GENTLE LAKE Monticello Twp., Aroostook Co. U.S.G.S., Bridgewater, Me.

Fishes

Fathead minnow Finescale dace Redbelly dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 10 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 80° F.

Maximum depth - 6 feet

5 feet - 68° F.

Principal Fishery: Bait fish

Gentle Lake is a shallow, fertile, silt-bottomed lake bordered by stands of cedar and black spruce. Pondweeds and yellow pond lilies can be seen dotting the surface. Coldwater sportfish habitat is severely limited by high water temperatures and extremes in dissolved oxygen concentrations caused by algal blooms.

There are no tributaries to Gentle Lake. A silt laden outlet, with a low flow, provides no potential for coldwater sportfish spawning and nursery habitat.

Fisheries management should be for the abundant bait fish in this small lake. No stocking of coldwater sportfish is recommended because of limited suitable habitat. To reduce the danger of warmwater species spreading throughout the drainage and competing with brook trout for food and habitat, no introduction of warmwater sportfish is recommended. Presently these fish are denied access by a natural barrier on the North Branch of the Meduxnekeag River below its confluence with the outlet from Gentle Lake.

Access is by way of a farm road over private agricultural land. Adequate area is available for watercraft launching.

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