

# **MAINE'S FINEST LAKES**

## **The Results of the Maine Lakes Study**

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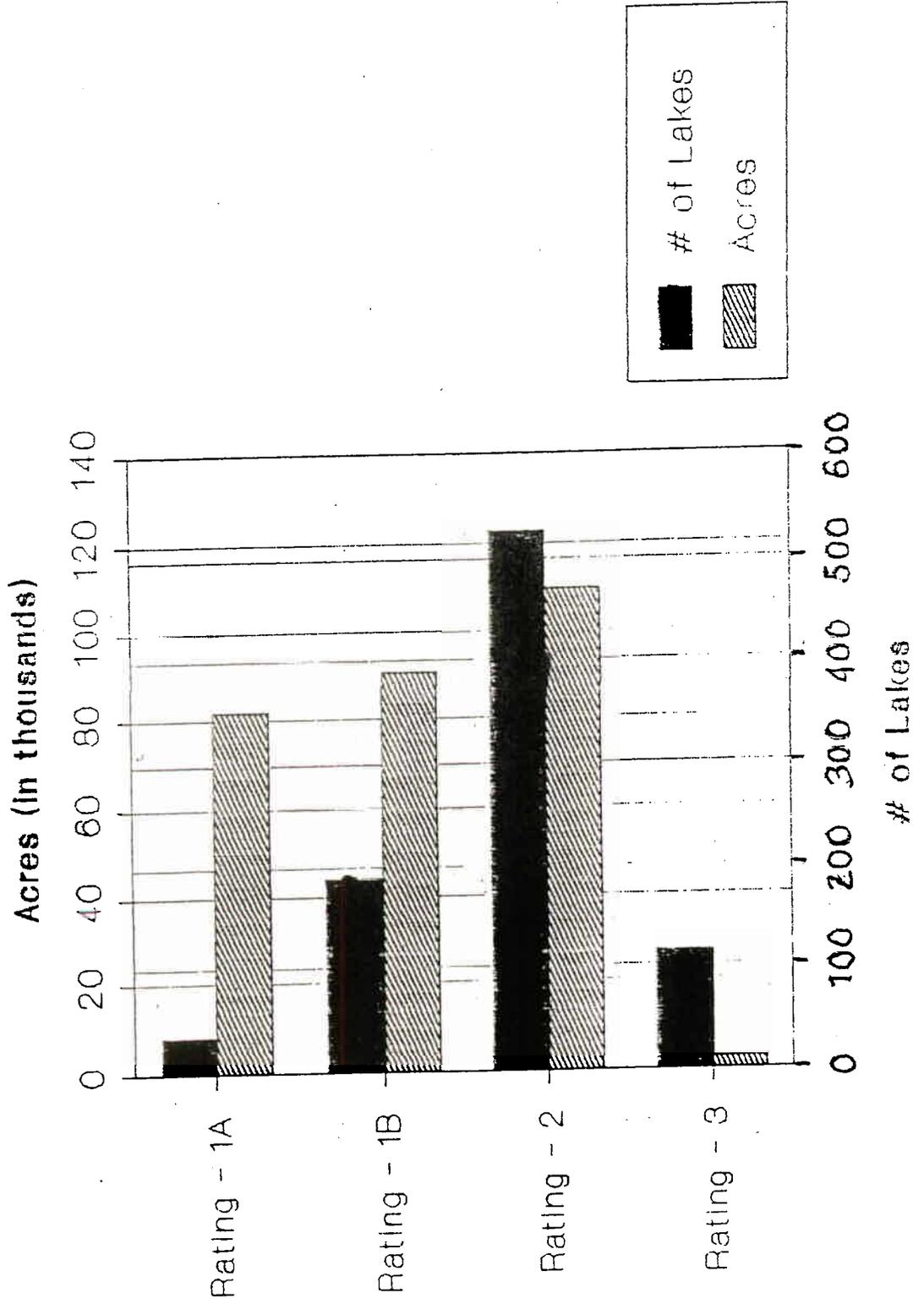
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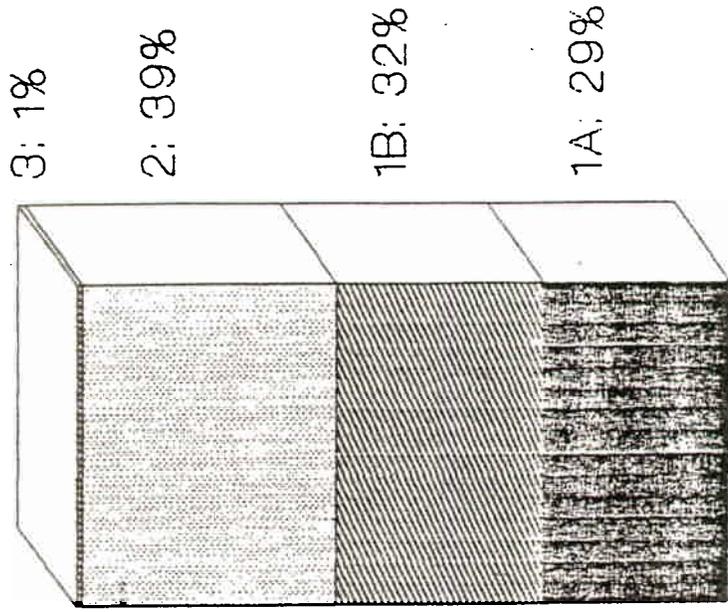
The authors wish to express their appreciation to the biologists, geologists, naturalists and other lake experts who gave willingly of their time to provide information for this report. Many of these contributors are identified in the "Resource Category Methods" section. In particular we acknowledge the efforts of resource specialists who coordinated the assessment for each of the resource categories, including Al Clark, Jeff Dennis, Owen Fenderson, Art Spiess, Hank Tyler, and Tom Weddle.

Hank Tyler, director of the Maine Critical Areas Program, provided insight and guidance throughout the project.

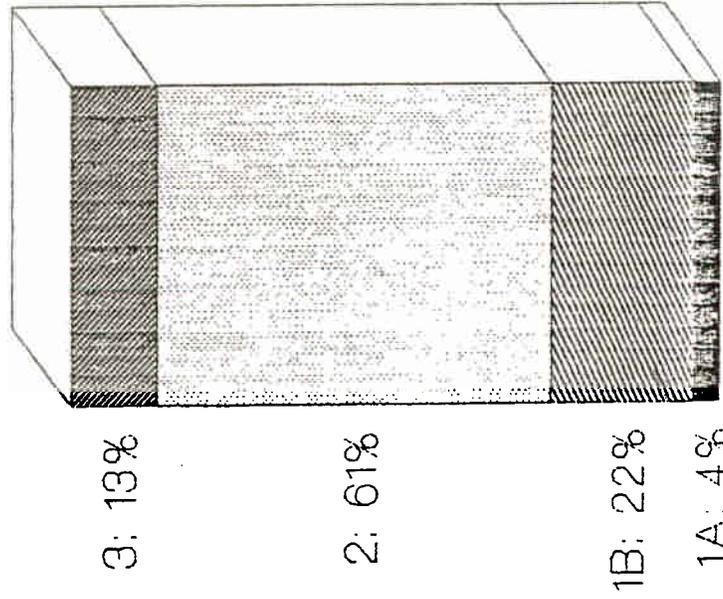
# Maine Lakes Assessment Final Ratings - Organized Townships



# Maine Lakes Assessment Final Ratings - Organized Townships



Acres



Lakes

14,867 Lakes and 285,205 Acres

# INTRODUCTION

*A lake is the landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature. It is the earth's eye, looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature. - Thoreau*

Lakes are a particularly northern phenomenon. As temporary geological features, lakes typically belong to a young landscape, a place with clear skies, pine forests, and rushing streams. Some lakes last a few centuries, others perhaps a few thousand years before they eventually fill with silt or vegetation.

Maine is famous for its many beautiful lakes. Within the state there are over 6,000 lakes, a total that exceeds that of all other northeastern states combined. Maine's lakes range in size from less than an acre to over 70,000 acres. While there are noteworthy concentrations in certain areas, lakes are distributed throughout the state; only in rare instances must Maine residents travel farther than five miles to enjoy lake amenities.

Lakes are created when natural or human-made features hold back water in its journey to the sea. Some lakes and ponds are maintained by groundwater, which intersects the surface of the ground and is impeded, at least temporarily, in its ceaseless quest for a lower elevation; if a lake's drainage basin is large it tends to maintain a fairly constant level all year. Others, including many mountain lakes, are fed largely by surface runoff from rain and melting snow, and fluctuate in level according to the season.

Maine's lakes are as varied as they are extensive. While most were formed by glacial processes, the resultant sculptures took many forms. Some lakes, including Sabattus Pond, have regular shorelines; others, as, for example, Cobbosseecontee, are highly configured with bays, islands, and narrows. Many, perhaps the majority, are forested to waters edge. Others are ringed with bedrock and cliffs. Still others are bordered by marsh, peatlands, and beaches.

Lakes are associated with a variety of landforms. Many of Maine's most picturesque lakes are tucked between mountains. The lakes on Mount Desert Island are perfect examples of this type of lake. Other lakes, such as Sebago, lie in lowlands. Lowland lakes, largely developed in glacial outwash, are known for their beautiful sandy beaches, forested shorelines, and recreational opportunities. Still others, like Speck Pond, are located near the top of mountains. These mountain lakes are often bordered by rocky shores and steep cliffs that make striking views.

Lakes are critical to the survival of the state's fish and wildlife resources. Both cold and warm water fish species depend on these water bodies for habitat during much, if not all, of their life cycle. Lakes are no less important for wildlife, providing habitat for water birds, birds of prey, fur bearers, and game animals.

Many lake-related natural features have been recognized as being of statewide significance by the Maine Critical Areas Program, including rare plants, heron rookeries, old-growth forest stands, and peatlands. In some instances entire lakes have been

identified as warranting Critical Area status due to the presence of blueback charr, an extremely rare form of arctic charr.

Many of Maine's lakes have been enlarged by dams placed across their outlet streams. Some of these dams were constructed to assist in the transport of logs, others to store water for downstream industrial, agricultural, or municipal uses. These dams hold the sediment that is deposited by the streams that help fill the lake. It is therefore common to find a sandy delta at the mouth of a stream feeding into quiet lake waters. Over the years the delta will grow, gradually but steadily filling the lake. This is occurring at Sebago Lake among others.

While lakes may be temporary features from a geological perspective, people have long valued them for their apparent qualities of stability and repose. Americans began to value lakes during the transition from a rural to an urban culture; lakes then held appeal as refuges. Early in this century, summer places were built on some lakeshores. However, most lakes remained undeveloped by virtue of their isolation. After World War II more roads penetrated into the woods; suddenly lakes were only a few miles from town.

Today lakes are being ringed with residential and recreational development at an unprecedented rate; the prospect is that this trend will continue. The lakes have not gotten any bigger or more numerous, but there are more and more people wanting to use them. This leads to an increased need for management and conservation of lake resources.

The principal laws in Maine governing lakes are the Great Ponds Act and the Shorelands Zoning Act. The Great Ponds Act defines a great pond as any lake or pond with a surface area of 10 acres or more. The act identifies the State's interest in these great ponds and confers ownership of these water bodies to the public. The Shorelands Zoning Act requires that municipalities establish appropriate shorelands zoning ordinances along lake and river shorelands.

As natural resources worthy of the state's attention, management of Maine's lakes often transcends agency boundaries. Besides the State Planning Office (SPO), there are at least three other agencies with active programs related to lakes. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has a division solely committed to the management of lake-related water quality. The Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife (DIFW) also focuses major energies on lake management; to date, DIFW has conducted detailed field surveys on over 700 lakes.

Bureaus within the Department of Conservation (DOC) are also involved in a number of ongoing lake-related activities. The Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) actively participates in lake management within the unorganized portion of the State through the Commission's land use planning and zoning authority. The Bureau of Public Lands (BPL) manages several parcels adjacent to lakes including noteworthy holdings on Upper Richardson and an entire township in northern Maine that includes such outstanding ponds as Deboullie, Gardner, and Togue. The Bureau of Parks and

Recreation (BPR) also is active in lake management, with numerous parks and recreational facilities including Lake St. George, Sebago Lake, and Damariscotta Lake State Parks.

Increased lake development and use pressures dictate a need for more lake information in order to meet existing and future policy demands. Although a great deal of lake inventory work has been accomplished by state agencies, prior to 1986 no statewide attempt had been made to catalogue this information systematically to meet interagency needs. Nor had there been any attempt to analyze information in order to identify lakes that should be given recognition due to their exemplary natural values.

In recognition of this need, the Department of Conservation's Land Use Regulation Commission conducted the Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment. This study, completed in June of 1987, focused on lakes within the unorganized portion of the state. The study inventoried a variety of natural values associated with lakes 10 acres or larger in size including fish, wildlife, scenic values, shoreline character, cultural features, botanic features, and physical features. Each feature associated with a given lake was rated: "outstanding", "significant", or "did not meet minimum standards". Lakes were then comparatively evaluated according to their overall natural resource significance. Lakes with statewide, regional and local significance were identified.

The Wildlands Lake Assessment also created a computerized data management system. The system, currently housed on LURC's Burroughs mini-computer, will be available to all agencies and will allow for the addition of new information as it becomes available. The LURC project ultimately resulted in the adoption of a Lake Action Program by the Commission that will guide future lake-related land use decisions in the state's unorganized territories.

The Maine Lakes Study, the subject of this report, adapts the Wildlands Lake Assessment inventory process for the organized portion of the state. The study had two objectives: 1) to create a lake resource data base for lakes within the organized townships, and 2) to combine these results with those of the LURC project and identify lakes with resource values of statewide significance.

Hopefully the Maine Lakes Study will, in combination with the Wildlands Lake Assessment, help to stimulate interest in the wise use and management of these significant and vulnerable resources.

# OVERVIEW OF STUDY METHODS

The process used to conduct the Maine Lakes Study consisted of several steps. In summary form these were as follows:

1. **Identification of lakes to be included in the assessment.**

A computerized master list of lakes was developed that provides the following information:

Lake name  
Maine Inventory and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) number  
Township name  
Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife management region  
Surface area (in acres)

All lakes wholly within the organized townships that are 10 acres or greater in size were included in the assessment. Lakes partially within the organized towns were excluded as these were previously inventoried in the Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment.

2. **Identification of resource categories to be inventoried.**

Resource categories included:

Fish  
Wildlife  
Botanic Features  
Physical Features (geologic and hydrologic)  
Cultural Features  
Scenic Features  
Shoreline Features (including beaches)

These categories were the same as was used in the Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment with the exception that the physical features category was subdivided into geologic and hydrologic components.

3. **Design of an inventory/assessment process for each resource category.**

For each resource category a study process was developed which identified 1) who would be responsible for data collection and oversight, 2) the sources of information that would be consulted, 3) the criteria that would be used to assess significance, 4) the process that would be followed, 5) the entries that would be included on the data collection forms, and 6) the schedule for completion.

