SQUARE LAKE

Fishes

T15 R5,T16 R5,Aroostook Co. U.S.G.S. Square Lake East, Me. (7 1/2'); Square Lake West, Me. (7 1/2')

Lake trout (togue) Brook trout Round whitefish Rainbow smelt Yellow perch Minnows Lake chub Common shiner Redbelly dace Blacknose dace Creek chub

Fallfish (chub)

Landlocked salmon

Longnose sucker White sucker Hornpout (bullhead) Burbot (cusk) Banded killifish Threespine stickleback Ninespine stickleback Slimy sculpin

Physical Characteristics Area - 8,150 acres Maximum depth - 122 feet Temperatures Surface - 64°F 90 feet - 61°F

Principal fishery : Salmon, brook trout, rainbow smelt

Square Lake, the largest of the Fish River chain of lakes, remains largely undeveloped. Square Lake supports a sport fishery of statewide significance for brook trout and landlocked salmon . In addition to the salmon and brook trout fisheries, a popular hook-and-line smelt fishery exists at Square Lake both winter and summer. Smelts also provide an extremely important forage species for salmon and, to a lesser extent, trout.

Although the salmon population is now supplemented with annual stockings, Eagle Lake Thoroughfare (Square Lake's outlet) provides excellent salmon spawning and nursery areas. Square Lake Thoroughfare (Cross Lake's outlet) and Goddard Brook also provide limited salmon spawning and nursery areas. Brook trout spawning area exists in many of the smaller inlets.

Square Lake has recently experienced water quality degradation. Because of the recreational significance of the lake and sport fishery resource this situation is being addressed through cooperative Maine Department of Environmental Protection and private group efforts. Water quality enhancement projects are being implemented throughout the entire drainage to help control and correct the problem.

Primary access to Square Lake via by boat through either of the two previously mentioned thoroughfares. An unimproved public boat landing is located on the northeast side of the lake. Vehicle access to the landing is over 7 1/2 miles of unimproved, privately owned gravel road from Route 161.

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