UPPER MISERY POND
T2 R7, Somerset Co.
U.S.G.S. Brassua Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)
White sucker

Minnows
Creek chub

Physical Characteristics

Area - 18 acres

Maximum depth - 21 feet

Temperatures
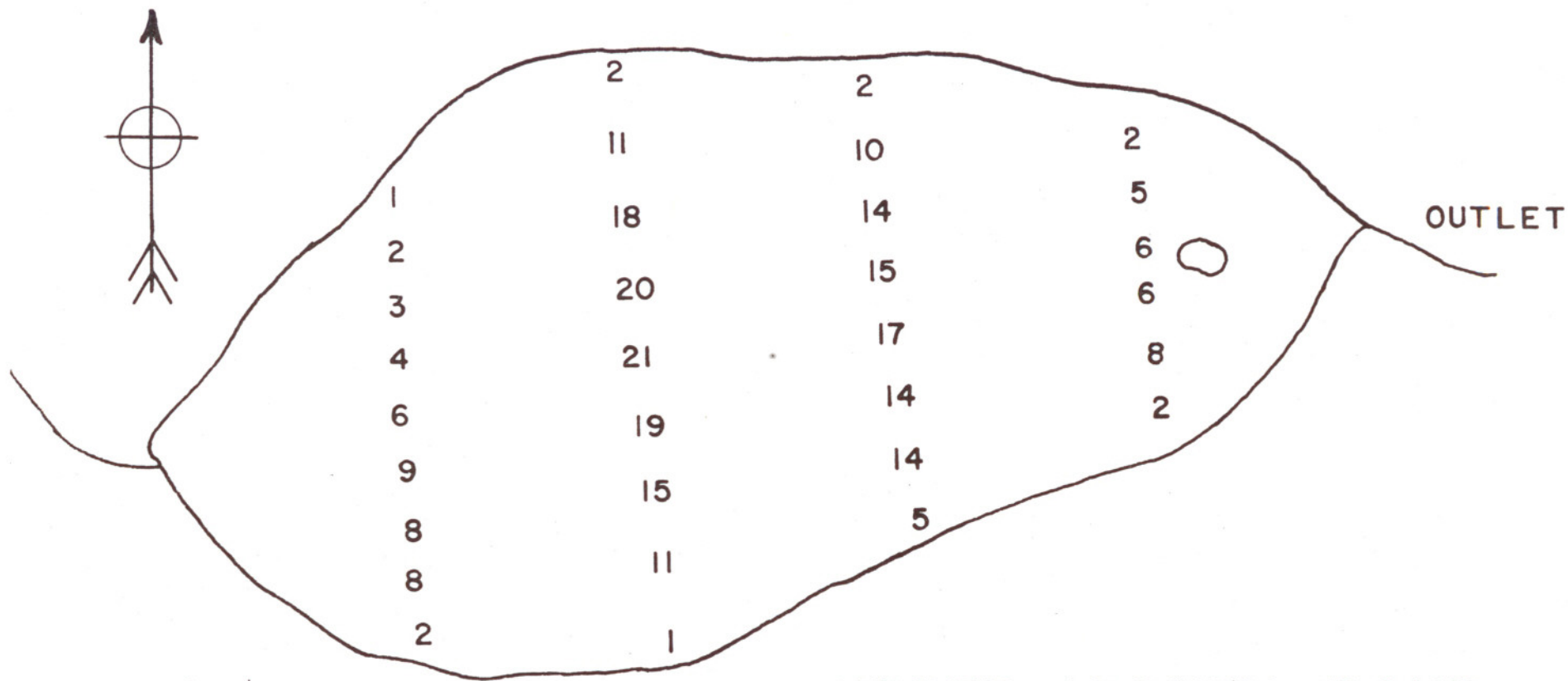Surface - 64° F.
20 feet - 50° F.

Upper Misery Pond is a small trout pond located in the headwaters of Misery Stream. A newly constructed Scott Paper Company road that passes along the northern shore of the pond provides a convenient access route to the pond.

The water quality in Upper Misery Pond is good for cold-water fish to a depth of about 12 feet, but the oxygen content is low below this level. The silty bottom and shoreline partially account for the brown colored water. The inlet has some suitable spawning sites and good nursery areas about 1/8 mile upstream from the pond. Slash from logging operations should be removed from the stream because it has accumulated, caught other debris, and formed barriers to fish migration. Water flows from the pond in several channels through a series of old beaver dams. The majority of the outlet has little habitat suitable for trout because it was recently bulldozed to form a single, straight channel.

A good population of brook trout inhabits the pond, but they are growing slowly for several reasons. The silty bottom and dark water limit the production of aquatic insects. Trout are concentrated in the shallower, well-oxygenated water during the summer, where they must compete with large populations of suckers and chubs for the limited supply of insects. Thus, early trout growth is slow, prolonging the time when they become large enough to eat small fish. Suckers and chubs are not good forage for trout because they soon become too large for trout to utilize.

No changes in the existing general law fishing regulations on Upper Misery Pond are needed at this time.

OUTLET

UPPER MISERY POND

T2 R7, SOMERSET CO., MAINE

18 ACRES

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TENTH OF MILE