4. **Assessment of lakes for each resource category.**

Comparative significance assessments were conducted separately for each resource category. All assessments used a common reporting protocol. For each category lakes were identified that were "outstanding" or "significant". A rating of outstanding indicated that the resource feature should be recognized as being of statewide significance.

Assessments were conducted using secondary information sources were possible. In the case of scenic and shoreline features field inventories were conducted.

5. **Review of preliminary findings.**

Preliminary findings were distributed to study participants and other knowledgeable persons for review. Findings were revised as appropriate.

6. **Synthesis of findings**

Information from each resource category was combined for each lake using a computer database.

7. **Comparative evaluation.**

Lakes were identified that possessed multiple and/or unique resource values. A summary narrative was prepared for each. Those lakes meeting the multiple value standard were defined as being of statewide significance.

8. **Synthesis with LURC lake data.**

Findings were merged with those of the Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment.

The next section of this report presents a summary of the methods used for each resource category. A more detailed description of study methods can be found in Appendix A.

# RESOURCE CATEGORY METHODS

## FISH

### Overview

Maine lakes contain the best fishery resources anywhere in New England; nowhere else in the eastern United States can such a variety and abundance of fish stocks be found. Salmon, togue, brook trout, and other cold water and warm water fish species abound in the state's lake waters. Sporting camp owners have long recognized this valuable resource, as do thousands of fisherman each year.

Common coldwater fish species occurring in Maine lakes include:

- o landlocked salmon (Salmo salar sebago)
- o brown trout (Salmo trutta)
- o rainbow trout (Salmo gairdneri)
- o lake trout (Salvelinus namaycush)
- o brook trout (Salvelinus fontinalis)

Common warmwater fish species found in Maine lakes include:

- o smallmouth bass (Micropterus dolomieu)
- o largemouth bass (Micropterus salmoides)
- o chain pickerel (Esox niger)
- o hornpout (Ictalurus nebulosis)
- o yellow perch (Perca flavescana)

The blueback and the sunapee, two separate and very rare populations of landlocked Arctic charr (Salvelinus alpinus oquassa) also occur in Maine.

Beyond their value as a recreational resource, fish are an integral part of the lake ecosystem. They are an important food source for many wildlife species. Loons and common mergansers depend on juvenile fish and small bait fish for food. River otters also consume small bait fish (many a fisherman has followed an otter trail to a good fishing hole). Bald eagles, a federal endangered species, fish along Maine lake shores. Fish populations also provide critical indications of the water quality and the general environmental well-being.

### Standards

To be included in the fish assessment, lakes had to meet three minimum standards:

- o 10 acres or more in size,
- o occur wholly within an organized township, and
- o contain a fishery or the potential for a fishery

Lakes less than 10 acres in size that contained an exceptionally high quality fishery; lakes with uncommon or rare fish species were also assessed.

A master list of those lakes located entirely within Maine's organized townships was distributed to state fisheries managers in each MDIFW region. Each fisheries manager was asked to:

1. Identify lakes meeting minimum standards, i.e., that are known to support a viable fishery.
2. Rate the habitat and species value of each lake meeting the minimum standards. (Habitat value ratings were based on water quality and on physical factors such as available spawning sites, substrate, and feeding sites. Species value ratings were based on species abundance, diversity, rarity, and reproduction.)
3. Rate the public use value of each lake meeting the minimum standards. Public use ratings were based on fishing quality, aesthetic experience, fishing pressure, and economic importance.

Each lake meeting minimum standards was rated according to the relative value of that lake's fish habitat, species composition, and public use. The terms "high", "medium", or "low" were used to depict the ratings for each factor. A high rating was reserved for especially noteworthy features; a medium rating was used for more typical features. A low rating meant that the resource was limited, not present, or severely degraded.

Information from the completed assessments was entered into the DIFW computer. High, medium, and low ratings were assigned numerical ratings of 3, 2, and 1. Lakes with total values of 24+ points were ranked as outstanding and lakes with 14-24 points were ranked as significant. These cut-off points were established after arraying the data and identifying logical significance breaks.

These preliminary findings were circulated to field and state level biologists for final review.

### **Participants**

Owen Fenderson, Fisheries Planner  
Kendall Warner, Management Supervisor  
DIFW regional fisheries biologists

### **Information Sources**

Published lake surveys  
Computerized lake inventory file  
MDIFW regional office files

# WILDLIFE

## Overview

Maine lakes support a diversity of water-dependent wildlife ranging from the secretive and rare blanding's turtle to the stately common loon. River otters, mink, beaver, and moose utilize the abundant food resources found in the state's lakes while making their home in upland or riparian habitat. Bald eagles, osprey, and great blue herons nest on undisturbed lake shores. The presence and relative abundance of these species are indicators of the health of Maine lakes. No other state in the northeast hosts such a rich assemblage of lake-dependent wildlife species.

## Standards

To be included in the wildlife assessment lakes had to meet three minimum standards:

- o 10 acres or more in size,
- o be located entirely within an organized township, and
- o have one of the following features:
  - significant wetland habitat
  - colonial nesting waterbirds
  - a rare state or federal species
  - a deer wintering area
  - an unusually high concentration of wildlife

Lakes less than 10 acres in size that contained one or more of these features were also considered in the assessment.

A master list of those lakes located entirely within Maine's organized townships was distributed to state wildlife managers in each DIFW region. Each wildlife manager was asked to:

1. Identify lakes meeting the minimum standards, i.e., those lakes known to support significant populations of wildlife .
2. Rate the habitat and species value of each lake meeting the minimum standards. Species value ratings were based on abundance, diversity, and rarity. Habitat value ratings were based on the type and amount of wetlands, riparian areas, and uplands adjacent to the lake.
3. Rate the public use value of each lake meeting the minimum standards. Public use ratings were based on hunting use, trapping use, and wildlife viewing opportunities.

For each lake the habitat, species, and public use factors identified earlier were evaluated by DIFW regional biologists. The measure used to accomplish this rating was

relative importance compared to other lakes in the region. The terms "high", "medium", and "low" were used to depict relative importance. Using this system a typical resource was given a medium rating. A high rating was reserved for exceptional resources and a low rating for limited or degraded resources. Information provided by regional biologists was reviewed for completeness and accuracy by the DIFW state office. After this review findings were circulated back to regional biologists for final review.

Lakes were then placed in a hierarchy with those lakes receiving a substantial number of high ratings being listed first. Meaningful cut-off points were then established. Lakes with a substantial number of high ratings were given an overall rating of "outstanding". Other lakes that possessed noteworthy species, habitat, or public use were rated significant. A lake that provided critical habitat for endangered, threatened, rare, or otherwise special wildlife species was rated outstanding regardless of its rating for other factors.

### **Participants**

Gary Donovan, Director of Wildlife Division  
Mark Stadler, Regional Management Supervisor  
George Matula, Resource Assessment Supervisor  
Alan Clark, Wildlife Resource Planner  
Regional wildlife biologists  
Resource assessment biologists

### **Information Sources**

DIFW regional office files  
DIFW research reports and maps  
DIFW Endangered and Nongame Program files  
Critical Areas Program files  
The Nature Conservancy Natural Heritage Program data base  
Maine Audubon Society files

# PHYSICAL FEATURES

## Overview

When the glaciers retreated 10,000 years ago, the State of Maine was left with a cornucopia of lakes containing a rich assortment of noteworthy physical and geological features. Cliffs, sand beaches, and bedrock outcrops are noteworthy geologic features; subtler or less common features include fossil localities, relic shorelines, caves, waterfalls, reverse deltas, moraines, and kettleholes.

Certain Maine lakes also exhibit unique hydrological characteristics such as extremely low nutrient content, naturally high alkalinity, natural eutrophication, and chemical stratification. Often associated with these features are groups of species specifically adapted for living in such environments. For purposes of this report physical features are divided into geologic features and hydrologic features.

## Standards

To be included in the lakes assessment, geologic or hydrologic features had to be:

- o in the lake,
- o within a 250 feet of a lake (the shoreland zone), or
- o a dominant feature in the landscape as viewed from the lake.

For the geology component, a master list of those lakes located entirely within Maine's organized townships was distributed to geologists who have conducted field work for the Maine Geological Survey. Each geologist was asked to identify lakes that contained significant fossil localities, significant bedrock outcrops, sand beaches, cliffs, caves, waterfalls, relic shorelines, reverse deltas, significant glacial features, unusual hydrogeological features, or mineral resources.

The geologists were then asked to highlight any feature that was either 1) a type locality, 2) a rare occurrence, 3) an outstanding example, or 4) critical to geologic interpretation. Features that met any of these form criteria were given a final rating of outstanding. Others were given a rating of significant.

For the hydrology component, a master list of lakes located entirely within Maine's organized townships was sent to the Hydrology Coordinator of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). DEP lake specialists identified lakes that contain exceptional depth, exceptional water clarity, unusual water chemistry, springs; or other significant hydrological features.

Hydrological features were ranked outstanding if they were 1) a rare occurrence, 2) critical to the interpretation and understanding of the hydrology of a region or 3) an outstanding example of a particular feature. Other noteworthy hydrologic features were given a rating of significant. The level of significance was qualitatively determined using professional judgement.

## **Geology Participants**

Tom Weddle, Maine Geological Survey  
Woodrow Thompson, Maine Geological Survey  
Allan Ludman, Department of Geology, Queens College  
Louis Pavlides, U.S. Geological Survey  
Robert B. Neuman, Washington, DC  
John Creasy, Department of Geology, Bates College  
Thomas Brewer, Holliston, MA  
William A. Newman, Department of Geology, Northeastern University  
Olcott Gates, Wiscasset, ME  
Richard Gilman, Department of Geology, SUNY, Fredonia, NY  
John Griffin, Lincoln, NE

## **Hydrology Participants**

Jeff Dennis, DEP Hydrology Coordinator  
DEP Lake Specialists

## **Information Sources**

State of Maine Critical Areas Program reports  
Maine Geological Survey reports and files  
U.S. Geological Survey reports  
DEP Lakes Information computer data base

## BOTANIC FEATURES

### Overview

Maine lakes contain a variety of valuable botanic features, both rare and common, which are an integral part of lake ecosystems. Lakes containing sedges, smartweeds, and rushes provide important waterfowl breeding and staging areas. Deer use cedar forests along lake edges for wintering areas; and many other wildlife species depend on lake-related plants for food, cover, hunting perches, and nesting material.

Shoreline vegetation acts as a natural filtration mechanism, filtering upland runoff before it empties into a lake, while aquatic vegetation often acts as a water quality monitor. Because many aquatic species tolerate only narrow ranges of water conditions, species presence or absence may indicate high or low acidity, alkalinity, productivity, or water clarity.

Botanic features also have aesthetic value; for instance, the presence of a mature forest along a lakes edge greatly enhances local scenic beauty and shoreline character.

### Standards

To be included in the botanic feature assessment a lake had to be:

- o 10 or more acres in size,
- o entirely within an organized township, and
- o contain at least one significant botanic feature.

All botanic features had to be within a 250-foot shoreland zone. Priority was given to plants or plant communities that are water-dependent. Pertinent botanical information was compiled from existing information sources. In addition, a questionnaire was sent to botanists who have worked in Maine.

### Rare Plants

A draft list of Maine's rare, threatened, and endangered plants prepared by the Endangered Plant Technical Advisory Committee was used as a guide for evaluating plant rarity. The following definitions applied:

- o Endangered plants – species that have only one documented occurrence within the past 20 years including federal endangered plants. Lake related endangered plants include:

Arctic-loving Willow (Salix arctophila)  
Bitter-cress (Cardamine bellidifolia)  
Bitternut Hickory (Carya cordiformis)  
Flatleaf Willow (Salix planifolia)

Horned Rush (Rhynchospora capillacea)  
Meadowsweet (Spiraea septentrionalis)  
Pondweed (Potamogeton freisii)  
Reed Bentgrass (Calamagrostis pickeringii)  
Sedge (Carex saxatilis)  
Spike-rush (Eleocharis pauciflora)  
Spike-rush (Eleocharis tuberculosa)  
Vasey's Pondweed (Potamogeton vaseyi)  
Water-Starwort (Callitriche anceps)  
Yellow-eyed Grass (Xyris smalliana)

- o Threatened plants -- species that have only two to four documented occurrences during the past twenty years or are federal threats. Lake related threatened plants include:

Atlantic White Cedar (Chamaecyparis thyoides)  
Clammy Azalea (Rhododendron viscosum)  
Great Rhododendron (Rhododendron maximum)  
Pondweed (Potamogeton confervoides)  
Pondweed (Potamogeton pulcher)  
Sedge (Hemicarpha micrantha)  
Small Purple Bladderwort (Utricularia resupinata)  
Sweet Pepperbush (Clethra alnifolia)

- o Additional categories -- populations that are small, confined to a geographic area, or clearly and imminently jeopardized.

#### Natural old-growth forest stands

Natural old-growth forest stands were included if they met the minimum standards, and if:

- 1) the stand contained a significant number of trees that were 100 years of age or older;
- 2) the stand contained long-lived species characteristic of a sub-climax or climax forest;
- 3) the old growth component was a stand, part of a group of stands, or was growing in association with a stand; and
- 4) the stand appeared to be undisturbed by humans.

## Jack/pine stands

Jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) stands were included in the assessment if they met the Critical Areas Program criteria, which evaluate population size, stand purity, age, level of disturbance, habitat uniqueness, and geographic distribution.

## Peatlands and unique freshwater wetlands

Peatlands and freshwater wetlands were included in the assessment if they contained rare, threatened, or endangered plants, or if they were unique in size, location, physical makeup; or other features.

All botanical information was entered into a master computer data base. Lakes that contained endangered or threatened plants were automatically rated outstanding. Lakes with special concern or watch list plant species were rated significant. Lakes with natural old growth stands were rated significant. Peatlands and freshwater wetlands were individually assessed by resource experts and rating determined using professional judgement. No Jack pine stands were identified on any lakes in the study area and thus a rating scheme was not established for this resource.

## Participants

Hank Tyler, Critical Areas Program  
Trish DeHond, Critical Areas Program  
Amy Forrester, The Nature Conservancy

## Information Sources

Maine State Planning Office publications  
Critical Areas Program topographic maps  
The Nature Conservancy's Heritage Program data base

# SCENIC QUALITY

## Overview

Scenic quality was evaluated from the perspective of views available from a lake, based on two main assumptions: 1) Landscapes of mountains, hills, and unaltered forested terrain adjacent to a lake are visually pleasing; and 2) As the variety of landscape features increases, so does the overall scenic beauty of a lake. Based on these premises, the level of scenic quality for a lake is generally proportional to lake size and local topographical relief.

This assessment considered the overall scenery of a lake, rather than scenery from a single view at specific locations.

## Standards

The assessment process largely followed that described in Scenic Lakes Evaluation in Maine's Unorganized Towns, prepared in 1987 as part of the Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment.

An initial list of potentially scenic lakes was developed by visually inspecting topographic maps for areas of high relief. The edge index (ratio of shoreline length to surface area) was then calculated for each lake on the list.

