

PRONG POND
TA2 R13 and 14 Twps., and
Greenville, Piscataquis Co.
U.S.G.S. Moosehead Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout	Minnows (cont'd)
Smallmouth bass	Redbelly dace
White perch	Fallfish (chub)
Yellow perch	White sucker
Minnnows	Hornpout (bullhead)
Golden shiner	Burbot (cusk)
Common shiner	Banded killifish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 427 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 68° F
Maximum depth - 27 feet	27 feet - 65° F
Principal fishery: Smallmouth bass, white perch, yellow perch	

Prong Pond is a moderately large body of water located a few miles north of Greenville. The shoreline of Prong Pond is quite diverse. The southeastern portion of the pond consists of two long shallow arms. The shoreline in these "prongs" is floating-mat, covered with grasses and shrubs. The shoreline of the main basin is boulder-strewn with occasional ledge outcroppings. There are many small boulder and ledge islands in the main pond. The entire pond is fairly shallow with two small areas in excess of 20 feet deep.

Prior to 1960, Prong Pond was considered an excellent trout pond. The recent history of Prong Pond is checkered with several illegal introductions of exotic fish species. The trout fishing has declined rapidly to the point where brook trout are no longer considered as a principal fishery. Because the outlet flows directly into Moosehead Lake, the consequences of these introductions are far-reaching.

In the 1950's yellow perch were discovered in Prong Pond. The pond was reclaimed in 1959; however, the reclamation was not successful, and yellow perch were soon found in Moosehead Lake. Smallmouth bass were illegally introduced in the 1970's. Bass have not only become established in Prong Pond, but also they are now the principal fishery. In 1987, smallmouth bass were observed in Moosehead Lake in the area of the outlet from Prong Pond.

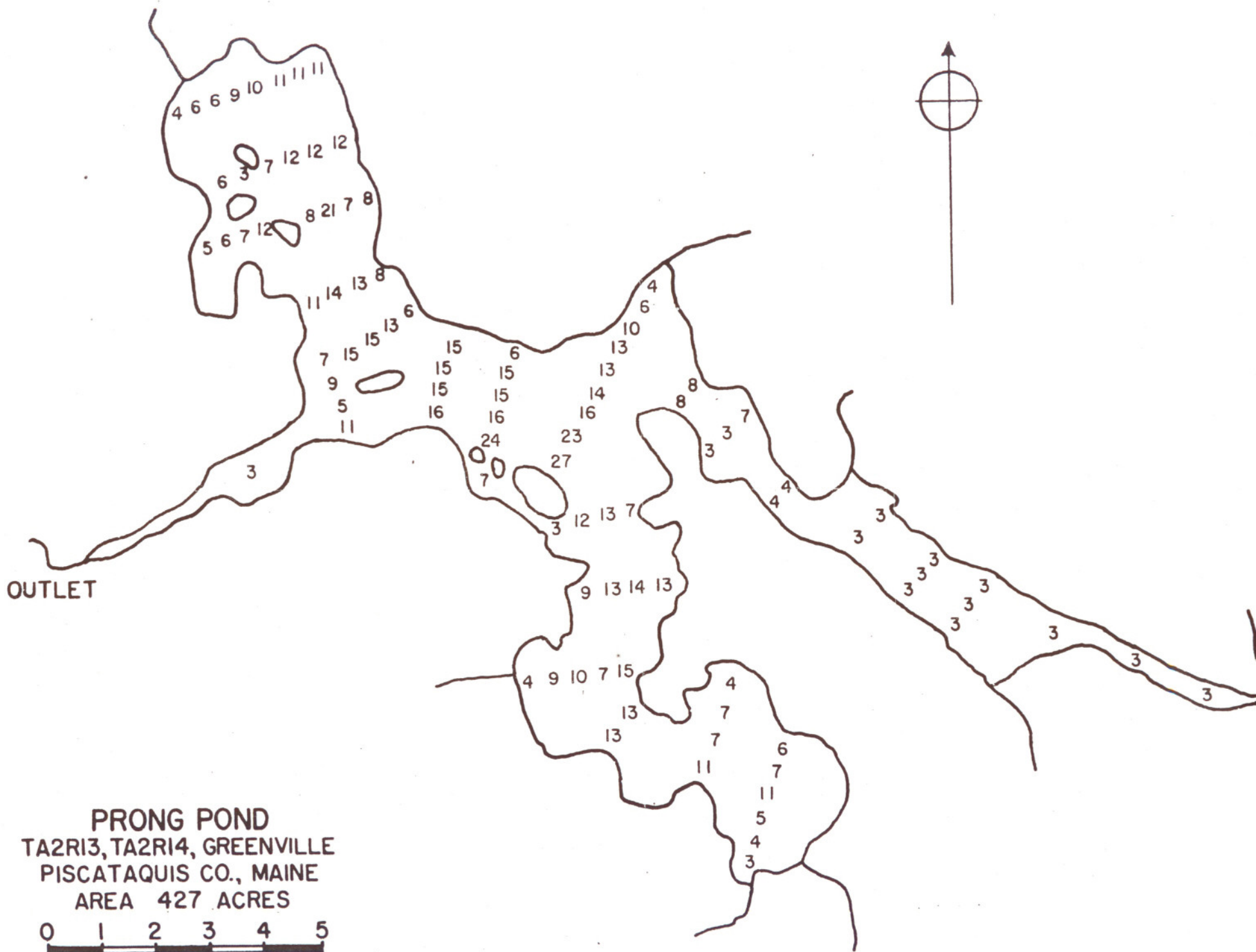
In 1984, Prong Pond was one of several waters in the Greenville area in which white perch were illegally introduced. White perch are reproducing in Prong Pond and will eventually drop down the outlet into Moosehead Lake.

Spawning habitat for brook trout is limited. Although there are many small tributaries to Prong Pond, young trout were observed in only one - the outlet of Little Mud Pond. The outlet of Prong Pond meanders through a boggy area before entering Moosehead Lake in Beaver Cove. There are some gravel and rock areas present in the outlet, but they probably offer limited spawning opportunities for brook trout.

Spawning habitat for warmwater fish is abundant. There are many shallow, rock and boulder areas suitable for bass spawning. There is an abundance of aquatic vegetation and debris in the shallow areas that would be suitable for spawning perch.

Prong Pond should be managed for smallmouth bass and white perch. Bass fishing in Prong Pond has become very popular with local anglers and competition from the abundance of warmwater species is limiting the brook trout fishery. Consideration for maintaining the fisheries in Moosehead Lake should be given top priority before management decisions are made for Prong Pond. No size or bag limit on bass in Prong Pond is recommended because smallmouth bass are abundant and growth is slow.

Surveyed - 1958
Revised - 1963, 1989
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PRONG POND
 TA2RI3, TA2RI4, GREENVILLE
 PISCATAQUIS CO., MAINE
 AREA 427 ACRES

