MARBLE POND Blanchard Plt., Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Kingsbury, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Maximum depth - 4 feet

Minnows Lake chub Golden shiner

Physical Characteristics

Area - 15 acres

Temperatures Surface - 61° F. 4 feet - 61° F.

Principal Fishery: Brook trout

Marble Pond is a small, shallow trout pond. Recently constructed logging roads have provided access to within a few hundred feet of the pond, and timber harvesting has been completed in the forest surrounding the pond.

Floating bog vegetation comprises most of the shoreline of Marble Pond. Though water temperatures are similar at all depths, areas of cool water around springs sustain trout through the warmest periods of the summer. Two minnow species are also present in the pond and compete with the trout for food.

The trout population is maintained entirely through natural reproduction, though suitable spawning sites were not located during the survey. Both the inlet and the outlet, for several hundred yards immediately above and below the pond, are meandering deadwaters bordered by bog vegetation. A series of beaver dams blocks the outlet.

Marble Pond is a typical example of what has happened to many small trout ponds in the forests of Maine. It is not capable of producing many trout, but under conditions of light fishing pressure it enjoyed a reputation of providing good trout fishing. Now the improved access to the pond has increased fishing pressure beyond the point at which it can provide a sustained quality fishery.

Marble Pond will be managed for its wild brook trout population. A regulation prohibiting the use or possession of live fish as bait would help to prevent the introduction of new fish species into the pond. A 5-fish daily bag limit should be established to help distribute the catch throughout the season. Surveyed - August, 1978

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