LOWER BEAN POND T2 R11, Piscataquis Co. U. S. G. S. Harrington Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Physical Characteristics

Area - 37 acres

Temperatures Surface - 63° F. 26 feet - 45° F.

Maximum depth - 30 feet

Lower Bean Pond is one of a chain of three small ponds which form the headwaters of a tributary to Nahmakanta Lake. The ponds are remote and can be reached only by trail or by small float planes. We found no fish of any kind at the time of our survey, probably because a precipitous, impassable gorge located on the outlet about 1 1/2 miles below Lower Bean Pond has prevented the spread of fish into these waters since the time of the last glaciers.

The water quality of Lower Bean Pond is good for brook trout; there is sufficient cool, well-oxygenated water for trout to occupy most of the pond throughout the summer. Our work also indicates that winterkills should not occur.

The shallow areas of Lower Bean Pond contain many large rocks and logs where trout could find good cover. The principal inlet flows among rocks and cedar roots most of the distance from Middle Bean Pond. However, trout could spawn in gravelly areas along the shore of the pond, at the mouth of a small spring feeder, and near the outlet. The outlet is rocky for a few yards, then it meanders through a meadow for more than a mile before dropping abruptly into the impassable gorge.

We stocked fingerling brook trout in Lower Bean Pond in the fall of 1963. These trout should grow rapidly, and they should provide good fishing in a year or two. We should manage this chain of ponds exclusively for brook trout, and the use or possession of live fish as bait should be prohibited to prevent other species from being introduced.

Surveyed - August 1963

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