

UNNAMED (1040) POND
T2R12, Piscataquis County
U.S.G.S. Harrington Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows

Finescale dace

Physical Characteristics

Area — 30 acres

Temperatures

Maximum depth — 25 feet

Surface — 73° F.

25 feet — 46° F.

Principal fishery: Brook trout

While this small body of water is unnamed on the U.S.G.S. Harrington Lake Quadrangle, it is known locally as "1040" Pond in reference to its elevation indicated on the topographic map. It is located approximately two miles to the southeast of Caribou Lake. Recent timber harvesting operations in the area have created vehicular access to within a short distance of the shoreline.

Shortly after the road was constructed, anglers began to fish the pond, but reported catching no trout. The July, 1974 survey revealed that "1040" Pond is typical of many of the small bodies of water situated in the spruce-fir forests of northern Maine. Its waters are slightly acidic, and they stratify during the summer months creating an oxygen deficiency in the cool depths. However, water of adequate quality for trout does exist at depths less than 15 feet. During especially severe winters it is possible that decomposition in the thick layer of organic material on the bottom may cause oxygen deficiencies that would result in winter kills of species such as brook trout.

Only one minnow species, the finescale dace, was found during the survey. The pond lies at the headwaters of Bean Brook, a tributary to Pollywog Stream and Nahmakanta Lake. Though trout are common in the drainage, impassible barriers on the outlet, the susceptibility of the pond to periodic winter kill, a lack of suitable spawning and nursery area, or a combination of these factors probably prevented a viable wild trout population from becoming established in "1040" Pond.

There are no tributaries. Possibilities for any trout reproduction are limited to a few gravelly areas along the shore, and to the outlet immediately below the pond. Experience in managing similar waters in the Moosehead Region has shown that even with the possibility of periodic winter kills, trout can live in this type of environment. During years when the water quality remains suitable, trout will grow well in the absence of major competition from other fish species. The dace provide a source of food for the larger trout.

In 1974 fall fingerling brook trout from a strain of wild adults were stocked in "1040" Pond. Creel checks in 1975 and 1976 indicate that these fish have indeed survived, grown well, and produced a satisfactory fishery. Future stockings will be considered after the pond is evaluated for the success of natural reproduction that may have occurred.

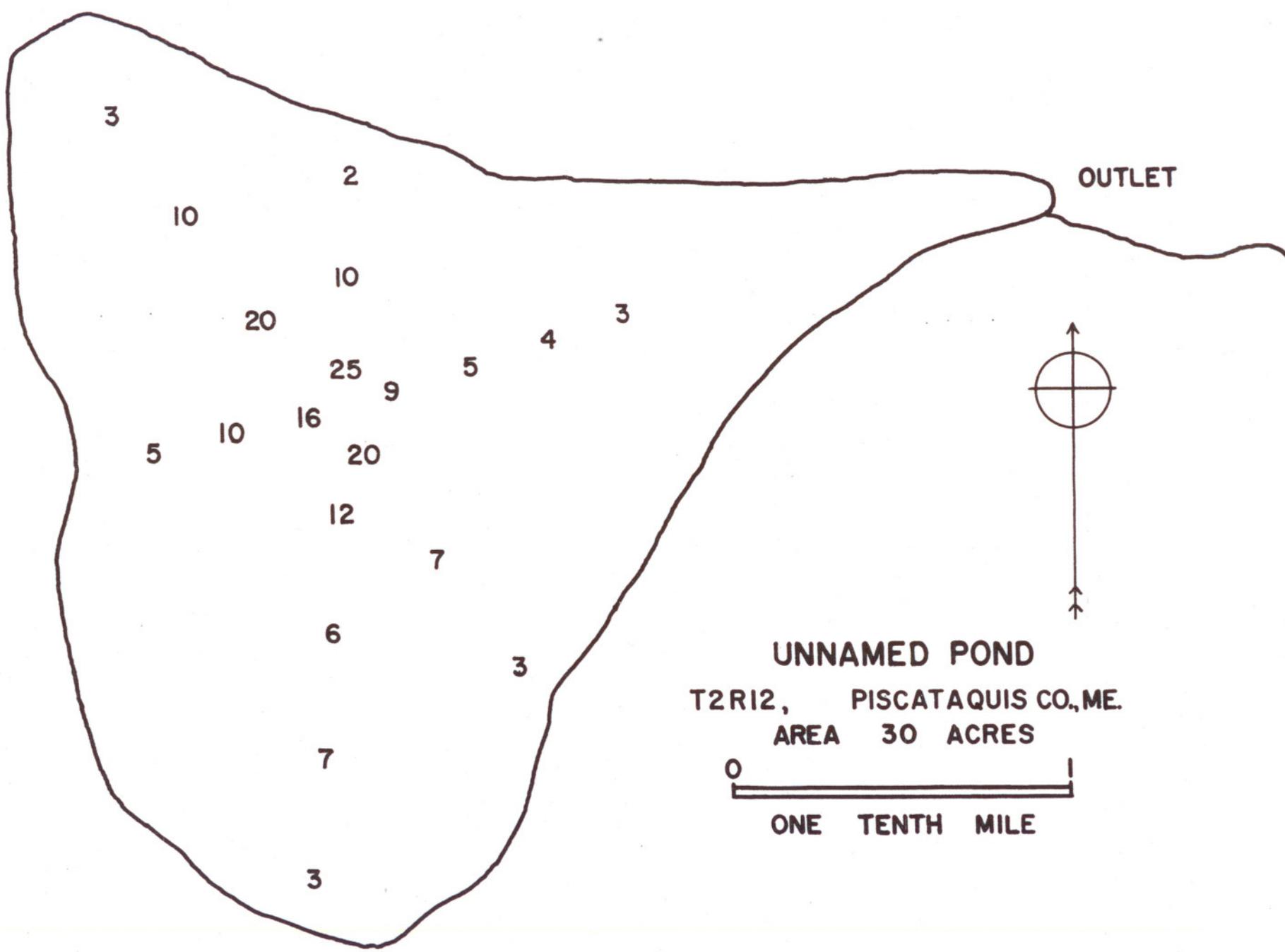
Because of the small size and accessibility of the pond, its trout population is very vulnerable to fishing pressure. A reduction in the daily bag limit will be considered. A regulation to prohibit the use or possession of live fish as bait will also be requested to prevent the introduction of new fish species that would compete with the brook trout in "1040" Pond.

Surveyed — July, 1976

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UNNAMED POND
T2R12, PISCATAQUIS CO., ME.
AREA 30 ACRES