To remain on this list, the lakes had to meet the following criteria:

- o Exhibit a 300 foot change in relief within 0.5 miles of the lake, or
- o Exhibit a 700 foot change in relief within 7.0 miles, or
- o Have an edge index of at least 1.5.

The master list was further refined as follows:

- o Large lakes, greater than 1,000 acres, were removed from consideration if they had less than 4 areas of significant relief.
- o Medium sized lakes, 500 to 999 acres, were removed if they had less than 3 areas of significant relief.
- o Small lakes, 10 to 499 acres, were removed if they had less than 2 areas of significant relief.

Lakes were added to the list if they:

- o Appeared to be remote. (Remote lakes included lakes that did not contain vehicular access within a quarter mile of the shoreline. These

were identified by reviewing maps contained in the Maine Atlas and Gazetteer, published by the DeLorme Mapping Company, Freeport, Maine.)

- o Were located above 1,800 feet in elevation, or
- o Had an area of significant relief (1,000 feet or more) within 1 mile.

Lakes that met all of the minimum standards were evaluated from the air. During the flight the following factors were evaluated:

- foreground and background relief
- number and distribution of physical features
- shoreline vegetational diversity
- special features (e.g. extreme water clarity)
- inharmonious development

A numerical rating was given to each factor that reflected the extent to which a lake displayed the characteristic. After the flight points were totaled for each lake. Numerical ratings from the flight data forms varied from 20 to 75 out of a total of 100 possible points. Lakes with ratings greater than 60 were designated outstanding. Lakes with ratings of 40 - 55 were designated significant. These point cut-offs were determined by arraying the data and identifying logical significance breaks.

### **Participants**

Hank Tyler, Critical Areas Program  
Drew Parkin, Scenic evaluation  
John Lortie, Scenic evaluation

### **Information Sources**

No base of consistent published or unpublished information on visual quality of lakes within the organized portion of the state was available.

# **SHORELINE CHARACTER**

## **Overview**

Shoreline character refers to physical features at the lake's edge and their relationship to recreational use of the lake. Shore features such as beaches, ledges, and open areas are included to the extent that they enhance opportunities for swimming, diving, wading, camping, picnicking, fishing, or boating.

## **Standards**

Lacking an established base of information for Maine lake shorelines, lakes included in the shoreline character evaluation were limited to the 115 lakes flown for scenic assessment. In addition to aerial evaluation, resource experts were consulted about shoreline information. Given the lack of information, the resulting list of lakes may be incomplete and some lakes with significant or outstanding shoreline characteristics may have gone unreported.

During the flights, three major features determined the significance of lakes for shoreline character:

- o Beaches
- o Bedrock ledges
- o Open shores

Beaches and bedrock ledges that were large and dominant were regarded as more significant than small narrow beaches and ledges. Open shorelines that offered public use opportunities, swimming, fishing, hiking, and canoeing, were regarded as more significant than shorelines with little or no public use opportunity.

A rating of high, medium, or low, was assigned to each lake that was flown based on the overall significance of all shoreline character features. Additional lakes that have beaches were rated by resource experts. Lakes that received a rating of high were designated outstanding, and lakes rated as medium were designated significant. All lakes with beaches received a minimum rating of significant. If the beaches were large and extensive, or if other significant shoreline character features were found, the lakes were rated outstanding. An outstanding rating was given to any lakes with a high diversity of shore features or a unique shore feature.

## **Participants**

Hank Tyler, Critical Areas Program  
Drew Parkin, Shoreline character evaluation  
John Lortie, Shoreline character evaluation

## Information Sources

Maine Geological Survey aerial photos

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife personnel

Resource experts, via questionnaire

# **CULTURAL FEATURES**

## **Overview**

People have lived in Maine since the last ice sheets retreated over 10,000 years ago. Being such dominant features in the landscape, and providing essential elements for survival, lakes were extensively used by prehistoric peoples. After the arrival of European settlers, lakes retained their position as a focus for human activity. Given this long history of use, it is not uncommon to find significant historic structures, trails, and prehistoric settlements within close proximity to lakes. These sites provide a critical link to the past and add to the overall environmental significance of our lakes.

## **Standards**

Cultural features were classified into four general groups: 1) prehistoric archeological features, 2) historic archeological features, 3) historic structures, and 4) other lake-related cultural features. In general, cultural resources within the shoreland zone (up to 250 feet from the lake) were included in the assessment. Cultural features beyond the shoreland zone were included if they had a direct connection to a lake, such as Indian canoe routes.

Resources included in the assessment were identified using existing sources of information. Individual resource experts from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission outlined the significance of each cultural feature.

Cultural resources for each lake were entered into a computer data base under the four groups listed above. Each feature was rated significant, outstanding, or unknown, except for lakes with multiple features, which received an overall rating. Features on state or federal registers were automatically given a rating of outstanding. Other features were rated using professional judgement. Lakes with multiple significant features were given a rating of outstanding.

## **Participants**

Arthur Spiess, Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC)  
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## **Information Sources**

Maine Archeological Survey  
National Register of Historic Places  
Statewide Historic Archeological Inventory  
Maine Historic Preservation Commission

# RESOURCE CATEGORY FINDINGS

## FISH

Outstanding fisheries: 53 lakes; 97,604 surface acres

Significant fisheries: 536 lakes; 164,841 surface acres

The high number of lakes designated as having outstanding or significant fisheries can be attributed to the numerous clean, unpolluted lakes in the state, and to the availability of information from annual lake assessment studies performed by MDIFW. Many of the outstanding lakes contain trophy-size salmon and trout. These lakes are typically deep, with good populations of prey species, and not over-fished. Good trout fisheries are located throughout the state's organized townships. Extreme southern Maine has fewer lakes than other parts of the state. Consequently it has fewer lakes rated as outstanding or substantial trout fisheries.

Largemouth bass are restricted primarily to the southern and eastern parts of the state, while smallmouth bass are found in every county except Aroostock. Both bass species are actively sought by fishermen because of their leaping ability and tenacity.

## WILDLIFE

Outstanding wildlife: 133 lakes; 78,245 surface acres

Significant wildlife: 177 lakes; 50,753 surface acres

Maine is famous for its loons. No other bird or animal is so closely associated with the public's conception of the idyllic Maine lake. While most prevalent in the unorganized portions of the state, this bird can also be found on several lakes in the organized townships. Given its solitary nature the loon is most likely to be found in the more remote areas of large lakes. Of the land animals the moose is the one typically affiliated with Maine's lakes. Like the loon, the moose is most common in the state's unorganized townships. Several lakes in the organized towns are, however, also noted for their ability to attract this large animal.

While the loon and moose get much of the attention, a great variety of wildlife species depend on lakes for at least part of their life cycle. Of the birds, herons, waterfowl, and raptors, especially eagles and osprey, all depend on lakes. Animals found in the riparian areas surrounding lakes include a variety of fur bearers, reptiles (especially turtles), and other non-game species. Deer wintering areas are often found in uplands surrounding lakes. Endangered species that utilize lakes in the organized portion of the state include the Blanding's turtle and the bald eagle.

A great deal of energy has been expended surveying certain lake related species, notably loons, herons, and endangered species such as the bald eagle and Blanding's turtle. Much of the information pertaining to the use of lakes by other species is unfortunately

anecdotal. However, certain inferences can be drawn. First, larger lakes appear to have proportionately greater wildlife value than smaller lakes. Also, lakes with convoluted shorelines and with a variety of wetland and upland habitats are often associated with high wildlife value. Shallow lakes and those with extensive marshy areas surrounding inlets or outlets further appear to produce high concentrations of wildlife. Lastly, undeveloped lakes, or lakes with large undeveloped shoreline areas seem to have proportionately greater wildlife values.

## **PHYSICAL FEATURES**

Outstanding physical features: 6 lakes; 5,413 surface acres

Significant physical features: 62 lakes; 69,263 surface acres

Sand beaches and rock outcrops were the most common significant geological features reported for Maine lakes. Most well-developed sand beaches were reported from large lakes like Sebago Lake in Cumberland County. This lake contains nine beaches, including an uncommonly large barrier beach. Halls Pond and Androscoggin Lake contain outstanding rock outcrops. Of the 22 lakes with significant rock outcrop five are in Acadia National Park. Cliffs on Eagle Lake, the Tarn, and Echo Lake were among the most striking features reported.

Twenty-one lakes contain significant hydrological features as follows:

|   | <u>Town</u>    | <u>Size (Acres)</u> | <u>DIFW Region</u> |
|---|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Lakes with Boiling Springs:</b>                |                |                     |                    |
| Page Pond   | Fort Fairfield |                     | G                  |
| <b>Lakes with Naturally High Acidity:</b>         |                |                     |                    |
| Carlton Bog                                       | Troy           | 430                 | B                  |
| <b>Chemically Stratified Meromatic Lakes:</b>     |                |                     |                    |
| Carry Lake  | Littleton      | 20                  | G                  |
| Conroy Lake                                       | Moticello      | 25                  | G                  |
| Wellman Pond                                      | Belgrade       | 9                   | B                  |
| <b>Lakes with Extremely Low Nutrient Content:</b> |                |                     |                    |
| Basin Pond  | Fayette        | 32                  | B                  |
| Clearwater P                                      | Industry       | 751                 | D                  |
| Craig Pond  | Orland         | 218                 | C                  |
| Jordan Pond                                       | Mount Desert   | 187                 | C                  |
| Schoodic P  | Brownville     |                     | F                  |
| Trickey   | Naples         | 311                 | A                  |
| Tunk Pond   | Sullivan       | 141                 | C                  |
| <b>Naturally Eutrophic Lakes:</b>                 |                |                     |                    |
| Halls Pond  | Paris          | 51                  | A                  |
| Holt Pond   | Bridgeton      | 25                  | A                  |
| Kidder Pond                                       | Vienna         | 19                  | B                  |
| Nubble Pond                                       | Raymond        | 23                  | A                  |
| Portage Lake                                      | Portage Lake   | 2474                | G                  |
| <b>Lakes with a Naturally High Alkalinity:</b>    |                |                     |                    |
| Carry Lake  | Littleton      | 20                  | G                  |
| Page Pond   | Ft. Fairfield  |                     | G                  |
| Portage Lake                                      | Portage Lake   | 2474                | G                  |
| Ross Lake   | Littleton      | 32                  | G                  |
| Tyler Pond  | Manchester     | 17                  | B                  |

## BOTANIC FEATURES

Outstanding botanical features: 24 lakes; 22,191 surface acres

Significant botanical features: 30 lakes; 47,266 surface acres

Rare aquatic or semi-aquatic shrubs including Clethra alnifolia, Ilex laevigata, Viburnum edule, and Lonicera oblongifolia were found associated with nineteen lakes. Most of these shrubs grow in shallow wetlands. Lakes supporting any of these rare shrubs were rated "outstanding" for botanical features. Other lakes rated outstanding possessed true aquatic plants like Potamogeton pulcher, P. vaseyi, P. confervoides, and Nymphaea tertragona.

Other important lake-related botanic features included five old growth forest areas, a variety of rare sedges, orchids, and shrubs, and seven additional species of true aquatic plants that are rare within Maine. Lakes with any of these features were rated "significant".

## SCENIC QUALITY

Outstanding scenic quality: 26 lakes; 6,204 surface acres

Significant scenic quality: 40 lakes; 36,558 surface acres

Lakes with outstanding scenic quality were typically undeveloped and surrounded by areas of high and complex relief. At these lakes the surrounding terrain creates a visually pleasing setting by contrasting with the flat aspect of a lake surface and the openness of the sky. Irregular shorelines and islands in lakes add to the overall visual diversity and scenic beauty.

Lakes with significant scenic quality possessed the same general features as the outstanding lakes, but in smaller proportions. Several lakes in the significant category would have been rated outstanding had they been undeveloped.

Three areas in the organized townships contain especially scenic lakes:

- o Approximately 10 miles east of Bangor, 11 lakes are clustered around a small series of mountains and large hills. The surrounding terrain is relatively flat, making the mountains appear even larger. In addition, these lakes contain irregular shorelines, islands, rockslides and beaches. All of these features create a visually pleasing setting.
- o North of Dover Foxcroft and south of Moosehead Lake lies a mountainous region full of spectacular lakes. Extremely clear water, lack of shoreline development, and highly complex surrounding relief, makes these lakes very scenic. Most of the surrounding mountains are forested, which adds to the scenic integrity of the region.

- o Lakes on Mount Desert Island, largely within Acadia National Park, are well known for their scenic beauty. These lakes are surrounded by towering rocky ridges and mountains which rise directly from the ocean. Mount Desert Island lakes have forested shorelines and little development.

A detailed description of this assessment of scenic lake features is contained in the report An Evaluation Of Scenic Quality On Lakes In Maine's Organized Towns completed as part of this project.

## SHORELINE CHARACTER

Outstanding shoreline character: 13 lakes; 31,821 surface acres  
Significant shoreline character: 48 lakes; 38,276 surface acres

Extensive beaches, bouldered shores, and protruding ledges were the most common features observed along lakes rated as outstanding. Almost all of the best shorelines are undeveloped; the exception to this is Sebago Lake. Although this lake is extensively developed, it contains an abundance of accessible large sandy beaches, one of which is a barrier spit beach, a rare feature for Maine lakes. Seven lakes rated outstanding had rocky shores with large boulders. These lakes are all relatively undeveloped; most are easily accessible. Good potential for campsites exists at six of these seven lakes.

Fourteen lakes rated as significant contain open shorelines that offer potential for water access and campsites. Eleven lakes contain sand beaches varying from small pockets to large broad beaches. For instance, Lake George has 2 large broad beaches, although both sites are developed. Protruding, slab, and rocky shore bedrock features were observed on 11 of the 32 lakes with significant shoreline features.

Four lakes rated significant for shoreline character had features that were particularly noteworthy:

- o North Pond in Sumner, which has especially steep banks;
- o Forest Lake in Canton, which has large ledges;
- o Mine Pond in Porter, which has a rock slide; and
- o Joe's Pond in Rumford, which is located at a high elevation.

All four lakes are completely undeveloped.

A detailed description of the beach component of this assessment can be found in Lake Beaches in Maine's Organized Towns, prepared in conjunction with this project.

## CULTURAL FEATURES

Outstanding cultural features: 13 lakes; 55,937 surface acres

Significant cultural features: 22 lakes; 27,508 surface acres

Carriage path systems around the lakes were the most common cultural feature reported on lakes receiving an outstanding rating. These paths were important transportation systems prior to the development of motorized vehicles. Most of the other lakes rated "outstanding" contain multiple sites that are eligible for registration on the National Register of Historic Places.

