



SYSLADOBSIS LAKE, LOWER

T4 ND, Hancock Co., T5 ND, Washington Co.,
and Lakeville, Penobscot Co.

U.S.G.S. Duck Lake, Bottle Lake, and
Dark Cove Mtn., Me (7½')

Fishes

Landlocked salmon
Brook trout
Lake whitefish
Rainbow smelt
Smallmouth bass
White perch
Yellow perch
Chain pickerel

Minnows
Golden shiner
Common shiner
Blacknose dace
Fallfish
White sucker
Hornpout (bullhead)
Banded killifish
Pumpkinseed sunfish
American eel

Physical characteristics

Area - 5376 acres

Maximum depth - 66 feet

Temperatures:

Surface - 72°F

70 feet - 56°F

Principal fisheries: Landlocked salmon, lake whitefish, smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel

Lower Sysladobsis Lake, also known as Dobsis Lake, lies in the headwaters of the West Branch of the St. Croix River. This lake is long and narrow with several sand beaches interspersed along a generally rocky shoreline. There are several rocky points and shoals in the lake. There is an especially large shoal near the center of the lake off Horseshoe Cove on the east shore. A few of the coves in the upper end of the lake have marshy, weedy shorelines. The lake is impounded by a dam that raises the water level by about six feet.

Thermal stratification may or may not occur during the summer months depending on weather conditions. There does seem to be an adequate amount of coldwater habitat to support and maintain both a salmon and a whitefish fishery although the whitefish are not heavily exploited. Salmon are stocked each year and provide a good fishery. There is some salmon reproduction in tributary streams however intense competition from warmwater fish prevents wild salmon from making a significant contribution to the fishery. Brook trout are present but they do not provide a fishery also because of the large population of warmwater fish. There are several tributaries that support spawning runs of smelt. Warmwater fish do very well in this lake and there are good fisheries for smallmouth bass, white perch, and pickerel.

The lake is currently undergoing a large increase in shoreline development that may have a detrimental effect on water quality in the future. Public access has been a problem in recent years. The only site available to the public is in a tributary and is not useable at low water levels. The state has purchased the old forestry boathouse property on the north end of the lake and plans to construct access facilities in the near future.

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