## RIDEOUT POND T19 R12, Aroostook Co. U. S. G. S. Rocky Brook, Me.

## Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail) White sucker Minnows Creek chub Blacknose dace Finescale dace

## Physical Characteristics

Area - 1 acre

Temperatures Surface - 70° F.

Maximum depth - 69 feet

68 feet - 44° F.

Rideout Pond is an interesting small pond situated in a remote area of northwestern Aroostook County. It lies in a small, ledge basin and is unusually deep for its size.

This pond is poorly suited for trout. The water stratifies into warm and cold layers during the summer, but the cold water below 10 feet is extremely low in dissolved oxygen. In fact, there is no oxygen at all near the bottom in late summer. During the survey, bubbles of methane gas could be seen rising to the surface. This is caused by decomposition, or rotting, of sunken vegetation. This process uses up the oxygen in the water.

Conditions are too severe in this pond for many fish to live. A few trout, suckers, and minnows manage to survive in the shallow water.

