

## **COLCORD POND**

Porter Twp., Oxford Co. U.S.G.S. Kezar Falls, Me. (7.5')

## **Fishes**

Landlocked salmon Lake trout Brook trout Splake Rainbow smelt Largemouth bass

Yellow perch Chain pickerel Minnows

Hornpout (bullhead) Pumpkinseed sunfish

## **Physical Characteristics**

Area - 243 acres Temperatures: Surface - 79°F

100 feet - 41°F

Maximum depth - 105 feet

Principal fisheries: Landlocked salmon, brook trout, splake, largemouth bass

Colcord Pond is a long, narrow pond located in western Oxford County near the Maine-New Hampshire border. The lightly developed shorelines drop quickly into deep water and the pond provides plenty of habitat for coldwater species. Warmwater fish habitat is quite limited.

This oligotrophic water thermally stratifies each summer and the lake has a large amount of cool, oxygenated water available for salmonid management. Colcord was managed primarily for landlocked salmon and brook trout up until the early 1960's. Poor returns on landlocked salmon and brook trout lead to a lake trout stocking program in the early 1960's. However, the relatively small size of the water produced only limited success with lake trout. Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife switched to a landlocked salmon and splake combination in the late 1990's. Smelt are available for forage, but this population appears to be unstable and crashes periodically given this and the small size of the pond, only a small number of salmon are stocked. Splake are expected to utilize the smelt and the abundant yellow perch population for forage. In addition, fall yearling brook trout are stocked to provide some additional fishing opportunities for winter anglers. Annual stocking is required to maintain these fisheries due to a lack of suitable spawning and nursery habitat.

Largemouth bass were introduced by the Department in 1965 to provide an additional summer fishery. A few nice bass and pickerel are caught each year, but their numbers are limited by the availability of habitat.

A boat ramp is located adjacent to the dam at the outlet. This dirt ramp is suitable for small trailered boats and offers limited parking.

Surveyed - September 1946 (Revised - 1967, 1999) Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Funded in part by the Federal Aid in Restoration Act under Federal Project F-28-P

L3160A