The following lakes received an outstanding rating for cultural features:

| <u>DIFW Region</u> | <u>Lake</u>     | <u>Town</u>  | <u>Size (acres)</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| A                  | Long Lake       | Bridgton     | 4876                |
| A                  | Panther Pond    | Raymond      | 1439                |
| A                  | Sebago Lake     | Sebago       | 28771               |
| B                  | Sabattus Pond   | Greene       | 1962                |
| C                  | Bubble Pond     | Bar Harbor   | 32                  |
| C                  | Eagle Lake      | Bar Harbor   | 436                 |
| C                  | Jordon Pond     | Mount Desert | 187                 |
| C                  | Long Pond       | Mount Desert | 897                 |
| C                  | Lower Hadlock P | Mount Desert | 39                  |
| C                  | Upper Hadlock P | Mount Desert | 35                  |
| C                  | Alamoosook Lake | Orland       | 1133                |
| E                  | Sebec Lake      | Williamantic | 6803                |

Most of the lakes with "significant" features are located in the southern part of the state. Lakes rated significant for cultural features include:

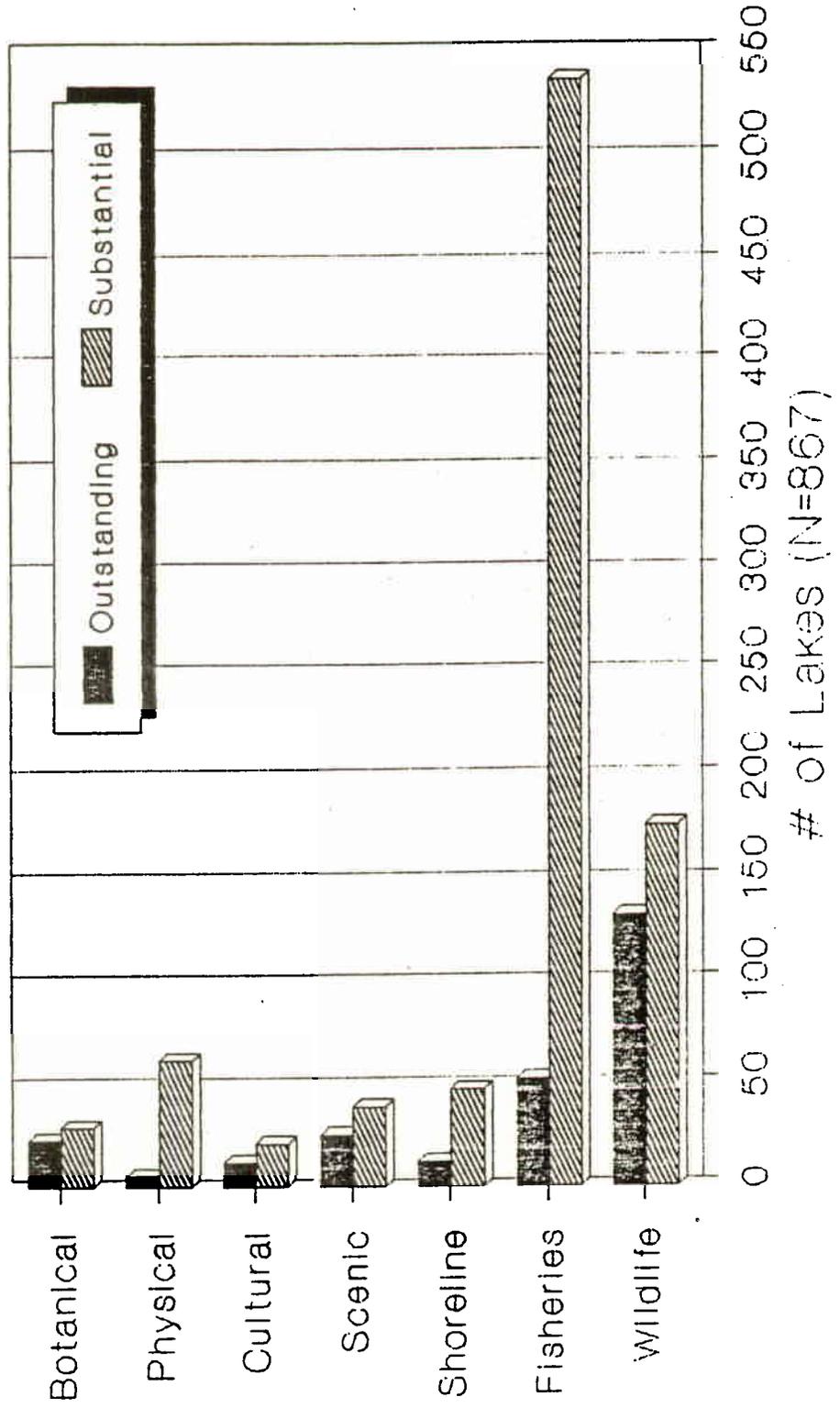
| <u>DIFW Region</u> | <u>Lake</u>       | <u>Town</u> | <u>Size (acres)</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| A                  | Thomas Pond       | Casco       | 442                 |
| A                  | Kezar Pond        | Fryeburg    | 1299                |
| A                  | Lovewell Pond     | Fryeburg    | 1120                |
| A                  | Pleasant Pond     | Fryeburg    | 239                 |
| A                  | Northeast Pond    | Lebanon     | 778                 |
| A                  | Kezar Lake        | Lovell      | 2600                |
| A                  | Pennesseewassee   | Norway      | 922                 |
| A                  | Thompson Lake     | Oxford      | 4426                |
| A                  | Lower Range Pond  | Poland      | 290                 |
| A                  | Bear Pond         | Waterford   | 218                 |
| B                  | Sennebee Pond     | Appleton    | 532                 |
| B                  | Ellis Pond        | Brooks      | 93                  |
| B                  | Pleasant Pond     | Gardiner    | 746                 |
| B                  | Damariscotta Lake | Jefferson   | 4381                |
| B                  | Seven Tree Pond   | Union       | 523                 |
| B                  | Webber Pond       | Vassalboro  | 1201                |
| B                  | North Pond        | Warren      | 338                 |
| B                  | South Pond        | Warren      | 548                 |

|   |                   |                    |      |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|------|
| C | Lake Lucerne      | Dedham             | 828  |
| C | Jordan Pond       | Mount Desert       | 187  |
| C | Lower Patten Pond | Surry              | 741  |
| D | Brandy Pond       | Pleasant Ridge PLT | 2    |
| F | Pushaw Lake       | Old Town           | 5056 |

To protect sensitive areas this study does not identify specific cultural features or locations. Further, many of the known or suspected archaeological sites associated with lakes have not been thoroughly investigated or documented. Further field work will be necessary before the actual significance of many of these sites can be determined.

The findings for all resource categories are summarized in the graph on the following page.

# Maine Lakes Assessment Resource Values (Organized Townships)



# MAINE'S FINEST LAKES

## Methods Used to Determine Statewide Significance

All of Maine's 6000 plus lakes are significant environmental resources and should be managed so as to maintain their natural values. However, as with all natural resources, priorities must be set when allocating management efforts. Through the Critical Areas Program and other state programs the State of Maine has a history of defining resource management priorities based on relative resource significance. The identification of resources that are of statewide significance is central to this concept.

The Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment previously established an objective standard for comparatively ranking lakes that is based on the cumulative significance of features associated with a given lake. Four classes of lakes were identified: 1A (the highest classification), 1B, 2, and 3. "1A" lakes have multiple outstanding natural values or one outstanding and four or more significant values; "1B" lakes have a single outstanding natural value; class "2" lakes have no outstanding values but at least one significant resource; class "3" lakes have no known outstanding or significant values. Under this scenario it follows that lakes eligible for classification as a 1A lake are of statewide significance and that individual features receiving an "outstanding" rating should be considered to be of statewide significance. Thus, a 1B lake will have an individual feature of statewide significance but the lake itself will not be given the highest rating.

The current project adopted this standard for lakes and ponds in the organized townships. The analysis did not give different weights to lakes in organized and unorganized townships, nor did it attempt to achieve equal distribution for counties, river basins, or other sub-state regions. Rather, it set an absolute standard that is consistent throughout the state. Lakes meeting this standard are included in the list of statewide significant lakes regardless of location. This does not, of course, suggest that lakes should not be viewed from their local or regional context. From the local perspective a lake that does not receive a statewide significance rating but that is an area with relatively few significant lakes should arguably receive special management attention regardless of its statewide rating.

## Findings

The Land Use Regulation Commission's Wildlands Lake Assessment surveyed 1511 lakes over ten acres in size. 913 of these were found to possess at least one significant or outstanding resource value. 123 of these were rated 1A, that is, they had two or more outstanding values or one outstanding value and four or more significant values. 207 lakes were rated 1B (one outstanding value).

The assessment of lakes in organized towns considered 867 lakes over ten acres in size. (Note that lakes partially in the unorganized townships were assessed during the LURC study.) Applying the same standard to lakes in organized towns, 753 were found to

possess at least one significant or outstanding resource value. 38 of these met the requirements for the highest, or 1A, rating. 189 received a 1B rating. The organized township findings are graphically represented on the following pages.

These findings clearly indicate a disparity between the value of lakes in the unorganized territories and those in the organized towns. This, however, is not altogether surprising. The lake resources of southern Maine and other organized areas of the state differ from those in more remote areas. They differ both in terms of physical characteristics and adjacent development. Lakes in the unorganized territories tend to be found in mountainous terrain or in areas with shallow bedrock. They are almost always less developed than their counterparts in organized towns which translates to more pristine wildlife habitat and oftentimes higher scenic value. Lakes in organized towns, by way of contrast, are largely located in lowland areas near centers of population. In these areas there are fewer lakes and those that do exist have less pronounced shoreline features, more access roads, and fewer miles of undeveloped shoreline. Natural resource features associated with these lakes often have affected by prior development.

It is important to note that both the LURC project and the current project relied heavily on existing information to rate lake resource features. Due to the large number of lakes in the state, as well as the relative lack of field surveys on these lakes, it is quite possible that some important features have been overlooked. Because of this, these lake ratings should be regarded as minimal findings. Some class 3, 2 or 1B lakes may be more significant than their rating indicates.

In the next section all lakes within the state that received a 1A rating are listed and their features summarized. Each of these lakes deserves recognition as being among the state's finest. Lakes are presented in two groups - those in the organized townships, and those in the unorganized townships. Within these two groups lakes are listed alphabetically. A summary of findings on all lakes in the organized towns is included as an appendix to this report.

## **Outstanding Lakes of the Organized Townships**

This section of the report presents a summary of the findings for each lake within the organized townships that was judged to have cumulative resource values that are of statewide significance. Lakes are listed alphabetically.

# ABBOTTS POND

MIDAS #: 3472  
Size: 32

Township: Sumner  
County: Oxford  
USGS Quad: Mt. Zircon  
Basin: Androscoggin

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Abbotts Pond is located south of Bald Mountain. In addition Speckled, Black, Davis, and Molleyokett Mountains surround the Pond, creating a visually diverse landscape pattern. This pond also has an outstanding brook trout fishery.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Abbotts Pond is a coldwater eutrophic lake with an average depth of 15 feet and a maximum depth of 50 feet. The pond occurs at an elevation of 1,030 feet. Access is restricted to 4-wheel drive vehicles. The outlet of the pond flows into Russel Brook, which feeds into the Nezinscot River.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This pond has an outstanding brook trout fishery. Some brook trout are stocked by the state. Brown bullhead are also present. The pond has been reclaimed once, in 1956.

### Wildlife:

**Scenic:** Rated as outstanding, Abbotts Pond has high dramatic relief and complex relief. The surrounding mountains picturesquely frame the pond. Scenic cliffs, although not on the lake, are within view. The pond shoreline is completely forested with a mixture of white pine and hardwood forests.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No Significant features reported.

# ANDROSCOGGIN LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 3836  
**Size:** 3,980 acres

**Township:** Leeds  
**County:** Androscoggin  
**USGS Quad:** Wayne  
**Basin:** Androscoggin

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Androscoggin Lake has outstanding physical, cultural, and fishery features, and significant botanic and shoreline features. This rich assemblage of unique features is an uncommon occurrence for lakes in the organized townships. Six species of fish make up the principal fishery on this lake. In addition, three rare plant species are associated with the lake.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This is a eutrophic warmwater lake with an average depth of 15 feet and a maximum depth of 38 feet. Portions of the lake have a moderate amount of development, particularly the eastern shoreline. There are numerous access points, and several boat launch areas. The lake shoreline is very irregular.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This lake supports sport fisheries for a number of species including largemouth and smallmouth bass, white perch, pickerel, rainbow smelt and stocked brown trout. The lake also has brown bullhead, burbot, yellow perch and landlocked salmon. Stocking for brown trout, rainbow trout and landlocked salmon has been unsuccessful.

**Wildlife:** Androscoggin Lake is highly rated for species abundance and diversity, as well as for wetland, riparian, and upland habitats. Hunting opportunities are excellent, trapping and viewing opportunities are rated moderate. The lake provides habitat for sensitive species.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** The highly irregular shoreline and beaches add to the significant shore character. The density of shoreline development keeps this lake from receiving a higher rating.

**Botanic:** Significant botanical features include Carex typhina, Ceanothus americanus, and Hemicarpha micrantha.

**Cultural:** The Cumberland/Oxford Canal is located on this lake.

**Geological:** Rock outcrops are a significant geological feature of this lake.

**Hydrologic:** The lake has a reverse delta at its outlet.

# ANNABESSACOOK LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 9961  
**Size:** 1420 acres

**Township:** Monmouth  
**County:** Kennebec  
**USGS Quad:** Augusta  
**Basin:** Kennebec

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Annabessacook Lake contains outstanding fisheries and wildlife resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This developed lake is located near Augusta in a chain of lakes that include Maranacook and Cobbosseecontee Lakes. Seasonal camps and year-round homes rim most of the lake shore. The lake has experienced substantial algae blooms for many years, and has recently received alum treatments in an effort to improve the water quality. Agricultural runoff in the watershed is thought to be the major contributor of nutrient pollution. Maximum depth is 49 feet, and average depth is 21 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This mesotrophic lake supports outstanding warmwater fisheries, with the principal species being largemouth and smallmouth bass, white perch, and chain pickerel. Natural reproduction is excellent due to the good quality of the aquatic habitat. Fishing quality is excellent, though the fishing pressure is low. Overall economic importance is low. There is a dam at the outlet, but it has no fishway.

**Wildlife:** Annabessacook Lake is considered an outstanding wildlife resource. It is a significant shorebird staging area, and supports at least two pairs of breeding common loons. Riparian and upland habitats are very valuable to wildlife, and trapping and wildlife opportunities in the area are good.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# AUNT BETTY'S POND

**MIDAS #:** 4588  
**SIZE:** 34 acres

**Township:** Bar Harbor  
**County:** Hancock  
**USGS Quad:** Acadia National Park  
**Basin:** Coastal

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Aunt Betty's Pond is located in Acadia National Park. It has outstanding scenic resources, a significant brook trout, golden shiner and common sucker fishery and 1 state threatened rare plant station.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This is an eutrophic pond with an average depth of 3 feet and a maximum depth of 7 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** This is a low quality shallow, marshy pond. The water is too warm to support many trout. Major species include brook trout, golden shiner, nine-spine stickleback and common sucker. The outlet, Richardson Brook, supports most of the brook trout population.

