

WYMAN LAKE

Pleasant Ridge, Moscow, Caratunk, Carrying
Place, Bowtown and The Forks, Twps. Somerset County
U.S.G.S. Bingham, Little Bigelow Mtn.
and The Forks, Maine

Fishes

Salmon	Minnows (cont'd)
Brook trout	Fallfish (chub)
Lake trout (togue)	Pearl dace
Rainbow trout	Blacknose dace
Yellow perch	Finescale dace
Chain pickerel	Redbelly dace
Hornpout (bullhead)	Common shiner
Smelt	Golden shiner
Eel	Blacknose shiner
White sucker	Fathead minnow
Longnose sucker	Cusk
Minnows	Threespine stickleback
Creek chub	Pumpkinseed sunfish
Lake chub	Banded killifish
	Freshwater sculpin

Physical Characteristics

Area - Approx. 3,146	Temperatures
	Surface - 76°F.
Maximum depth - 140 feet	130 feet - 46°F.

Principal Fishery: Salmon, lake trout, rainbow trout, yellow perch, chain pickerel, smelt.

Wyman Lake was formed in 1930 by a 150 foot dam on the Kennebec River and impounds water for approximately 15 miles. Power generation and log driving have been the main use of the impoundment. Department concern for a fishery at Wyman lake has not been a high priority until recently. This lake has had little fishing pressure in the past due to the log drives and the storage of pulpwood in the lake itself. Since the elimination of the drive in 1978, fishing pressure has increased.

The lake is unusual in that the thermocline, the thin layer of water lying between the warmer surface layer and the cooler bottom layer, is found at a depth of around 80 feet, whereas a thermocline is normally located nearer the surface. The water intake for power generation is located at a depth of 50 feet, and drawing water at this depth depresses the thermocline. The large volume of inflowing water from the Kennebec also depresses the thermocline by mixing with the deeper cooler water of the impoundment. The deeper

thermocline reduces but does not eliminate the coldwater fish habitat in Wyman Lake because the cool deeper layer of water extends for 6 miles behind the dam to Decker Brook.

Coldwater fish are recruited to the fishery by direct stocking, fish dropping down from waters higher in the watershed, and by natural reproduction from those fish inhabiting Wyman Lake. The lake also has a popular fishery for smelt. These fish are taken largely through the ice in ice houses located off the mouths of the numerous inlets. Smelt are also dipped in the spring and can be handlined during the open water season.

Surveyed - 1949, 1953, 1961, 1967, 1973
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