

LOWER RANGE POND

Poland Twp., Androscoggin Co. U.S.G.S. Minot & Mechanic Falls, Me. (7.5')

Fishes

Brown trout Rainbow smelt Smallmouth bass Largemouth bass White perch Yellow perch Chain pickerel

Minnows Golden shiner White sucker Hornpout (bullhead) Pumpkinseed sunfish American eel Landlocked alewife

Physical Characteristics

Area - 290 acres

Maximum depth - 46 feet

Temperatures: Surface - 75°F 43 feet - 47°F

Principal fisheries: Brown trout, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel

Lower Range Pond, as the name suggests, is the lowermost pond within a chain of three ponds. This water is located near some heavily populated areas, and is commonly used by summer and winter anglers. A popular State park is also located on the pond.

Lower Range thermally stratifies each summer and a small area of cool, oxygenated water is available for salmonid management. This water is being stocked annually with fall yearling brown trout due to the limiting water quality, heavy competition, and predation from other fish species. Brown trout have demonstrated good survival and often grow to a quality size of 3 to 6 pounds. Annual stocking is required to maintain the fishery due a lack of suitable spawning habitat. Smelt and landlocked alewives provide an excellent forage base for brown trout and other piscivorous fish species.

Suitable habitat exists for both largemouth and smallmouth bass and they provide good fishing. In addition, pickerel and white perch are available and provide additional angling opportunities. The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has received several anecdotal reports of black crappie in the pond; however, their presence or absence has not been confirmed.

A state-owned, public boat access for Lower Range is located within the State park.

Surveyed- August 1940 (Revised - 1953, 1999) Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Funded in part by the Federal Aid in Restoration Act under Federal Project F-28-P

L3760A