**Wildlife:** No known significant wildlife features.

**Scenic:** This pond has a number of outstanding scenic features; a high complexity of surrounding relief, an island, and an undeveloped forested shoreline.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** Small purple bladderwort, Utricularia resupinata, is a state significant specie.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# BUBBLE POND

**MIDAS #:** none  
**Size:** 32 acres

**Township:** Bar Harbor  
**County:** Hancock  
**USGS Quad:** Acadia National Park  
**Basin:** Coastal

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Bubble Pond has outstanding cultural and scenic features, and significant botanic, physical, shoreline, and fishery features. This spectacular relatively pristine pond is located in Acadia National Park.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This is a coldwater mesotrophic pond with an average depth of 21 feet and a maximum depth of 39 feet. There is no direct vehicle access, although the Park Loop Road is adjacent to the northern edge of the pond. A hiking trail runs along the western edge of the pond.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** Brook trout, which are the principal fishery, are stocked by the state. They are the only gamefish in the pond.

### Wildlife:

**Scenic:** Cliffs, rockslides, a bouldered shore and high dramatic relief contribute to this pond's outstanding scenery. The pond is surrounded by abrupt mountain ridges that dramatically rise from the edge of the pond.

**Shore Character:** Bubble Pond has significant shore character features which consist of a small pocket beach and a rocky shore. Ninety percent of the shoreline is forested.

**Botanic:** Subularia aquatica, awlwort, is a significant botanical feature from this pond. This species was given the status of Special Concern by the State Planning Office's Endangered Plant Technical Advisory Committee.

**Cultural:** Cobbi Lighthouse is located near this pond.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# BURNT POND

**MIDAS #:** 4288  
**Size:** 315 acres

**Township:** Dedham  
**County:** Hancock  
**USGS Quad:** Orland  
**Basin:** Union

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Burnt Pond has outstanding scenic and shoreline features. This highly scenic lake includes numerous islands, an irregular shoreline, no development, and large boulders along the shore.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This is a mesotrophic coldwater lake with an average depth of 22 feet and a maximum depth of 27 feet. The lake is closed to the general public. Water from the pond supplements the adjacent Floods Pond water supply.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** No significant features are reported. Native brook trout are the principal fishery and only gamefish in the pond.

### **Wildlife:**

**Scenic:** Outstanding is the only way to describe this pond with high dramatic relief, 10 + islands, a bouldered shore, and mixed vegetation communities of white pine, spruce/fir, oak, maple, and birch.

**Shore Character:** The outstanding character of this shore is derived from being 100% bouldered, including boulders in water, and few or small bedrock slabs.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# COBBOSSEECONTEE LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 5236  
**Size:** 5543 acres

**Township:** Winthrop  
**County:** Kennebec  
**USGS Quad:** Augusta  
**Basin:** Kennebec

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Cobbosseecontee Lake has outstanding cultural and fishery features.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This is a warmwater eutrophic lake with an average depth of 17 feet and a maximum depth of 33 feet. This lake has an irregular shoreline that is heavily developed in some sections. Numerous islands occur throughout the lake. The lake is close to Augusta and is a popular residential and recreational area.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** The lake is outstanding for its warmwater fisheries. Principal fisheries include: brown trout, largemouth and smallmouth bass, white and yellow perch, pickerel, brown bullhead and panfish.

**Wildlife:** This lake is considered to be an outstanding wildlife resource. Species abundance and diversity are excellent. Wetland and upland habitats are rated moderate, as are opportunities to hunt, fish, and trap. Despite the heavy shoreline development this lake contains one of the highest breeding and nonbreeding populations of common loons in southern Maine. There is also a great blue heron rookery. Ospreys are commonly seen.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** An old-growth timber stand is adjacent to the lake.

**Cultural:** The Cumberland/Oxford Canal is an outstanding cultural feature of this lake.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# DAMARISCOTTA LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 5400  
**Size:** 4381 acres

**Township:** Jefferson  
**County:** Lincoln  
**USGS Quad:** Jefferson  
**Basin:** Coastal

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Damariscotta Lake contains outstanding wildlife and fisheries resources, as well as significant cultural features.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This relatively large, highly developed lake is formed by the damming of the Damariscotta River. It has a very interesting, convoluted shoreline configuration, and the lake is divided into two sections by a prominent narrows. Damariscotta Lake State Park, which includes a scenic sand beach, is located at the northern end. There are two public boat landings and a campground along the lake shore. Maximum depth is 114 feet, and average depth is 30 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This oligotrophic waterbody supports outstanding coldwater and warmwater fisheries. The principal species are smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel, landlocked salmon, rainbow smelt, and lake trout. There is a fishway at the dam to allow alewife and other species from the river to enter the lake. Both salmon and trout are stocked. Fish abundance is high due in part to the quality of the habitat. Fishing pressure is moderate, and economic importance is high.

**Wildlife:** Damariscotta Lake is an outstanding wildlife resource. There are nesting eagles on the lake shore, and the lake is an important feeding area for these endangered birds. The lake is also home to nesting ospreys, and is known to have one of the highest populations of breeding common loons in southern Maine.

**Scenic:** No rating, but there are numerous scenic islands scattered throughout the lake, and a significant beach at the north end.

**Shore Character:** No features reported, but the lake does have a very interesting shoreline configuration.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** This is a significant cultural resource due to a historical fishway and some important archeological sites.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# DREWS (MEDUXNEKEAG) LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 1736  
**Size:** 1057 acres

**Township:** Linneus  
**County:** Aroostook  
**USGS Quad:** Smyrna Mills  
**Basin:** Saint John

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Drews Lake contains outstanding fisheries and wildlife resources, as well as significant geologic features.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This developed lake is located about 15 miles west of Houlton. All but the remote western arm of the lake is rimmed with seasonal camps and homes. There is a public boat landing on the east shore. Average and maximum depths are 18 feet and 49 feet respectively. The lake is the headwaters of the Meduxnekeag River.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This mesotrophic lake supports outstanding coldwater and warmwater fisheries, with the principal species being chain pickerel, landlocked salmon, and rainbow smelt. Salmon and brown trout are the two species that are stocked. Brook trout stocking was discontinued in the 50's due to poor returns. The quality of the aquatic habitat is considered to be moderate, as are the fishing quality and overall economic importance.

**Wildlife:** Drews Lake is considered an outstanding wildlife resource due to the excellent wetland habitat along the western arm. This is valuable feeding and breeding habitat for waterfowl, contributing to the large number of species using the area. Riparian areas around the lake are also valuable.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** This area is a significant geologic resource due to the presence of important bedrock outcrops.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# EAGLE LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 4606  
**Size:** 436 acres

**Township:** Bar Harbor  
**County:** Hancock  
**USGS Quad:** Acadia National Park  
**Basin:** Coastal

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Eagle Lake has outstanding physical, cultural, and scenic features, and significant botanic and fishery features. In addition, this lake is located adjacent to Sommes Sound, and is part of Acadia National Park.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Eagle Lake is an oligotrophic coldwater lake with an average depth of 44 feet and a maximum depth of 110 feet. Route 102 runs along the eastern shore of the lake. One boat launch exists along the eastern shore.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** The principal fisheries are for landlocked salmon, brook trout and togue, which are all stocked. The lake also supports rainbow smelt.

**Wildlife:**

**Scenic:** The outstanding scenery on this pond is due to high dramatic relief, 3 islands, and a bouldered shore.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** Subularia aquatica, awiwort, is a significant botanical feature of this pond. This species was given the status of Special Concern by the State Planning Office.

**Cultural:** The Carriage Path System is an outstanding cultural feature of this pond.

**Geologic:** This pond has significant cliffs, and outstanding rock outcrops.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# ECHO LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 4624  
**Size:** 237 acres

**Township:** Mount Desert  
**County:** Hancock  
**USGS Quad:** Acadia National Park  
**Basin:** Coastal

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Echo Lake is located in Acadia National Park. This lake has outstanding scenic and shoreline features, as well as significant botanic, physical, and fish resources. This rich assemblage of unique natural resource features is uncommon in the organized townships.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This is a shallow coldwater oligotrophic lake with an average depth of 28 feet and a maximum depth of 66 feet. A water control structure at the northern end of the lake regulates water levels. Acadia, St. Sauvuer, and Beech Mountains surround this lake, creating a scenically pleasing landscape. This lake is within the boundaries of Acadia National Park.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** Landlocked salmon and brook trout are the significant principal fisheries. The lake was stocked with Sunapee trout in 1974, however this practice was discontinued. Echo Lake has been reclaimed once, in 1956.

### **Wildlife:**

**Scenic:** High dramatic relief, a beach at south end, rockslides, and a partially bouldered shore make the scenic quality of this lake outstanding. The surrounding mountains picturesquely frame this oceanside lake.

**Shore Character:** Despite some development at south end, 80% of the shore is forested. Ten percent of the shore is beach, and 10% is bouldered. The broad beach, protruding bedrock ledge, and rocky shore all contribute to its outstanding shoreline character.

**Botanic:** Arethusa bulbosa, a proposed state watch list plant species, occurs in the shoreland zone around Echo Lake.

**Cultural:** An historic carriage path skirts the lake.

**Geologic:** Echo Lake contains a significant cliff along its southeastern shoreline.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# FLOODS POND

**MIDAS #:** 4370  
**Size:** 654 acres

**Township:** Otis  
**County:** Hancock  
**USGS Quad:** Ellsworth  
**Basin:** Union

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Floods Pond has outstanding scenic, shoreline, and fishery resources. In addition, this pond is used as a water supply by the Bangor Water District. Sunapee Trout abound in these waters, the only such place in Maine.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Floods pond is a deep, coldwater, oligotrophic lake 654 acres in size. Average depth is 41 feet and maximum depth is 147 feet. The water is exceptionally clear. The lake is controlled by the Bangor Water District and most of the lake is closed to fishing.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** The fishing on this pond is outstanding. Flood's pond supports a natural population of Sunapee trout. This is the only natural population in the state. Landlocked salmon and brook trout also reside in the pond.

**Wildlife:** Not rated, thought to have moderate habitat for sensitive species.

**Scenic:** The scenic features of this lake are outstanding. It possesses dramatic relief, island, cliffs, and a bouldered shore. The vegetation diversity includes hardwoods such as red maple and sugar maple; birch; and white pine. It is a nice undeveloped deep pond with extremely clear water.

**Shore Character:** The outstanding shoreline of this lake is 20% forest. The rest is an extensive (80%) boulder shore. It is undeveloped except for a pumping station. There is protruding bedrock ledge.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# HATCASE POND

MIDAS #: 4290  
Size: 145 acres

Township: Dedham  
County: Hancock  
USGS Quad: Orland  
Basin: Union

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Hatcase Pond has outstanding scenic and shoreline features, and significant fishery features. This pond is nestled in between 5 small ridges, which provide a scenery of highly complex relief. The irregular shoreline adds to the overall scenic diversity.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Hatcase Pond is a coldwater oligotrophic pond with an average depth of 38 feet and a maximum depth of 77 feet. Part of the pond is closed to fishing around the Brewer water supply. Public access is by permission over a private road.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This pond has significant fishery resources. Native brook trout are the principal fishery. The pond also supports smallmouth bass and pickerel.

**Wildlife:** No specific rating, though the pond does possess moderate value upland habitat.

**Scenic:** High dramatic relief, and partially bouldered shore contribute to the outstanding scenery of this pond despite it being partially developed.

**Shore Character:** The shore is undeveloped except for 1 camp and a pumping station. Large or dominant protruding bedrock ledges, a rocky shore, and an island contribute to the outstanding shore character.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# HOPKINS POND

**MIDAS #:** 4538  
**Size:** 442 acres

**Township:** Mariaville  
**County:** Hancock  
**USGS Quad:** Great Pond  
**Basin:** Union

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Hopkins Pond has outstanding scenic and shoreline features, as well as, a significant fishery. The highly irregular shoreline, complex surrounding terrain, and picturesque islands makes this lake visually attractive.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This is a coldwater oligotrophic lake. Average depth is 26 feet and maximum depth is 65. The pond has never been reclaimed. There is a boat launch on the northeastern shore, which is accessible to two-wheel drive vehicles.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This pond has significant fisheries resources. Brook trout and togue are the principal fisheries. The pond also supports bullhead, landlocked salmon, rainbow smelt and pumpkinseed sunfish. There is a limited fishery for landlocked salmon, which are produced in the outlet.

### Wildlife:

**Scenic:** High dramatic relief, 7 islands, and a bouldered shore make the scenery outstanding. Hopkins Pond is fairly remote for a large pond in the organized townships.

**Shore Character:** The shoreline character is also outstanding despite being partially developed in 1 cove, and shallow. The shore is 40% forested, and 60% bouldered, with small or few protruding slabs.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# HORSESHOE POND

**MIDAS #:** unknown

**Size:** 70 acres

**Township:** Willimantic

**County:** Piscataquis

**USGS Quad:** Sebec Lake

**Basin:** Penobscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Horseshoe Pond has outstanding scenic and shoreline features. This pond is surrounded by Ragged, Poverty, and Davis Mountains, which create a visually pleasing, scenically diverse sight.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Horseshoe Pond is located just northwest of Sebec Lake. Access to the pond requires four-wheel drive, and is limited to one road. Water from this 530 foot high pond flows into Wilson Stream.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** Not rated by DIFW.

**Wildlife:**

**Scenic:** This pond has several significant features. They include: 2 islands, a bouldered shore, a marsh bog and no development.

**Shore Character:** The shore character is outstanding. It is 40% forested, 50% peat/marsh, 10% bedrock ledge, and bedrock slab.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# INDIAN POND (BIG)

MIDAS #: 5464  
Size: 990 acres

Township: St. Albans  
County: Somerset  
USGS Quad: Pittsfield  
Basin: Kennebec

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Big Indian Pond contains outstanding wildlife and botanic resources, as well as significant fisheries resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This small, developed lake is located in central Maine about 10 miles west of the town of Corinna. It is connected to Little Indian Pond by a short stream channel. Most of the shore is developed with seasonal camps and homes, and there are two public boat landings. The pond is relatively shallow, with an average depth of 15 feet and a maximum depth of 28 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This mesotrophic waterbody supports significant coldwater and warmwater fisheries. The principal species are smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel, and brown trout. The trout is the only stocked species. There is a dam controlling water levels, but there is no fishway. Fish abundance is good, as are the fishing quality and aesthetics. Despite poor water quality, natural reproduction is considered moderate. Economic importance is low.

