

PEABODY POND

Bridgton, Naples, Sebago Twps., Cumberland Co.
U.S.G.S. North Sebago, Me.

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Fishes

Landlocked salmon	White sucker
Lake trout (togue)	Fallfish (chub)
Brook trout	Common shiner
Smallmouth bass	Golden shiner
Yellow perch	Pearl dace
Chain pickerel	Banded killifish
Hornpout (bullhead)	Pumpkinseed sunfish
Rainbow smelt	

Physical Characteristics

Area - 735 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 73°F
Maximum depth - 64 feet	60 feet - 47°F

Principal fishery: Landlocked salmon, lake trout,
smallmouth bass, rainbow smelt

Suggested Management

Peabody Pond thermally stratifies during the summer, with excellent water quality for coldwater and warmwater fish. Consequently, this lake provides an excellent opportunity for "combination" management. Peabody is stocked annually with landlocked salmon and lake trout. Brook trout are occasionally stocked to provide additional fishing opportunity. A lake trout program was initiated in 1975 and stocking is maintained at a reduced rate. Ample habitat is present for lake trout to reproduce naturally, but to date there is no evidence of natural reproduction. Our objective is to provide a self-sustaining population and phase out all stocking with this species. The stocking of landlocked salmon is also maintained at a reduced rate because of the contribution of "wild" fish recruited into the lake from the outlet spawning. The Northwest River just below the lake provides excellent spawning and nursery habitat for landlocked salmon and provides significant numbers of wild salmon to Peabody. The denil-type fishway built several years ago in the outlet dam is in need of repair, and it should be replaced soon in order to perpetuate this natural spawning. Smallmouth bass were introduced by biologists in 1971 and have since become well-established, providing excellent fishing especially in the summer months. Rainbow smelts are also a very popular sport fish in this lake. At times, there is a high quality handline fishery for smelts during both the summer and winter seasons. Smelting is restricted to a hook-and-line fishery in an attempt to prevent an over-exploitation of the smelt population and to preserve this unique fishery.

Winter regulations currently restrict the taking of salmon and brook trout through the ice. Consequently fishing pressure is very light during the winter season. Aerial flights over the lake have shown that summer use is about average for lakes in southern Maine.

Access is provided at a dirt ramp launching site near the outlet. This site provides adequate parking and launching, but the launching ramp could be improved with the placement of concrete planking.

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