## MOLASSES POND

Eastbrook Twp., Hancock Co. U.S.G.S. Molasses Pond, Maine (71/2')

## Fishes

Landlocked salmon	Minnows					
Brown trout	Emerald shiner					
Brook trout	Common shiner					
Rainbow smelt	Blacknose dace					
Smallmouth bass	Fallfish(chub)					
White perch	White sucker					
Yellow perch	Hornpout (bullhead)					
Chain pickerel	Banded killifish					
2	Pumpkinseed sunfish					
	American eel					

## Physical Characteristics

Area -	1252	acres Temperatures								
					Surface -			73	°F	
Maximum	depth	1 -	47	feet	45	feet	-	61	°F	

Principal fishery: Salmon, brown trout, white perch

Molasses Pond is located in central Hancock County. A good road goes by the north end where a swimming area, beach, and boat launch site are available for public use. The shoreline is moderately developed with camps.

The pond provides acceptable habitat for salmonids, although the quantity of cool, well oxygenated water in the summer is limited. Salmon provided a generally satisfactory fishery for many years up to the early 1990's. Growth declined and remained sub-par for a number of years. In an effort to establish an improved

fishery, brown trout were introduced in 1996. This species has done well to date; some fish have exhibited excellent growth and already reached weights of 3-4 lb. Plans are to continue to stock relatively low numbers of both brown trout and salmon in an effort to provide larger than average size fish.

White perch provide an attractive fishery. Knowledgable anglers usually make good catches of this tasty sportfish, with a fair proportion of a catch comprised of 10-11 in fish.

Smallmouth bass were illegally introduced in the mid 1990's. This is yet another example of certain anglers taking management into their own hands. Anglers should leave management to trained fishery biologists who understand the biological interactions amongst various species. Unfortunately, bass will compete for food with brown trout, and to a lesser extent, salmon.

## Surveyed - August, 1942

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