**Wildlife:** Big Indian Pond is considered an outstanding wildlife resource. Adjacent riparian areas are highly valuable to wildlife, and the wetland and upland areas are also important. Species abundance and species diversity are moderate, as are the opportunities to hunt, trap, and view wildlife.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** This pond is considered an outstanding botanic resource because it contains Vasey's pondweed (*Potamogeton vaseyi*), which is currently an endangered species.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# JORDAN POND

**MIDAS #:** 4608  
**Size:** 187 acres

**Township:** Mount Desert  
**County:** Hancock  
**USGS Quad:** Acadia National Park  
**Basin:** Presumpscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Jordan Pond has outstanding scenic features and significant botanic, physical, cultural, shoreline, and fishery features. This rich assemblage of natural resource features is uncommon in the organized townships. The pond is nestled in between The Bubbles, Pemetic mountain, The Triad, Penobscot Mountain, and Jordan Ridge, and occurs completely within Acadia National Park.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This is an oligotrophic coldwater pond. Average depth is 84 feet and maximum depth 150 feet. A water control structure exists along the pond's southern outlet. Also located at the southern end of the pond is a boat launch. Jordan Pond is located within Acadia National Park, which receives a large amount of visitor use.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** The principal fishery species, landlocked salmon and togue, are both stocked and provide a significant fishery resource. The lake also supports rainbow smelt and brook trout.

**Wildlife:** Not rated, possess moderate value upland habitat for sensitive species.

**Scenic:** The high dramatic relief, cliffs, extremely clear water, and bouldered shore contribute to the outstanding scenic quality of this pond. Despite being partly developed, it is still very scenic.

**Shore Character:** Jordan Pond has a small narrow beach along its predominantly rocky shore. The shoreline is approximately 80% forested, marsh makes up 10% of the shoreline. There is a National Park Service facility at south end.

**Botanic:** The shoreland zone of this pond includes, Cypripedium reginae, Showy Lady's Slipper, a plant species proposed to be listed as threatened in Maine.

**Cultural:** The Carriage Path System is a historical feature present around Jordan Pond.

**Geologic:** High cliffs are significant geologic features on this pond.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# KENNEBUNK POND

MIDAS #: 3998  
Size: 224 acres

Township: Lyman  
County: York  
USGS Quad: Buxton  
Basin: Coastal

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Kennebunk Pond contains outstanding wildlife and botanic resources, as well as significant fisheries and hydrologic resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This small, developed pond is located in southern Maine near the Town of Alfred. It has a maximum depth of 43 feet and an average depth of 21 feet. A dam controls water level. There is a public boat landing at the southeast end. Kennebunk Pond is a town water supply.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This eutrophic waterbody supports significant coldwater and warmwater fisheries. The principal species are landlocked alewife, largemouth and smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel, brook trout and brown trout. Both trout species are stocked, and there is an ongoing program to introduce the alewife. Species abundance is good, as is the overall quality of the habitat. Fishing pressure is heavy, and the pond is considered economically important.

**Wildlife:** Kennebunk Pond is considered an outstanding wildlife resource because it received a high rating for species rarity. No specific information was given regarding which important species is present.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** The rare sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*), is found in this area, making Kennebunk Pond an outstanding botanic resource.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** This pond is considered a significant hydrologic resource because of an unusual marine delta at the south end.

# KEZAR LAKE

MIDAS #: 0097  
Size: 2600 acres

Township: Lovell  
County: Oxford  
USGS Quad: Center Lovell  
Basin: Saco

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Kezar Lake contains outstanding fisheries, scenic, and botanic resources, as well as significant cultural features.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This moderate-sized developed lake is located on the edge of the White Mountain National Forest in western Maine. With its numerous resorts and inns and its spectacular scenery, Kezar Lake has long been a popular vacation spot. Prominent narrows divide the lake into 3 sections - Upper Bay, Middle Bay, and Lower Bay. There are 2 boat landings and a campground. Kezar is a relatively deep lake, with an average depth of 34 feet and a maximum depth of 155 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This oligotrophic lake supports outstanding coldwater and warmwater fisheries. Species diversity is exceptional, with the principal species being landlocked alewife, large and smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel, landlocked salmon, rainbow smelt, and lake trout. Salmon, trout, and alewife are stocked. Water quality and the physical characteristics of the habitat are excellent. The highly aesthetic setting, good fishing, and moderate fishing pressure make this an economically important resource.

**Wildlife:** No significant features reported.

**Scenic:** Kezar Lake possesses outstanding scenic qualities. Views of dramatic relief are provided by the surrounding mountains, particularly the nearby White Mountains. Islands, boulders, beaches, and an interesting shoreline configuration add to the overall scenic resource that is found here.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** This area is considered an outstanding botanic resource. A large stand of Long's bullrush (*Scirpus longii*) was discovered here in 1987, one of only two known stations for this species in Maine.

**Cultural:** Kezar Lake contains significant cultural features associated with destination resorts and vacation camps that have been in existence for more than a century.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# KEZAR POND

**MIDAS #:** 3709  
**Size:** 1,299 acres

**Township:** Fryeburg  
**County:** Oxford  
**USGS Quad:** Fryeburg  
**Basin:** Saco

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Kezar Pond has outstanding botanical and fishery resources, and significant cultural, scenic, and shore character features. Rare features include the largest stand of Long's Rush, Scirpus longii, in the state.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Kezar Pond is a large undeveloped lake located northeast of Fryeburg Maine. This mesotrophic pond is almost completely surrounded by marsh. It has an average depth of 7 feet and a maximum depth of 12 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** Kezar Pond is a warmwater fishery. Largemouth and smallmouth bass, white perch, and chain pickerel are the principal fishery species.

### Wildlife:

**Scenic:** Kezar Pond has a fairly high level of surrounding relief, a slightly irregular shore, and a low level of development.

**Shore Character:** A vast expanse of emergent undeveloped marsh surrounds Kezar Pond. A small pocket beach on the pond's north shore adds to the shore character.

**Botanic:** A large stand of a state endangered species, Long's bulrush, Scirpus longii, was discovered on Kezar Pond in 1987. This is the only known location for this species in Maine.

**Cultural:** Kezar Pond has significant cultural features.

**Geologic:** Near the pond is a good example of an esker.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# LONG POND

MIDAS #: 5272  
Size: 2714 acres

Township: Belgrade  
County: Kennebec  
USGS Quad: Augusta  
Basin: Kennebec

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Long pond contains outstanding wildlife and fisheries resources, as well as significant botanical features.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This relatively large, developed lake is located about 15 miles north of Augusta. It is one of several lakes in the Belgrade Lakes chain. There is at least one public boat landing, but no public campsites. It is a relatively deep lake, with maximum and average depths of 97 feet and 35 feet respectively.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This mesotrophic lake supports outstanding coldwater and warmwater fisheries. The principal species are landlocked salmon, largemouth and smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel, rainbow smelt, and brook trout. Salmon are the only fish stocked in this lake. There is a dam with a fishway. Fish abundance is very high, and the habitat is excellent for natural reproduction. Fishing pressure is heavy, making this a very important lake economically.

**Wildlife:** Long Pond is considered an outstanding wildlife resource because the associated upland habitat is highly rated, and the species abundance, species diversity, and wetland and riparian habitats are each considered to be of moderate value. The hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing opportunities are also considered good. Recent surveys show that Long Pond is home to several breeding pairs of common loons.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** Long Pond is considered a significant botanic resource because of the presence of the rare *arethusa* (*Arethusa bulbosa*).

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# MARANACOOK LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 5312  
**Size:** 1673 acres

**Township:** Winthrop  
**County:** Kennebec  
**USGS Quad:** Augusta  
**Basin:** Kennebec

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Maranacook Lake contains outstanding fisheries and wildlife resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This relatively large, developed lake is located between the towns of Winthrop and Readfield, in a chain that includes Annabessacook and Cobbosseecontee Lakes. It is divided into two sections by a narrows. The entire western shore of the south section has no camps because the railroad runs very close to the shore; otherwise, the shore is mostly rimmed with development. The average depth is 30 feet, while the maximum depth is 128 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This mesotrophic lake supports outstanding coldwater and warmwater fisheries. The principal species are largemouth and smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel, brown trout, and lake trout. Brown trout is the only species stocked, though landlocked salmon were stocked prior to '74. Fish abundance is excellent due partly to the stocking efforts and partly to the quality of the habitat. Fishing quality is excellent and fishing pressure is high, contributing to a moderate overall economic importance.

**Wildlife:** Maranacook Lake is considered an outstanding wildlife resource. It is home to at least 3 pairs of breeding common loons, and provides feeding habitat for many non-breeding loons. The riparian habitat along the northern section of the lake is highly rated, and the opportunities to view wildlife are good.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# MOUNTAINY POND

**MIDAS #:** 4292  
**Size:** 691 acres

**Township:** Dedham  
**County:** Hancock  
**USGS Quad:** Orland  
**Basin:** Union

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Mountainy Pond has outstanding scenic and shoreline features, and significant fishery features. This undeveloped spectacular pond is adjacent to 1137 foot high Big Hill.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Mountainy Pond is an unmanaged eutrophic pond. Public access is essentially denied by a road gate maintained by landowners. There is a boat landing at the northern end of the pond, adjacent to a gravel road.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This pond has a significant Smallmouth bass fishery. It also has white and yellow perch, pickerel, landlocked salmon, smelt and brook trout.

**Wildlife:** The upland habitat associated with this pond is very highly rated.

**Scenic:** The scenery on this pond is outstanding. It has high dramatic relief, 4 islands, and a partially bouldered shore. The vegetation diversity includes: white pine, spruce/fir, oak, and maple.

**Shore Character:** Shore character is outstanding. The shoreline is 80% forested, and 20% bouldered. There is a narrow beach at the north end of the pond, a small spit beach on the south arm, and several islands scattered about the pond.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# OSSIPEE FLOWAGE (LITTLE)

**MIDAS #:** 9715  
**Size:** 1005 acres

**Township:** Waterboro  
**County:** York  
**USGS Quad:** Buxton  
**Basin:** Saco

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Little Ossipee Flowage contains outstanding wildlife and fisheries resources, as well as significant hydrologic features.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This lake, also known as Ledgemere Pond or Lake Arrowhead, is formed by the damming of the Little Ossipee River. The shores are mostly undeveloped. The water levels fluctuate considerably due to hydroelectric drawdowns. The lake is very narrow, and many arms and coves form a convoluted shoreline. It is also quite shallow, with a maximum depth of 25 feet and an average depth of 6 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This eutrophic waterbody supports an outstanding warmwater fisheries resource, with the principal species being largemouth and smallmouth bass, black crappie, white perch, and chain pickerel. No species are stocked. Fish abundance is good, due to the excellent capacity of the habitat for natural reproduction. However, the drastic drawdowns are thought to limit the fisheries potential. Aesthetic quality of this lake is high, and it receives moderate fishing pressure.

**Wildlife:** Little Ossipee Flowage is an outstanding wildlife resource because it is known to be the home of the rare Blandings turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*), which is on the list of threatened species in Maine. The lake also has moderate value wetland habitat for waterfowl, and offers good opportunities for hunting and trapping.

**Scenic:** No rating, but the undeveloped nature of this flowage makes it quite scenic.

**Shore Character:** No rating, but the shoreline is highly convoluted and interesting.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** This lake is significant because it contains a complex esker and an assemblage of glacial kames.

# PARKER POND

**MIDAS #:** 5186  
**Size:** 1513 acres

**Township:** Fayette  
**County:** Kennebec  
**USGS Quad:** Farmington Falls  
**Basin:** Androscoggin

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Parker Pond contains outstanding fisheries and wildlife resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This relatively large, developed pond is located near the town of Mount Vernon in central Maine. Almost the entire shore is rimmed with seasonal camps and year-round homes. There is a public boat landing at the northern end. Maximum and average depths are 76 feet and 31 feet respectively.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This oligotrophic lake supports outstanding coldwater and warmwater fisheries, with the principal species being smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, and landlocked salmon. Salmon is the only species that is stocked. There is a dam flowing pond, but there is no fishway. Species diversity and abundance are high, and the fishing quality is excellent. Fishing pressure is heavy, and the overall economic importance is moderate.

**Wildlife:** Parker Pond is considered an outstanding wildlife resource. It contains high value riparian and upland habitats, providing good opportunities to hunt, trap, and view wildlife in the area. The pond supports several pairs of breeding loons that utilize some of the small islands for nesting.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# PEMAQUID POND

MIDAS #: 5704  
Size: 1515 acres

Township: Nobleboro  
County: Lincoln  
USGS Quad: Waldoboro West  
Basin: Coastal

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Pemaquid Pond contains outstanding fisheries and wildlife resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This relatively large, developed pond is located near the town of Damariscotta in coastal Maine. Most of the shoreline is rimmed with seasonal camps and year-round homes. There are two commercial campgrounds and a boat landing providing public access. The pond is narrowed in several spots, and the maximum and average depths are 61 feet and 20 feet respectively. There is no dam on this pond.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This mesotrophic pond supports outstanding coldwater and warmwater fisheries. The principal species are smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel, and brown trout. Presently, brown trout is the only stocked species, though chinook salmon were stocked unsuccessfully in 1938.

**Wildlife:** Pemaquid Pond is considered an outstanding wildlife resource. The riparian habitat associated with this pond is highly rated, while the wetland and upland areas are of moderate value. Species diversity and abundance are also rated as moderate. Opportunities to hunt and view wildlife are considered good. This pond supports several breeding pairs of common loons.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported, but there are numerous small islands and boulders on this pond.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# POCOMOONSHINE LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 1290  
**Size:** 2464 acres

**Township:** Alexander  
**County:** Washington  
**USGS Quad:** Big Lake  
**Basin:** Machias

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Pocomoonshine lake contains outstanding fisheries and wildlife resources, as well as significant geologic features.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This largely undeveloped lake is located in eastern Maine near the Town of Woodland. The lake is not flowed, and the maximum and average depths are 40 feet and 14 feet respectively. There are 3 public boat landings and no campsites.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This mesotrophic waterbody supports outstanding warmwater fisheries. The principal species are smallmouth bass and white perch, and no stocking occurs. All aspects of the habitat are considered to be excellent and provide for very good natural reproduction. Because of the abundance of fish, especially bass, the fishing quality is excellent. Aesthetics are also highly rated, and fishing pressure is moderate.

**Wildlife:** Pocomoonshine Lake is considered an outstanding wildlife resource. It contains extensive areas of high value wetland and riparian habitats, and is home to many breeding pairs of common loons. It is also a traditional bald eagle feeding and nesting area.

**Scenic:** No rating, but the lake does have many scenic islands and a very interesting shoreline configuration.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** This lake contains a type of bedrock outcrop that is important in the geologic interpretation of the Big Lake area, making the lake a significant geologic resource.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# PORTAGE LAKE

MIDAS #: 1602  
Size: 2474 acres

Township: Portage Lake  
County: Aroostook  
USGS Quad: Winterville  
Basin: Saint John

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Portage Lake contains outstanding wildlife and botanic resources, as well as significant fisheries resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This relatively large lake is located at the northern Maine town of Portage Lake. Except for the northern end, the lake shore is developed with seasonal camps and homes. There are at least 3 public boat landings and a float plane landing. This lake is part of the popular Fish River Canoe Trip. Maximum and average depths are 25 feet and 10 feet respectively. The use of outboard motors is restricted around a "floating island" waterfowl management area.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This shallow, eutrophic lake supports significant coldwater fisheries. The principal species are landlocked salmon, rainbow smelt, and brook trout. No species are stocked, and natural reproduction is considered excellent. Fish abundance is good and fishing pressure is moderate, making this an economically important lake.

