



MIDAS #0452
SECOND ROACH POND
TA R2 AND T1 R2, FISCATAGUIS CO., MAINE



SECOND ROACH POND

TAR12 and T1R12, Piscataquis Co.
U.S.G.S. Farrar Mountain, Me. (7 ½')

Fishes

Landlocked salmon	Finescale dace
Brook trout	Creek chub
Round whitefish	Fallfish
Rainbow smelt	Longnose sucker
Yellow perch	White sucker
Minnows	Hornpout (bullhead)
Lake chub	Burbot (cusk)
Golden shiner	Pumpkinseed sunfish
Common shiner	Slimy sculpin
Redbelly dace	

Physical Characteristics

Area - 970 acres

Maximum depth - 46 feet

Temperatures:

Surface - 72⁰F

33 feet - 63⁰F

Principal fisheries: Brook trout, landlocked salmon

For a major part of the twentieth century, a log-crib driving dam maintained the water level at Second Roach Pond Access was either at the dam or at the road crossing the inlet from Third Roach Pond. The commercial sporting camps near the outlet provided limited access. The condition of the older logging roads has deteriorated but access is still possible.

The gates were removed from the driving dam in 1969. Planks were reinstalled between the rock-cribs in 1975 to maintain an additional 3 feet of elevation to improve boat access into the pond. Those planks washed out in 1983 and have not been replaced.

Second Roach Pond lies so that the prevailing northwest wind keeps the pond well mixed. Most summers, water temperatures tend to vary little from surface to bottom due to the mixing. However, in years when late-summer conditions cause the pond to stratify, there is a deficiency in dissolved oxygen in the deepest layer. The warm late-summer water temperatures limit the pond's potential to maintain an abundant brook trout population. Lack of a late-summer cold-water refuge also limits the pond's potential to maintain a large population of salmon. Despite the limiting factors, Second Roach Pond does produce good early-season fishing while water temperatures remain cool.

When not blocked by beaver dams, the inlet and outlet of Second Roach Pond contain suitable habitat for natural reproduction of both brook trout and salmon. However, conditions within the pond are limiting due to habitat restrictions and competition. Landlocked salmon were stocked in the 1970's but failed to produce consistently good fishing. Salmon should continue to be stocked occasionally to provide a measure of variety. Stocking hatchery-reared brook trout has produced mixed results.

Second Roach Pond once held a population of lake whitefish. That population disappeared by the late 1970s. Yellow perch were reported in the 1990s and quickly became abundant throughout the entire lower Roach River drainage by the early 2000s. Both of these occurrences are significant changes.

Splake are stocked upstream in Fourth Roach Pond. It is possible that a few fish will move downstream and be caught in Second Roach Pond.

Second Roach Pond contains a population of smelts that supports one of the more popular spring dip net fisheries in the area. The two major tributaries, the Roach River and Hinckley Brook, have yielded many

limits of smelts over the years. Yellow perch could have a significant impact on the Second Roach Pond smelt population.

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