

## WHETSTONE POND

Blanchard and Kingsbury Twps, Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Whetstone Pond, Me. (7 ½)

## **Fishes**

Lake trout Creek chub
Brook trout Pearl dace
Minnows White sucker
Lake chub Banded killifish
Golden shiner Threespine
stickleback

Common shiner Redbreast sunfish Blacknose shiner Pumpkinseed sunfish

Finescale dace American eel

## **Physical Characteristics**

Area - 256 acres

Temperatures:

Surface - 70°F

Maximum depth - 125 feet 122 feet - 41°F

Principal fisheries: Lake trout, brook trout

Whetstone Pond is a deep, coldwater pond with good water quality for coldwater fishes. There is dissolved oxygen depletion in the deepest water; however, the level of dissolved oxygen is sufficient to support fish at all depths. A town-owned boat ramp provides access on the east shore of the pond.

Whetstone Pond is one of the smallest ponds in the state to support a self-sustaining lake trout population. The population is vulnerable to over fishing and may persist only because there is little effort targeting them.

The brook trout fishery is maintained with hatchery-reared fish. There is insufficient spawning area in the tributaries and outlet to sustain a fishable population of wild brook trout.

Landlocked salmon were stocked throughout the 1970s. Smelts were present during that period but died out despite repeated attempts to augment the population by stocking eggs and adult smelts. After the loss of the smelt population, the Department introduced threespine sticklebacks as an alternate food source for lake trout and brook trout.

Whetstone Pond is not open to ice fishing and should remain closed to protect the lake trout population.

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