**Wildlife:** Portage Lake is considered an outstanding wildlife resource. Waterfowl abundance is very high, and the wetland, riparian, and upland habitats are all excellent. There is an unusual area of floating vegetation that is managed for waterfowl production. Hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing opportunities are excellent. The rare black tern (Chlidonias niger) is also known to occur here.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** This lake is considered an outstanding botanic resource. There are 3 rare plants that occur here, including Heteranthera dubia (water stargrass), Aster borealis (rush aster), and Nymphaea tetragona (pygmy water-lily).

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# POVERTY POND

**MIDAS #:** none  
**Size:** 35 acres

**Township:** Willimantic  
**County:** Piscataquis  
**USGS Quad:** Sebec Lake  
**Basin:** Penobscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Poverty Pond is a highly scenic undeveloped pond that is surrounded by Davis, Poverty, Hampshire, Deer Hill and Oak Hill Mountains. The highly complex surrounding relief and diverse outstanding shoreline make this pond exceptionally scenic.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Poverty Pond is nestled in between five mountains, and occurs at an elevation of 579 feet. The outflow from the pond flows into Poverty Brook, which flows into Davis Brook. The pond contains 1 island and a bouldered shore. Surrounding plant communities include an emergent marsh and a spruce/fir forest.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** Not rated by DIFW.

**Wildlife:**

**Scenic:** High dramatic relief, an island, a bouldered shore, a marsh, and no development all combine for outstanding scenery on this pond.

**Shore Character:** The outstanding character of this shore is due to a diversity of surrounding vegetation (50% forested, 30% peat/marsh, 10% ledge, 10% boulder), and to a large bedrock slab, a rocky shoreline, and a rock island.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# PUSHAW LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 0080  
**Size:** 5056 acres

**Township:** Old Town  
**County:** Penobscot  
**USGS Quad:** Bangor  
**Basin:** Penobscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Pushaw Lake contains outstanding wildlife and botanic resources, as well as significant fisheries and cultural resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This relatively large lake is located a few miles northwest of Bangor. Except for scattered boggy areas, most of its shoreline is rimmed with homes and seasonal camps. There are several islands present. Pushaw stream at the northern end is a popular canoe trip. There are several boat landings providing public access to the lake, and there is at least one public beach. The lake is very shallow, and has experienced algae problems associated with accelerated eutrophication. Average depth is 11 feet, and maximum depth is 28 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This eutrophic waterbody supports significant warmwater fisheries, with the principal species being smallmouth bass, white perch, and chain pickerel. Brook trout are occasionally caught in winter. The habitat is considered excellent for natural reproduction. The lake is not stocked. Fishing pressure is heavy and overall economic importance is moderate.

**Wildlife:** Pushaw lake is considered an outstanding wildlife resource because of its high species abundance (mostly waterfowl) and the fact that it offers high quality hunting and trapping. Wetland areas associated with the lake are very important for waterfowl, and riparian areas are also considered productive.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** Two rare plants occur here, making this lake an outstanding botanic resource. These are: water stargrass (*Heteranthera dubia*) and littorella (*Littorella americana*).

**Cultural:** This area contains two historical or archeological sites of moderate overall importance, making it a significant cultural resource.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# SAINT GEORGE LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 9971  
**Size:** 1095 acres

**Township:** Liberty  
**County:** Waldo  
**USGS Quad:** Liberty  
**Basin:** Coastal

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Saint George Lake contains outstanding fisheries and wildlife resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This developed lake is located in along Route 3 between Augusta and Belfast. Lake Saint George State Park, a popular picnic and swimming area, is on the western shore near the highway. There are also two public boat landings. Maximum depth is 65 feet, and average depth is 24 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This oligotrophic waterbody supports outstanding coldwater and warmwater fisheries. The principal species are largemouth and smallmouth bass, white perch, chain pickerel, and landlocked salmon. Brook trout and brown trout are also present; salmon and brook trout are stocked. This lake produces some of the largest landlocked salmon in Maine, partly due to the excellent quality of the habitat. Fish are abundant, providing high quality fishing. Moderate fishing pressure makes this an economically important resource.

**Wildlife:** Saint George Lake is considered an outstanding wildlife resource. Several pairs of common loons nest here, and the lake is also used as a feeding area for many more nonresident loons (up to 21 loons observed at one time in a recent survey). The riparian and upland habitats associated with this lake are highly rated, and the opportunities to view wildlife are good. Species abundance and diversity are also highly rated.

**Scenic:** No rating, but there are several islands on the lake that enhance the scenic quality.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# SEBAGO LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 5786  
**Size:** 28,771 acres

**Township:** Sebago  
**County:** Cumberland  
**USGS Quad:** Sebago Lake  
**Basin:** Presumpscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Sebago Lake is the largest and one of the most significant and heavily used lakes in the entire state. It has outstanding cultural, shoreline, and fishery features, and significant botanical, physical, and scenic features. Rare features include 9 beaches, an average depth of 107 feet, and a maximum depth of 316 feet, the deepest lake in Maine.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Sebago Lake is a large oligotrophic lake located in southern Maine approximately 10 miles northwest of Portland. The lake has a complex shoreline, contains numerous islands, and several large beaches. Portions of the lake shoreline are lined with dense residential and summer cottage homes. Sebago Lake is also the water supply for the greater Portland area.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** There are twenty-two species of fish occur in Sebago Lake. Principal fishery species include lake trout, landlocked salmon, lake whitefish, smallmouth bass, and burbot (cusk). State record brown trout, landlocked salmon, chain pickerel, lake whitefish, and cusk have all come from Sebago Lake.

### **Wildlife:**

**Scenic:** Significant scenic features on Sebago Lake include an irregular shoreline, numerous islands and beaches, and some undeveloped shoreline areas.

**Shore Character:** Sebago Lake has a diversity of significant shoreline features; several large narrow beaches, a large pocket beach, an extensive spit beach, several types of bedrock ledges, and some pockets of rocky shoreline.

**Botanic:** Awiwort, Subularia aquatica, has been reported from islands at the northern end of Sebago Lake. This is a state listed special concern species.

**Cultural:** Sebago Lake has several outstanding cultural features including the old Cumberland/Oxford Canal.

**Geologic:** Significant geologic features include Sebago Pluton and Frye's Leap.

**Hydrologic:** Sebago Lake is the water supply for the greater Portland area.

# SEBASTICOOK LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 2264  
**Size:** 4288 acres

**Township:** Newport  
**County:** Penobscot  
**USGS Quad:** Stetson  
**Basin:** Kennebec

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Sebasticook Lake contains outstanding wildlife and botanic resources, as well as significant fisheries resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This large, developed lake is located at the town of Newport, about 25 miles west of Bangor. There are two public boat landings, and the lake is the start of the Sebasticook River East Branch Canoe Trip. Average depth is 20 feet, and maximum depth is 50 feet. This lake has historically been polluted with heavy metals and other substances by tanneries and other industries in the area. There is a restoration program currently underway to improve water quality.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This mesotrophic lake supports significant warmwater fisheries, with the principal species being largemouth and smallmouth bass, black crappie, white perch and chain pickerel. No species are stocked, and the crappie was introduced by accident in the 1960's. There is a dam controlling water levels, but no fishway exists. Fish abundance and diversity are high, and the habitat is considered excellent for reproduction. However, fishing pressure is low because of the pollution problem, and the lake is not considered economically important.

**Wildlife:** Sebasticook Lake is an outstanding wildlife resource because of the high value riparian and upland habitats associated with it, and because of a high rating for species rarity (unknown species). It also contains some important wetland areas used by waterfowl, and provides excellent hunting opportunities. Trapping and wildlife viewing values are also significant.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** This lake is considered an outstanding botanic resource because of the presence of the endangered Vasey's Pondweed (Potamogeton vaseyi).

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# SEBEC LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 0848  
**Size:** 6,803 acres

**Township:** Willimantic  
**County:** Piscataquis  
**USGS Quad:** Sebec Lake  
**Basin:** Penobscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Sebec Lake has outstanding fishery and cultural resources and significant shoreline and geologic features. This large lake just north of Dover-Foxcroft has a highly irregular shoreline, which coupled with complex surrounding relief, is very scenic.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This 6,803 acre lake is oligotrophic, and contains warm and coldwater fisheries. Average depth is 42 feet and maximum depth is 155 feet. There are numerous points of access along the shoreline, including access at Peaks-Kenney State Park. Boat landings are available for 2-wheel drive vehicles.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** Fisheries on this lake are outstanding. Principal fisheries are for smallmouth bass, white perch, pickerel, landlocked salmon, and lake trout (stocked). Brown bullhead, burbot, yellow perch, rainbow smelt and brook trout are also present.

### **Wildlife:**

**Scenic:** The lake was not surveyed in the scenic evaluation. However, this lake has an irregular shoreline, several islands, and highly complex surrounding relief.

**Shore Character:** This lake has significant shoreline features, however specific details are not available because the lake was not flown.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** This lake has outstanding cultural features. Twenty three historical sites exist on the lake. The overall significance of the sites is believed to be high, and these areas are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. More site evaluation work needs to be performed.

**Geologic:** Sebec Lake has a significant rock outcrop.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# SECOND POND

**MIDAS #:** 0441  
**Size:** 64 acres

**Township:** Dedham  
**County:** Hancock  
**USGS Quad:** Orland  
**Basin:** Penobscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Second Pond has outstanding scenic and shoreline features, as well as significant fishery resources. This 64 acre pond is tucked between six small mountain ridges that abruptly rise from the shoreline creating a spectacular setting.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Second Pond is an oligotrophic warmwater pond. Average depth is 17 feet and maximum depth is 44 feet. There is one small access road to the pond, which ends on the southern shoreline.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** This pond has a significant chain pickerel fishery. Brook trout are also present in the un reclaimed pond.

### **Wildlife:**

**Scenic:** Outstanding scenery is provided by high dramatic relief, cliffs, and a bouldered shore. The shoreline is completely vegetated, and the dominant communities consist of spruce/fir and white pine forests.

**Shore Character:** The character of this shore is outstanding. It is 20% forested, and 80% bouldered.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# THURSTON POND

MIDAS #: 4321  
Size: 141 acres

Township: Bucksport  
County: Hancock  
USGS Quad: Orland  
Basin: Penobscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Thurston Pond has outstanding scenic and shoreline features. Kings and Orcutt Mountains provide a moderate amount of relief complexity. The irregular shoreline, 1 island, and bouldered shore create a visually pleasing atmosphere.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Thurston Pond is a shallow mesotrophic warmwater pond. Average depth is 11 feet and maximum depth is 25 feet. Access to the pond is provided by a gravel road. A small boat launch is situated along the western shore. A water control structure is located on the southern outlet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** No significant features reported. White perch is the principal fishery species. Other species include brown bullhead, yellow perch, and pumpkinseed sunfish.

### **Wildlife:**

**Scenic:** This pond has outstanding scenery due to medium shoreline relief, an island, a bouldered shore, and a marsh. The surrounding forest consists of white pine.

**Shore Character:** This pond's extensive rocky shore (90%) is broken only by a small marsh (10%). Numerous large boulders dominate the shoreline and add to the overall scenic diversity.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# VIRGINIA LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 3274  
**Size:** 145 acres

**Township:** Stoneham  
**County:** Androscoggin  
**USGS Quad:** East Stoneham  
**Basin:** Presumpscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Virginia Lake is nestled between two mountains, and is adjacent to the White Mountain National Forest. It has outstanding scenic and shore character features, and significant fishery features.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Virginia Lake is a fairly small lake located in southwestern Maine. The lake has two mountains directly adjacent to its shore, which enhance its beauty. It is a mesotrophic lake that contains a principal fisheries of white perch and chain pickerel. Virginia Lake has an average depth of 10 feet and a maximum depth of 28 feet. The lake has boat access on its southeastern shore.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

**Fisheries:** Ten fish species inhabit this warmwater lake including brook trout, sunfish, pickerel and yellow perch.

**Wildlife:**

**Scenic:** Virginia Lake has outstanding scenic qualities including a high complexity of surrounding relief, a beach, a slightly irregular shoreline, and a general lack of shoreline development.

**Shore Character:** A large broad beach, surrounding forest, and small marsh enhance the shore character of this lake.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

# WARREN POND

**MIDAS #:** 5584  
**SIZE:** 45 acres

**Township:** South Berwick  
**County:** York  
**USGS Quad:** York Harbor  
**Basin:** Piscataqua

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Warren Pond is an isolated, completely undeveloped lake in southern Maine, a truly rare feature. It has outstanding botanical and fisheries resources. There are several rare plant species along the shoreline.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Warren Pond is a small pond located in southern Maine. There is no vehicular access available, although two 4-wheel drive trails exist within a half mile of the pond. The pond has an average depth of 13 feet and a maximum depth of 32 feet. It is a fairly isolated pond for southern Maine. The lake shores are undeveloped and access is limited.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** This is a eutrophic pond managed for coldwater fisheries. It is stocked with brook trout and also contains brown bullhead. The pond was reclaimed in 1952 and 1962.

**Wildlife:** No known significant features.

**Scenic:** No significant scenic features reported.

**Shore Character:** The shoreline is completely undeveloped.

**Botanic:** Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*), and smooth winterberry (*Ilex laevigata*) are found around the pond shoreline. Arrow arum (*Peltandra virginica*) grows in shallow weeded parts of the pond.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

**Hydrologic:** No significant features reported.

## **Outstanding Lakes of the Unorganized Townships**

This section of the report presents a summary of the findings for each lake within the unorganized townships that was judged to have cumulative resource values that are of statewide significance. Lakes are listed alphabetically.

# ALLAGASH LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 9787  
**Size:** 4260 acres

**Township:** T8 R14 WELS  
**County:** Piscataquis  
**USGS Quad:** Allagash Lake  
**Basin:** Penobscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** This is a large, completely undeveloped lake with outstanding fisheries, wildlife, scenic, shoreline character, and physical feature resources. It is part of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Allagash Lake is an outstanding oligotrophic waterbody in a natural, undammed state (uncommon for a lake of this size in this area of the State). Maximum depth is 89 feet and average depth is 35 feet. It is relatively inaccessible, with no vehicle access within one mile of the shore. The use of outboard motors is prohibited on this lake.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** This lake supports an outstanding coldwater fisheries, and is not artificially stocked. Brook trout, lake trout, lake whitefish, and cusk are the principle species; the lake has never been reclaimed.

**Wildlife:** The area around this lake supports an outstanding wildlife resource. Ospreys, loons, and Bonapartes gulls are known to nest in this area of unusually high species diversity.

**Scenic:** Allagash Lake contains several significant scenic characteristics, including mountain views, diverse vegetation, ledgy outcrops, islands and beaches.

