

BEAR POND Waterford Twp., Oxford Co. U.S.G.S. Waterford Flat, Me. (7 1/2')

Fishes

Landlocked salmon Lake trout Brook trout Splake Rainbow smelt Smallmouth bass Largemouth bass White perch Yellow perch Chain pickerel Minnows Golden shiner Fallfish White sucker Hornpout (bullhead) Pumpkinseed sunfish Slimy sculpin American eel

Physical Characteristics

Area - 218 acres

Maximum depth - 72 feet

Temperatures: Surface - 77°F 67 feet - 45°F

Principal fisheries: Landlocked salmon, lake trout, brook trout, splake, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, chain pickerel

Bear Pond is a small, productive, oligotrophic water located in southern Oxford County. This water produces a few quality fish, but its small size limits the numbers of sizeable fish.

Both salmon and brook trout spawn successfully in a branch of the main inlet called Mutiny Brook. However, these fisheries are sustained by annual stocking due to an abundance of predatory fish and limited nursery habitat. Salmon stocking was discontinued in the mid 1980's as a result of poor growth and returns, but was reinstituted in 1994 for future re-evaluation. The lake trout and splake fisheries are entirely dependent on stocking, and provide additional opportunities for the angler.

Largemouth bass were illegally introduced into Keoka Lake, which is located a short distance upstream of Bear Pond. They are expected to drop down into Bear Pond, and their impacts on the existing fisheries remains to be seen.

A steeply sloped, paved boat access is located on route 35, which follows the eastern shoreline of the pond. The road shoulder near the access site is widened to provide some limited parking.

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