

HURRICANE POND
T5 R20 WELS, Somerset Co., Maine
U.S.G.S. St. Zacharie, Que.

Fishes

Brook trout
White sucker

Minnows
Creek chub
Northern redbelly
dace
Blacknose dace

Physical Characteristics

Area — 54 acres

Temperatures

Maximum depth — 7 feet

Surface — 66°F
6.5 feet — 64°F

Principal Fishery: Brook trout

A log-driving dam and fill placed across what was probably little more than a meandering bog section of Hurricane Brook formed a pond which still exists only because the old, decayed dam sluice is kept plugged by beaver. Hurricane Pond is situated near the headwaters of Hurricane Brook, tributary to Dole Brook, which empties into the North Branch of the Penobscot River above Seboomook Lake. The pond is accessible by 2-wheel drive vehicles on the Great Northern Nekoosa Co. road to Boundary Cottage, on the Maine-Quebec border.

Most of the pond is 2 to 3 feet deep with the original meandering stream channel from 5 to 6 feet deep. The deepest point (7 feet) is close to the dam site. Much of the shoreline is bog-type vegetation, and large areas of muck and leatherleaf islands are present, especially on the western end. The remains of an old log crib structure with remnants of machinery projects out into the pond about halfway up the north shore. This wharf-like structure probably included a conveyor and machinery used to unload and dump pulpwood into the pond.

At the time of the survey the water temperatures, oxygen content, acidity and alkalinity measurements were suitable for trout survival during the summer. Several brook trout were caught in nets. Suckers, chubs and dace were present but none were found in great abundance. The principal inlet (Hurricane Brook) was warm and barely suited for trout spawning, and for young trout to thrive. Only one young trout was seen at the time. It was reported to us later that there is a very small spring-fed brook emptying into the pond from the south where the bog area is situated. We did not see this small tributary.

The old dam, now maintained by beaver, is essential, otherwise there would be no pond at all. This structure is an obstruction to trout movements. Natural reproduction is limited to the inlet and perhaps in the small spring brook not seen. The outlet is a series of ledges for a distance of 200 yards or so where it changes to a deadwater area.

Hurricane Pond should be managed for brook trout, but it cannot be expected to produce large numbers for the creel. Stocking of hatchery trout is not required or desirable because the pond is marginal habitat for trout. General law regulations are sufficient to protect the trout at this time.

Surveyed - July, 1981

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T5R20 WELS, SOMERSET CO., MAINE
AREA 54 ACRES

