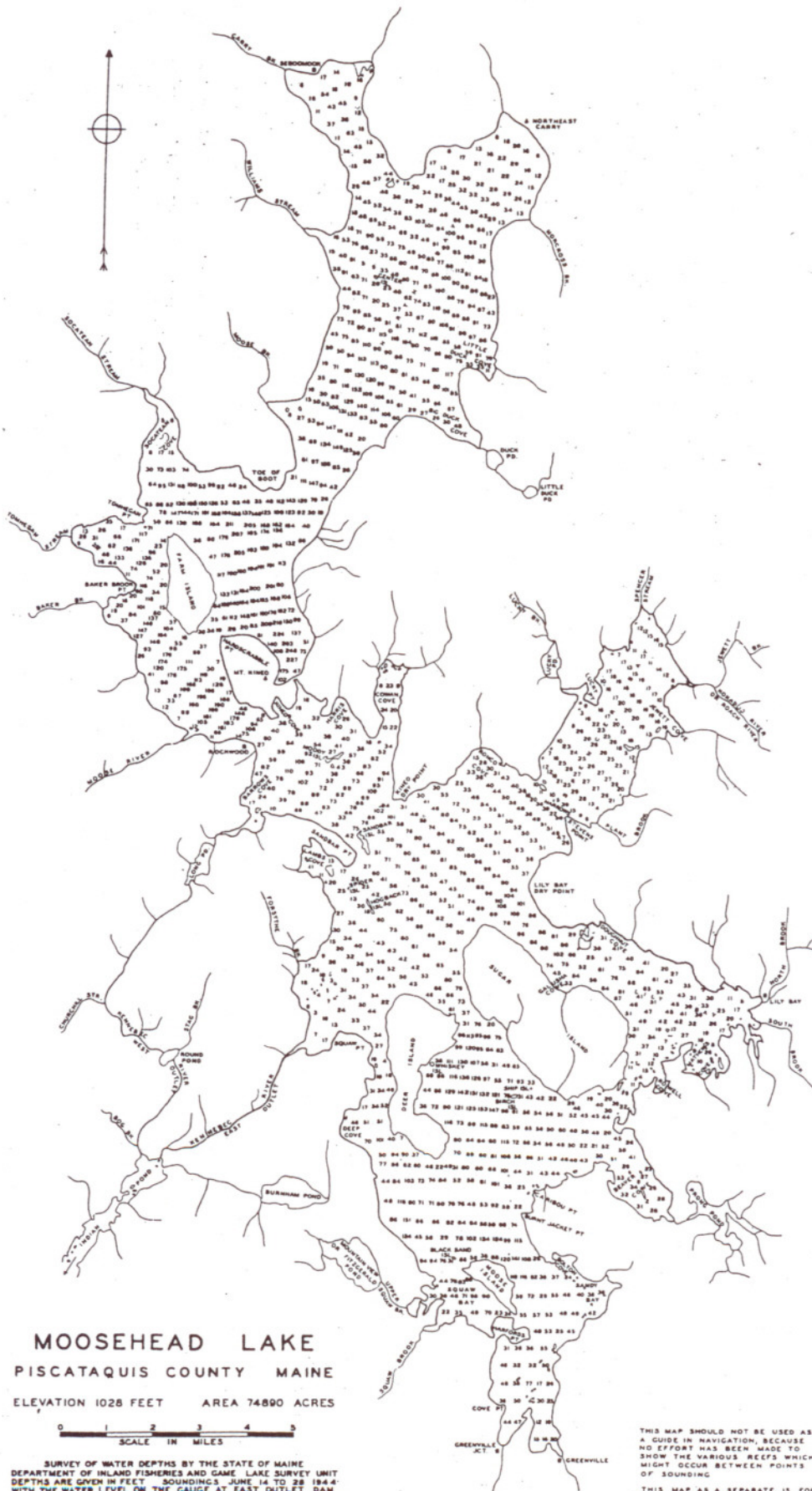
Surveyed – August, 1944

Revised – 1953, 1967, 2003

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

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MOOSEHEAD LAKE
PISCATAQUIS COUNTY MAINE
 ELEVATION 1028 FEET AREA 74890 ACRES



SURVEY OF WATER DEPTHS BY THE STATE OF MAINE
 DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND GAME LAKE SURVEY UNIT
 DEPTHS ARE GIVEN IN FEET SOUNDINGS, JUNE 14 TO 28 1944
 WITH THE WATER LEVEL ON THE GAUGE AT EAST OUTLET DAM
 READING 8.25 TO 8.50 FEET

MAP BY C. F. COOPER

THIS MAP SHOULD NOT BE USED AS
 A GUIDE IN NAVIGATION, BECAUSE
 NO EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO
 SHOW THE VARIOUS REEFS WHICH
 MIGHT OCCUR BETWEEN POINTS
 OF SOUNDING
 THIS MAP, AS A SEPARATE, IS FOR
 SALE BY THE FISH AND GAME
 DEPARTMENT, STATE HOUSE, AUGUSTA
 GEORGE J. STOBIE, COMMISSIONER