

SIX PONDS
T4 R9, Piscataquis Co.
U. S. G. S. Traveler Mtn., Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Physical Characteristics

Area - #1 - 3 acres
#2 - 5 acres
#3 - 10 acres
#4 - 25 acres
#5 - 10 acres
#6 - 8 acres

Temperatures

#3 - Surface - 67° F.
4 feet - 66° F.
#4 - surface - 70° F.
17 feet - 37° F.

Maximum depth - #3 - 4 feet
#4 - 17 feet

Principal Fishery - Brook trout

The Six Ponds are a group of small ponds approximately 3 to 25 acres in size situated near the center of Baxter State Park and accessible by trail only. Available maps of the area present a confusing picture of this group of ponds. Pond No. 1, so-called, is merely a grassy swale area of about 3 acres with water perhaps a foot deep after a rain. Pond No. 2 is merely a wide section of Turner Stream (outlet of Wassataquoik Lake). The remains of an old log-driving dam on the outlet of No. 2 Pond indicates that an artificial impoundment was present at some time. The old shoreline can be still traced.

Pond No. 3 is a permanent body of water of approximately 10 acres with a maximum depth of 4 feet. This pond is probably cool enough for trout at all times, as there are large, boiling springs whose temperature were 39° in late July. Oxygen is no problem in most shallow waters. Pond No. 4, is 25 acres in area with a maximum depth of 17 feet. There was an oxygen deficiency in the deep area, but most of the volume is cool enough for trout even in the warmest part of the summer. The remains of an old log-driving dam can be seen on the trail between No. 3 and No. 4 ponds. Except for temporary beaver activity at this old dam trout can pass through from No. 3 Pond into No. 4 Pond.

Ponds No. 5 and No. 6 are shallow waters with emergent vegetation present over most of the water surface. The shorelines are mostly bog type but change quickly to spruce and fir on the steep slopes and eskers. No. 5 Pond flows into No. 4, No. 4 into No. 3, No. 1 and 2 into No. 3, but No. 6 Pond appears to flow into the Pogy Pond drainage. Beaver dams and flowed areas made it difficult to ascertain the direction of flow at the time of the survey.

Brook trout are present in most of these waters except perhaps No. 1 Pond and perhaps No. 6 Pond at times. However, No. 4 Pond is undoubtedly the best (also the largest) trout area with No. 3 second in potential. The other waters may all have trout at times, depending upon the extent of beaver activity. Trout spawning areas are abundant as springs, tributaries and outlets. Present Baxter Park regulations and restrictions on bait are sufficient to protect these unusual trout waters.

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SIX PONDS
T4R9 PISCATAQUIS CO., MAINE
AREA 10 & 25 ACRES

