

TENTHS OF MILE

## **UPPER RANGE POND**

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

## Fishes

Brown trout Rainbow trout(experimental) Brook trout Rainbow smelt Smallmouth bass Largemouth bass White perch Yellow perch Chain Pickerel Minnows Golden Shiner White Sucker Hornpout(bullhead) Pumpkinseed sunfish Redbreast sunfish Black crappie Slimy sculpin American eel Landlocked alewife

## **Physical Characteristics**

Area - 391 acres

## **Temperatures:**

38 feet -

Surface - 78°F

Maximum depth - 38 feet 45°F

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

Upper Range Pond, as the name suggests, is the uppermost pond within a chain of three ponds. This water is located near some heavily populated areas, and is very popular among both summer and winter anglers.

Water quality is good for coldwater gamefish, and Upper Range is managed for brown trout. They have demonstrated excellent survival and often grow to a quality size. Brown trout in the 3 to 6 pound range are commonly caught and fish up to 9 pounds have been taken. In addition, unscheduled brook trout are occasionally stocked and provide additional angling opportunities. Little spawning or nursery habitat exists for salmonids and an annual stocking program is required to maintain the fishery. Smelt and landlocked alewives provide an excellent forage base for brown trout and some of the warmwater species.

Landlocked salmon were stocked in the past, but were discontinued due to poor growth and low returns. The action is slower, but brown trout have been much more successful in producing a quality fishery for the angler.

Shoreline areas are well suited for smallmouth bass and white perch, and they provide good angling. Largemouth bass and pickerel habitat is more limited, but they provide additional opportunities for the angler. Black crappie were documented in Middle Range Pond in 2002, and this illegally introduced species will likely establish a population in Upper Range Pond.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife began an experimental rainbow trout stocking program in the fall of 2001. This short-term study is being conducted to examine the relative performance of rainbow trout and brown trout.

Upper Range Pond is directly connected to Middle Range Pond via a short thoroughfare. The state-owned, public boat access for both of these waters is located off the northern end of the causeway bridge.

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