

LITTLE TURNER POND
Forsythe, Somerset County
U.S.G.S. Attean, Maine

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows

Lake chub

Creek chub

Physical Characteristics

Area — 77 acres

Temperatures

Maximum depth — 29 feet

Surface — 20°C. (68°F.)

28 feet — 5°C. (41°F.)

Principal fishery: Brook trout

Little Turner Pond is situated northwest of Jackman at an elevation of 1,489 feet. The pond is accessible through a network of gravel roads that are deteriorating rapidly. Some of the bridges and culverts are in poor condition and must be approached with caution. The pond lies a few hundred yards away from any road and can be reached by trail or by going down the inlet in a small water craft.

Little Turner Pond is almost circular in shape and is surrounded by spruce-fir forests with beautiful forested hills on the north and west sides. The immediate shoreline has a wide band of alders or marsh grass where the water level has receded following the deterioration of an old logging dam a short distance down the outlet.

The northern end of the pond is very shallow but a large area of water 10 to 28 feet deep is present in the southern half, off the inlet. Much of the shoreline is gravelly and clean. At the time of the survey water chemistry and temperature conditions were suitable for brook trout, although the deepest water had an oxygen deficiency. This was not considered serious because of the amount of cool well-oxygenated water from depths of 10 to more than 20 feet. The surface water is barely on the acid side (pH 6.9) and does not appear to have been greatly affected by acid precipitation.

The inlet and outlet, both, have gravelly areas where brook trout may spawn, and some rocky areas where young trout can hide, feed and grow until they are large enough to compete with larger trout in the pond. The only other species present and competing for food are 2 species of minnows.

The artificial-lures-only regulation now in effect on the pond is very important here. It should prevent introductions of additional species which could compete with trout. The general 5-trout bag limit is sufficient to prevent over-harvesting of the trout at this time.

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FORSYTHE, SOMERSET CO., MAINE

AREA 77 ACRES

