

WEST SHIRLEY BOG  
Shirley, Piscataquis Co.  
U.S.G.S. Big Squaw, ME (7 1/2)

Fishes

Brook trout	Fallfish
Minnows	Finescale dace
Golden shiner	White sucker
Common shiner	Hornpout
Creek chub	

Physical Characteristics

Area - 275 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 72°F
Maximum depth - 8 feet	8 feet - 70°F

Principal fishery: Brook trout, bait species

West Shirley Bog is a long, meandering stream that was once dammed for driving pulpwood. The old flowage line is still evident along most of the shore. West Shirley Bog supports an abundance of aquatic and bog plants. Moose, deer, and a variety of song birds frequent the sedge meadows that reach from the water's edge to the treeline. The bog can be reached over a gravel woods road from Shirley Mills.

West Shirley Bog provides a seasonal fishery for brook trout. Historical reports suggest that the fishery was better during periods when the bog was dammed. Because summer water temperatures in the main channel are too high for brook trout, the fish must seek refuge in springs and in the small tributary streams. There is no suitable spawning

and nursery habitat for brook trout within the main channel. Natural reproduction can occur in sections of the Piscataquis River either downstream or upstream.

West Shirley Bog is ideally suited for its several minnow species and suckers. The bog has long been used as a source for live bait. The continued use of West Shirley Bog as a bait source should be encouraged.

General law regulations should be adequate to protect the limited wild brook trout fishery. Because of the high summer water temperatures and competition from several other species, stocking hatchery-reared brook trout is not recommended.

Surveyed - July, 1990

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

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WEST SHIRLEY BOG  
T3R5 BKP EKR, SHIRLEY  
PISCATAQUIS CO., MAINE

AREA 275 ACRES