**Shore Character:** This lake contains a diverse shoreline with beaches, rock ledges, and open areas.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** The area contains some unusual ice caves as well as unusual bedrock outcrops.

# ALLIGATOR LAKE

MIDAS #: 4498  
Size: 1159 acres

Township: T34 MD  
County: Hancock  
USGS Quad: Lead Mountain  
Basin: Union

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** This is an accessible, largely undeveloped lake in a relatively uninhabited region of eastern Maine. It has outstanding fisheries and scenic resources, as well as significant shoreline characteristics, making it a high value lake for recreation.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Alligator Lake is an hours drive from Bangor. There is good access from Route 9 or the Stud Mill Road. Though easily accessible it possesses a wild and unspoiled quality. There are a few seasonal dwellings and a boat landing on the lake. Though a natural lake, the water level was raised substantially by construction of a dam at the outlet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

**Fisheries:** This is an oligotrophic lake supporting an outstanding coldwater fisheries resource. The principal species are landlocked salmon and brook trout, with salmon being stocked. The lake has never been reclaimed.

**Wildlife:** This lake is a foraging area for bald eagles. There is a significant loon population.

**Scenic:** Alligator is rated as having outstanding scenic values because of the high diversity of physical features around the lake, namely beaches, rock ledges, and open shorelines.

**Shore Character:** This lake is rated as having significant shoreline character. There are noteworthy sand beaches, rocky ledges, and areas of open shoreline.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

# AMBEJEJUS LAKE

**MIDAS #:** PAMB  
**Size:** 3289 acres

**Township:** T1 R9 WELS  
**County:** Piscataquis  
**USGS Quad:** Norcross  
**Basin:** Penobscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** This lake has significant fisheries, scenic, and shoreline character resources. Views of nearby Mount Katahdin from the lake are dramatic.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** Ambajejus Lake is part of a chain of lakes that includes Pemadumcook Lake and North and South Twin Lakes. It is highly developed, with over 320 seasonal and year-round dwellings along its shoreline. The lake is also highly flowed, with vast, sandy beaches and boulder-studded shorelines becoming exposed during times of low water. Boat access is excellent.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** This oligotrophic lake supports significant coldwater and warmwater fisheries. The principal species are white perch, chain pickerel, landlocked salmon, rainbow smelt, and lake trout. Both salmon and trout are stocked.

**Wildlife:** No significant features reported.

**Scenic:** Ambajejus Lake affords wonderful views of surrounding mountains of Baxter State Park. It possesses diverse shoreline configurations as well as significant ledges, boulders and beaches.

**Shore Character:** The shore of this lake is rated as having significant value because of extensive sand beaches, rocks, and open shorelines.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

# ARNOLD POND

**MIDAS #:** 3332  
**Size:** 148 acres

**Township:** Coburn Gore  
**County:** Franklin  
**USGS Quad:** Arnold Pond  
**Basin:** Kennebec

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Arnold Pond is a small, partially developed pond with a significant fisheries resource and outstanding scenic and cultural characteristics. It gets its name from the fact that the ill-fated Benedict Arnold party made camp at this site.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This pond is located in western Maine adjacent to Route 27 about one mile from the Canadian border. It is nestled in a high valley among scenic, ledgey hills. Access to the pond is via a boat landing along the highway. There were five dwellings along the pond as of 1988. Maximum depth is 62 feet and average depth is 26 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** Arnold Pond is an oligotrophic waterbody containing a significant coldwater fishery. The principal species are landlocked salmon and brook trout, and the pond is highly rated for productivity. No species are stocked, and the pond has never been reclaimed.

**Wildlife:** This is an historic golden eagle area.

**Scenic:** This pond received an outstanding scenic rating due to dramatic relief, vertical ledges, cliffs, interesting shoreline configuration, and diverse vegetation.

**Shore Character:** The shoreline is considered to have small, though significant beaches, ledges, and open shorelines.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** This area constitutes an outstanding cultural resource because it was used as a campsite by the Benedict Arnold Expedition.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

# ATTEAN POND

MIDAS #: 2682  
Size: 2745 acres

Township: Attean Township  
County: Somerset  
USGS Quad: Attean  
Basin: Kennebec

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Attean Pond has outstanding fisheries, scenic, shore character, botanic, and physical feature resources. It includes numerous sand beaches, islands, and rocky outcrops. Almost the entire eastern shore of the lake is State of Maine Public Reserve Land, and the lake is used by canoeists as an integral part of the popular Moose River "bow trip".

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This lake is situated near the Town of Jackman, an area famous for its excellent hunting, fishing, and canoeing, in the western part of the State. It is moderately developed, with 23 seasonal dwellings clustered on islands. There are no dams on this lake. Maximum depth is 54 feet and average depth is 15 feet. The lake shoreline is protected through a conservation easement.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** Attean Pond has an outstanding fisheries resource. It is a mesotrophic waterbody, managed primarily for coldwater fish. The principal species are landlocked salmon (actively stocked), rainbow smelt, brook trout, and lake trout. No ice fishing is allowed.

**Wildlife:** Bald eagles have been sighted here, but no nests found. There is a large loon population.

**Scenic:** This lake received an outstanding scenic rating because of dramatic relief, a high diversity of special physical features such as beaches, islands, and rocky outcrops.

**Shore Character:** The shoreline was rated as outstanding due to dominant sand beaches and rock ledges, as well as extensive areas of open shoreline.

**Botanic:** This area received an outstanding rating for old-growth Pine and Jack Pine sites. It is also the home of Nymphaea Tetragona, the Pygmy Water-lily, a rare species of special concern in Maine.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** Attean Pond was rated outstanding for excellent sand beaches and outcrops critical to geologic interpretation.

# AZISCOHOS LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 3290  
**Size:** 6700 acres

**Township:** Lincoln Plantation  
**County:** Oxford  
**USGS Quad:** Oquossoc  
**Basin:** Androscoggin

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Aziscohos Lake was rated as having outstanding fisheries, wildlife, and cultural resources, and significant scenic and shoreline resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This a large, developed lake in the mountains of western Maine close to the border of New Hampshire. It has long, narrow shape, and is nearly 15 miles in length. It is a flowed lake and experiences dramatic draw-downs during dry periods. As of 1988, there were 126 seasonal dwellings on the lake. Maximum depth is 60 feet and average depth is 31 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** Aziscohos is a mesotrophic lake supporting an outstanding coldwater fishery. The principal species are landlocked salmon and brook trout. The lake is closed to ice fishing. There is a public boat landing with good access.

**Wildlife:** The area has an outstanding wildlife resource, with high ratings for both species abundance, diversity, and rarity, and for excellent habitat. There are historic deer wintering areas and Bald Eagle nest sites, as well as a current Great Blue Heron colony. Golden Eagles and loons are present.

**Scenic:** This lake exhibits significant scenic resource values, including dramatic relief, ledges, cliffs, boulders, islands, and beaches. The shoreline configuration is high in complexity, but the lake has some inharmonious development that detracts from the scenic quality.

**Shore Character:** Aziscohos received a significant rating for its numerous beaches, rock ledges, and open shoreline areas.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** This area has outstanding cultural resources. There are 15 known prehistoric archeological sites, with the possibility that more significant sites will be found.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

# BALD MOUNTAIN POND

**MIDAS #:** 0314  
**Size:** 1152 acres

**Township:** Bald Mountain Twp.  
**County:** Somerset  
**USGS Quad:** Greenville  
**Basin:** Penobscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Bald Mountain Pond is a relatively isolated, undeveloped pond with outstanding fisheries, wildlife, scenic, and shoreline character resources. There are historic deer wintering areas and high value wetlands associated with this pond.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This is a picturesque pond located in an isolated area near the Town of Greenville. It is rimmed by mountains and its shoreline has many coves and interesting features. There is a boat landing on the pond, but only a few dwellings (as of 1988). The pond is not flowed. Maximum depth is 62 feet and average depth is 18 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** This is an outstanding oligotrophic pond with brook trout as the principal species. The rare blueback trout is also found here. The pond is not artificially stocked, and no ice fishing is allowed.

**Wildlife:** The area around Bald Mtn. Pond is rated as outstanding for wildlife, with historic deer wintering areas and high value wetlands at the inlet and outlet.

**Scenic:** Outstanding scenic features on this pond include dramatic relief, cliffs, boulders, islands, and beaches, as well as diverse vegetation and interesting shoreline configuration.

**Shore Character:** Shore characteristics were rated as outstanding on this pond, with extensive rock ledges and open shoreline, and some sand beaches.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

# BEAVER POND

**MIDAS #:** 3310  
**Size:** 179 acres

**Township:** Magalloway Plt.  
**County:** Oxford  
**USGS Quad:** Oquosoc  
**Basin:** Androscoggin

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Beaver Pond has outstanding fisheries and scenic resources, and is associated with a historic deer wintering area. There is no vehicle access and no boat landing, though there is one seasonal dwelling on the pond.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This small, undeveloped pond is located in the mountains of western Maine in the Rangeley Lakes region. It provides excellent habitat for the fishery resource.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** Beaver Pond is a mesotrophic waterbody with brook trout as the principal coldwater species. The pond provides outstanding reproductive, physical, and water quality features for the fish, as well as high quality fishing and aesthetic experience values for the fisherman. No artificial stocking occurs, and the pond is closed to ice fishing. Maximum depth is 72 feet and average depth is 20 feet.

**Wildlife:** There is a historic deer wintering area associated with this pond.

**Scenic:** Beaver Pond is rated as having outstanding scenic resources. The physical relief around the pond is very dramatic, and the special features, such as water quality are highly rated.

**Shore Character:** There are a few noteworthy rock ledges on the pond.

**Botanic:** No significant resources reported.

**Cultural:** No significant features reported.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

# BIG LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 1288  
**Size:** 10305 acres

**Township:** Grand Lake Stream Twp.  
**County:** Washington  
**USGS Quad:** Big Lake  
**Basin:** Saint Croix

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Big Lake is a large, developed lake with outstanding fisheries, wildlife, botanic, and cultural features.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This lake is located in eastern Maine near the Canadian border. It is connected to a chain of numerous other lakes in the area by Grand Lake Stream, and is part of a popular canoe trip. There is a boat landing and good access to the lake. The lake is not flowed by a dam. Maximum depth is 70 feet and average depth is 12 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** This mesotrophic lake supports an outstanding fisheries of both cold and warmwater species. The principal fisheries are smallmouth bass, white perch, and landlocked salmon. There is a good winter fishery.

**Wildlife:** Big Lake is rated outstanding for wildlife resources. The inlet (Musquash Stream) is a productive waterfowl area, and there is an osprey nest along the inlet. The numerous islands and marshy coves provide abundant nesting habitat for loons.

**Scenic:** Big Lake was not rated for scenic character. However, there are numerous islands and rock ledges dotting the lake, and the shoreline is very diverse, adding to the scenic quality of the area.

**Shore Character:** Not rated.

**Botanic:** An old growth white pine area is associated with this lake.

**Cultural:** Rated outstanding in this category. Seventeen archeological sites have been discovered in the area, with a high probability that more significant sites will be found.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

# CARRY POND (WEST)

**MIDAS #:** 0048  
**Size:** 675 acres

**Township:** Carrying Place Town Twp.  
**County:** Somerset  
**USGS Quad:** Little Bigelow Mtn.  
**Basin:** Kennebec

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** West Carry Pond is a small, developed pond with outstanding fisheries and cultural resources. It is the registered site of a field hospital for the Benedict Arnold Expedition.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This relatively inaccessible pond is situated in western Maine near Flagstaff Lake. Access to the pond is limited by a system of road gates controlled by a private campowners association. The Appalachian Trail passes along the southern end of the pond. Maximum depth is 96 feet and average depth is 37 feet. The pond has exceptionally clear water.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** West Carry Pond has an outstanding coldwater fishery, with the principal species being brook trout and lake trout. Abundance of fish is high and the pond offers excellent habitat for fish, with high values for reproduction, water quality, and physical factors.

**Wildlife:** Upland wildlife habitat associated with the pond is highly rated, particularly an historic deer wintering area at the outlet.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** West Carry Pond is considered an outstanding cultural site. It is where the Benedict Arnold Expedition set up a field hospital on their march to Quebec.

**Geologic:** No significant features reported.

# CATHANCE LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 9961  
**Size:** 2905 acres

**Township:** No. 14 Plantation  
**County:** Washington  
**USGS Quad:** Gardner Lake  
**Basin:** Coastal

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Cathance Lake is a developed lake in eastern Maine with outstanding fisheries, wildlife, and geologic resources, and significant cultural resources.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This lake is easily accessed from Route 191, which runs along the western shore. There were 66 dwellings on the lake as of 1988. The lake is divided nearly in two by a prominent peninsula, and there are numerous coves and at least one extensive deadwater. Maximum depth is 75 feet and average depth is 24 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** This oligotrophic lake supports outstanding cold and warmwater fisheries. The principal species are landlocked salmon and smallmouth bass. The bass population is thought to be expanding due to recent construction of a dam and fishway. Salmon are artificially stocked, and the lake is of important economic value.

**Wildlife:** Cathance Lake is considered an outstanding wildlife resource because the inlet is a communal feeding area for bald eagles, and there is high nesting potential in this area for these endangered birds.

**Scenic:** No significant features reported.

**Shore Character:** No significant features reported.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** This area is rated as having significant cultural resources because of the high potential for archeological sites.

**Geologic:** The outstanding geologic character of this lake is due to the presence of a significant outcrop of bedrock and a sand beach.

# CAUCOMGOMOC LAKE

**MIDAS #:** 4012  
**Size:** 5081 acres

**Township:** T6 R14 WELS  
**County:** Piscataquis  
**USGS Quad:** Caucomgomoc Lake  
**Basin:** Penobscot

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE** Caucomgomoc Lake has outstanding fisheries, wildlife, and geologic resources, as well as significant resources in the scenic, shore character, and cultural categories. The area supports bald and golden eagles and Bonapartes gulls.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** This large, undeveloped lake is accessed via a privately controlled gate; there is a boat landing and a campsite in the northeast corner. Caucomgomoc Lake is dam-controlled, and is connected to nearby Loon Lake by Loon Stream. Maximum depth is 79 feet and average depth is 22 feet.

## DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE FEATURES

**Fisheries:** Caucomgomoc Lake is an oligotrophic waterbody that supports outstanding coldwater and warmwater fisheries. The principal species are white perch, lake whitefish, landlocked salmon, and lake trout. There is a fishway at the dam.

**Wildlife:** The upland wildlife habitat around this lake was rated outstanding, supporting Bonapartes gulls and golden eagles, as well as an active bald eagle nest.

**Scenic:** The significant scenic resources include sand and cobble beaches, ledges, islands, diverse vegetation, and exceptional water clarity.

**Shore Character:** The shore is rated significant, with several beaches, some rock ledges, and extensive open shorelines.

**Botanic:** No significant features reported.

**Cultural:** This category is rated significant because of the probability of significant archeological sites in the area.

**Geologic:** The geologic resources are rated outstanding because of important bedrock outcrops that are critical to geologic interpretation.