

Auburn Lake

Auburn Twp., Androscoggin Co.
U.S.G.S. Poland, Lewiston, Maine

Fishes

Landlocked salmon	Rainbow smelt
Brook trout	American eel
Lake trout (togue)	Threespine stickleback
Smallmouth bass	White sucker
Largemouth bass	Golden shiner
White perch	Common shiner
Yellow perch	Fallfish
Chain pickerel	Banded killifish
Hornpout (bullhead)	Pumpkinseed sunfish

Physical Characteristics

Area - 2,260 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 70°F
Maximum depth - 118 feet	100 feet - 47°F

Principal fishery: landlocked salmon, lake trout, smallmouth bass, white perch

Suggested Management

Auburn Lake is a water supply for the greater Lewiston-Auburn area. The water district over the years has purchased nearly all the shoreline area surrounding this lake, and consequently Auburn Lake is almost devoid of all shoreline development. This unique feature offers a rare opportunity for anglers fishing in southern Maine to enjoy a fishing trip with a natural picturesque surrounding usually afforded only in the remote undeveloped portions of Maine. Auburn Lake thermally stratifies in the summer season, and it has a large volume of cold well-oxygenated water providing excellent habitat for coldwater sport fish.

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife initiated a management program for lake trout in the 1950's. Since that time, lake trout have provided a high quality fishery with fish commonly exceeding the 10-pound mark. Despite their existence in the lake for more than 25 years, our surveys have failed to show any natural spawning or wild fish. Consequently, the population is being maintained through annual stockings with hatchery-reared fish.

In recent years, landlocked salmon stocked, at a relatively low rate, have provided additional fishing opportunities for anglers. Periodic stockings with brook trout have also provided additional diversity for anglers, especially along the shore during the spring. Shore fishing is

very popular around Auburn Lake. The roadway along much of the shoreline provides ample opportunity for anglers to take advantage of the very popular white perch run in the spring. Thousands of hours are spent each spring and early summer in pursuit of this popular warmwater gamefish. In recent years, smallmouth bass and largemouth bass have become very popular among the serious bass anglers. Results tabulated from annual bass tournaments indicate that there is a good quality, well-balanced population of both species in this lake.

General law regulations are currently in effect at Auburn Lake and appear to be adequate to maintain the fisheries in this lake at desirable levels. The lake is closed to winter angling because of its designation as a water supply. Due to its location adjacent to the Lewiston-Auburn area, however, it is doubtful this very popular lake could withstand the additional fishing pressure. With heavy utilization during the summer season, exploitation is near the maximum limit that the lake is capable of producing. Any increase in fishing pressure will likely necessitate more restrictive regulations if the quality of Auburn Lake's fishery is to be maintained.

Auburn Lake is very accessible to the angling public. There is one hard-surfaced ramp and several gravel ramps for launching boats. In addition, the roadway surrounding much of the lake affords ample opportunity for shore-angler access. We are fortunate to have a resource like Auburn Lake to use and to enjoy. We must realize, however, that this is a water supply lake, and we all need to share in the responsibility of keeping the lake and its shoreline areas clean. You can help to assure that the privileges we now have are available to us all in the years ahead.

Surveyed - June, 1940 (revised 1963)

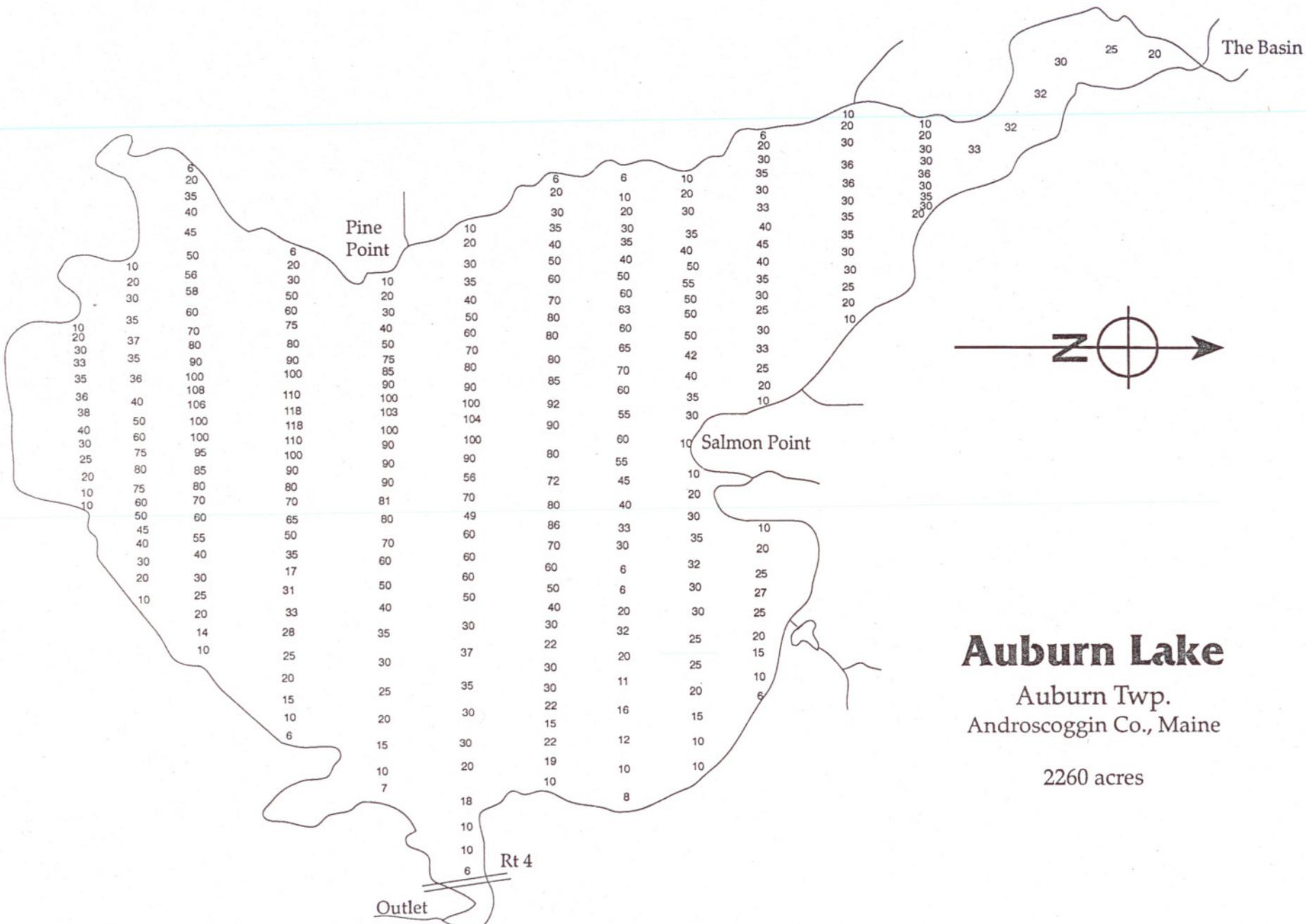
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Androscoggin Co., Maine

2260 acres