



# FOURTH MACHIAS LAKE

T41MD, Hancock Co., and  
T42MD and T5ND, Washington Co.  
U.S.G.S. Duck Lake and Dark Cove Mt., ME (7 1/2')

## Fishes

Smallmouth bass	White sucker
Yellow perch	Hornpout (bullhead)
Chain pickerel	Pumpkinseed sunfish
White perch	American eel
Minnnows	Alewife
Lake chub	
Fallfish (chub)	

## Physical Characteristics

Area- 1110 acres

Temperatures:

Maximum depth - 26 feet

Surface - 77°F

26 feet - 70°F

Principal fisheries: White perch, smallmouth bass, chain pickerel

Fourth Machias Lake is the second largest in the well-known chain of lakes that comprise the headwaters of the Machias River. Access to this remote water is gained via a rough 2-wheel drive gravel/dirt-hauling road. Boats can be easily launched at a site on the northwest corner of the lake.

During the days of the log drives down the Machias River, St. Regis Paper Co. maintained a log dam at the outlet to assist in their water management operations. Once the paper companies were told they could no longer use rivers for this purpose, St. Regis determined that there was no longer a need to maintain such dams. Accordingly, around 1974, they removed the dam, thereby reducing the acreage of the lake by about 400 acres.

The lake supports the typical assemblage of warmwater sportfish. An abundance of ideal pickerel habitat translates into an excellent fishery for this species. There are lots of pickerel, and large (22-24 in) fish are not uncommon. White perch provide a popular summer fishery. On some days, a typical catch will contain mostly small 7-9 in fish, but on other days, attractively sized 10-11 in fish suitable for filleting will be well represented. Smallmouth bass, although only moderately abundant, provide some fine sport. On the better days, anglers can expect to catch a number of 13-15 in fish.

The principal tributary, Fifth Lake Stream, supports a very good spring brook trout fishery. Special regulations, including artificial lures only, apply; anglers should consult their lawbook before fishing this stream. In May, some bass move a considerable distance up this stream seeking suitable spawning habitat. More than a few trout anglers have been surprised when their rods are suddenly sharply bowed, not by an 8-9 in trout, but by a 15-17 in feisty smallmouth. When these fish are hooked in the "quick water", the unsuspecting angler has quite a fight on his hands!

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