

### THIRD ST. JOHN POND

T4 R17 and T5 R17 WELS, Somerset Co.

U.S.G.S. Saint John Pond, Me.

#### Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)  
Yellow perch  
White sucker

Minnows  
Common shiner  
Fallfish (chub)  
Creek chub

#### Physical Characteristics

Area - 190 acres

#### Temperatures

Surface - 72° F.

Maximum depth - 14 feet

13 feet - 64° F.

#### Principal Fishery: Brook trout

Third St. John Pond is the largest of six bodies of water found in the uppermost reaches of the St. John River's Baker Branch. As on the other major ponds in the drainage, a dam was constructed on the outlet to facilitate log driving down the Baker Branch. This dam once held approximately ten feet of water in Third St. John Pond. With a full head of water, a large area to the south of the existing natural pond basin was flowaged, and the surface area of the pond was more than double its present size. Now the dam has deteriorated, and its remains, together with boom logs, dri-ki and beaver workings, hold very little water. Consequently all that remains in the old flowage area is a stream meandering through an open meadow. Dead trees and stumps are common throughout the area, but alders and young conifers are encroaching upon the edges of this old flowage.

Rocks and gravel, covered in many areas by dri-ki and stumps, comprise the shoreline of Third St. John Pond. The pond basin is shallow and has a flat bottom. Water quality in the pond is adequate for supporting trout, though water temperatures vary only slightly from top to bottom. In the summer months areas influenced by cool springs maintain the brook trout population during short periods when surface water temperatures exceed 70° F. Populations of yellow perch, suckers and minnows compete with the brook trout, and therefore limit trout production to some extent. Nevertheless, Third St. John Pond has a notable brook trout fishery.

Two tributaries enter the pond through the old flowage area at the south end. These provide areas necessary for brook trout reproduction. The outlet immediately below the pond consists of rocky riffles, with some ledge, and also some gravel pockets. Downstream there are some gravel riffle areas that provide excellent brook trout spawning habitat. The remains of the old driving dam on the outlet obstruct fish movement into the pond from the outlet. These should be removed to allow unrestricted fish passage through the outlet.

At present, fishing pressure is quite light. Access to the pond is limited to walking or flying in to the pond. A campsite is present on the northeast shore, though open fires are not permitted at this site.

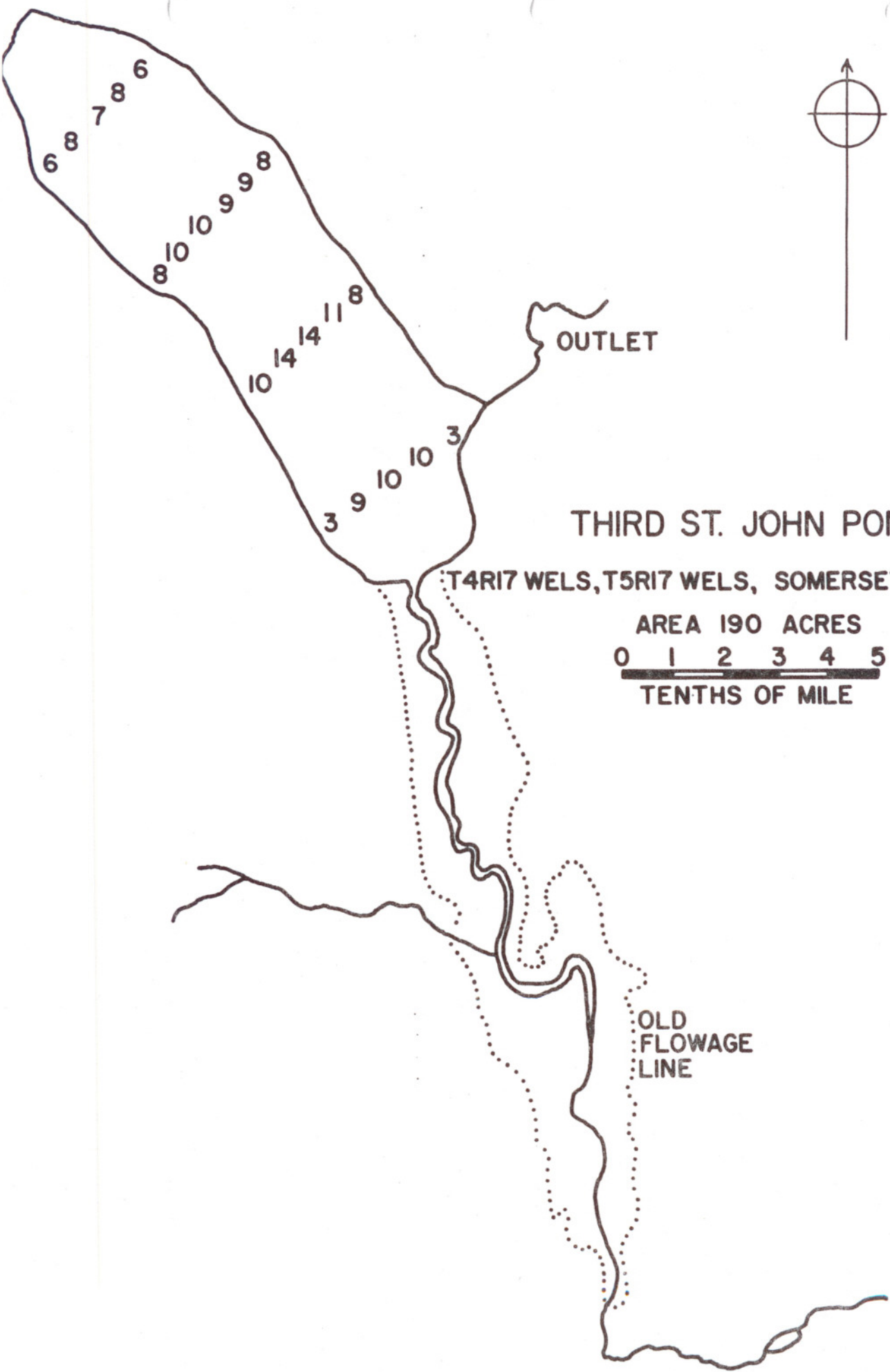
Third St. John Pond will be managed for its wild brook trout population. General law regulations are now in effect.

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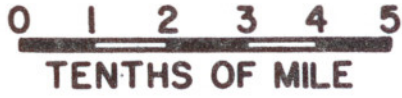


OUTLET

### THIRD ST. JOHN POND

T4R17 WELS, T5R17 WELS, SOMERSET CO., MAINE

AREA 190 ACRES



OLD  
FLOWAGE  
LINE