

GRASSY POND  
T2R12, Piscataquis County  
U.S.G.S. Harrington Lake, Maine

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows

Golden shiner  
Finescale dace

Physical Characteristics

Area — 54 acres

Maximum depth — 8 feet

Temperatures

Surface — 75°F. (24°C.)

8 feet — 72°F. (22°C.)

Principal fishery: Brook trout

Grassy Pond is a relatively large, shallow trout pond that has recently become more accessible as a result of timber harvesting operations near it. A forest of spruce and fir surrounds the pond. The bottom of the pond is covered with a thick deposit of organic muck. The western part of the pond is so shallow that it is very difficult to paddle a canoe within a few hundred feet of the bog mat that comprises the shore. Deeper water along the shore, and a solid shoreline of ledge and rocks makes access to the water much easier from the east.

Summer water temperatures in Grassy Pond approach the upper tolerance levels for brook trout. However, trout can survive in the slightly cooler water along the bottom, and in areas with spring seepage.

The pond has no well-defined inlets. Some small springs were found during the survey, but their flows were very low. Gravel present in the vicinity of these springs provides a limited amount of spawning area for brook trout. A long, shallow area with no well-defined channel leads to the outlet at the southern end of the pond. This outlet is now blocked by debris and mud that remain from an old beaver dam. Downstream from the pond the outlet flows through an alder and cedar swamp, again with no well-defined channel. The outlet is of little benefit to the pond as a spawning and nursery area for brook trout.

Two minnow species are present in Grassy Pond. Both appear to be abundant, and their presence in the stomachs of the brook trout sampled during the survey indicated that they are being utilized as forage.

Although habitat conditions in Grassy Pond are not favorable for sustaining a large trout population the pond will be managed for the trout that are produced naturally. At present fishing pressure is very

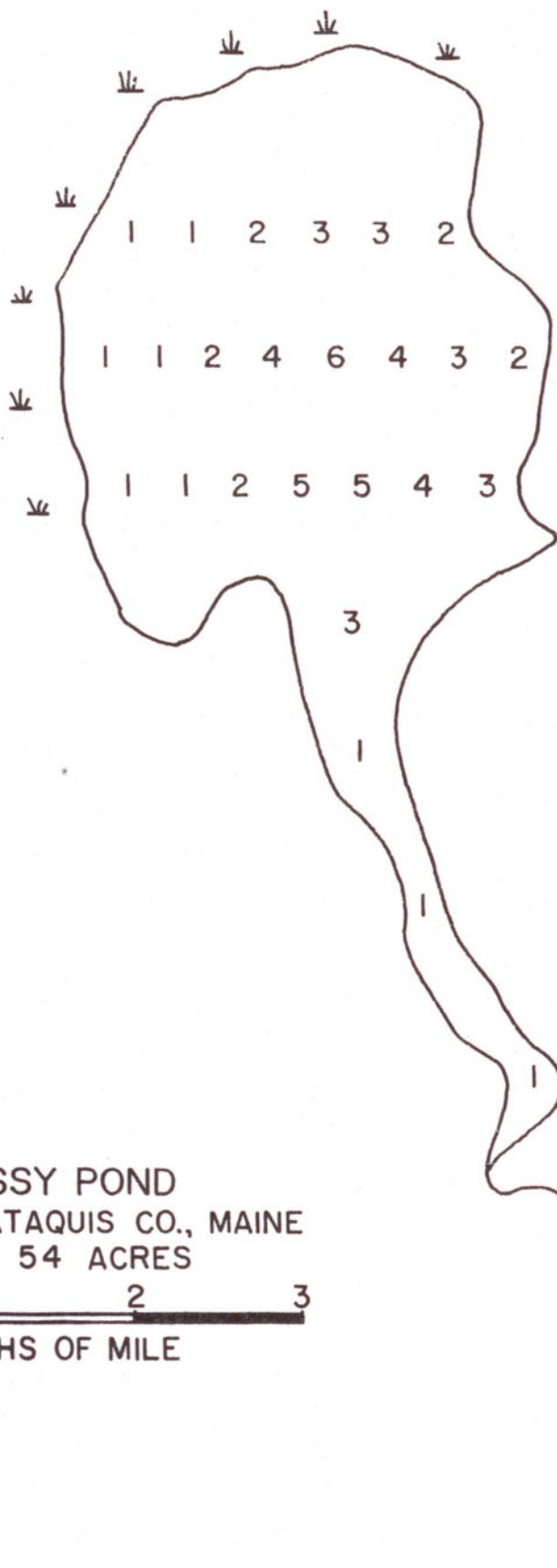
light. General law length and bag limits should maintain the trout population under these conditions. The use of live fish as bait should be prohibited to prevent the introduction of any new species.

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GRASSY POND  
 T2R12, PISCATAQUIS CO., MAINE  
 AREA 54 ACRES

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 TENTHS OF MILE

OUTLET