

RAGGED LAKE

T2R13 and T3R13, Piscataquis Co.

U.S.G.S. Big Spencer Mountain, Caribou Lake South, Me. (7 ½')

Fishes

Landlocked salmon
Brook trout
Splake
Rainbow smelt
Longnose sucker
White sucker
Hornpout (bullhead)
Burbot (cusk)
Slimy sculpin

Minnows
Lake chub
Common shiner
Blacknose dace
Creek chub
Fallfish

Physical Characteristics

Area – 2.712 acres

Maximum depth – 54 feet

Temperatures

Surface – 69⁰ F.

50 feet – 55⁰ F.

Principal fishery: Brook trout, Landlocked salmon, Splake

Located with views of the Spencer Mountains to the southwest and the Katahdin range to the northeast, Ragged Lake is scenic gem. A mix of ledge, boulder, and gravel shoreline add to the lake's beauty.

A concrete log driving dam constructed on the outlet, about two miles below the natural lake, holds several feet of water. The dam created a large shallow flowage area, much of which is surrounded by bog vegetation, dead trees, and stumps. The shallow area is ideal habitat for suckers and minnows, which compete with brook trout.

The lake has a relatively deep basin at either end, separated by an area of water generally less than 30 feet deep. By late summer, the availability of dissolved oxygen decreases rapidly in water deeper than 30 feet.

The brook trout fishery is maintained through natural reproduction. However, the potential for the trout fishery is limited by severe competition for food and space from non-game species.

Landlocked salmon stocking was terminated in 1977, along with all salmon stocking in the upper West Branch of the Penobscot River drainage. A self-sustaining population developed and persists today. Reproduction occurs in the small tributaries.

Lake trout were stocked between 1980 and 1991. Survival of the togue was poor. Although the catch rates were very low, the stockings produced a few desirable-size fish. Given the overall poor success of the lake trout stocking, the program was ended.

Splake were first stocked in 1997. In many situations, splake have shown they will utilize a wider variety of forage species than lake trout or salmon. Survival and growth rates appear to be good at Ragged Lake. With an abundance of food available, splake are expected to perform well and provide winter and summer fishing.

Ragged Lake supports an abundant smelt population. The spawning run at Bear Brook is one of the more popular spring dip net fisheries in the area.

Access to Ragged Lake is at the campsite located near the dam site.

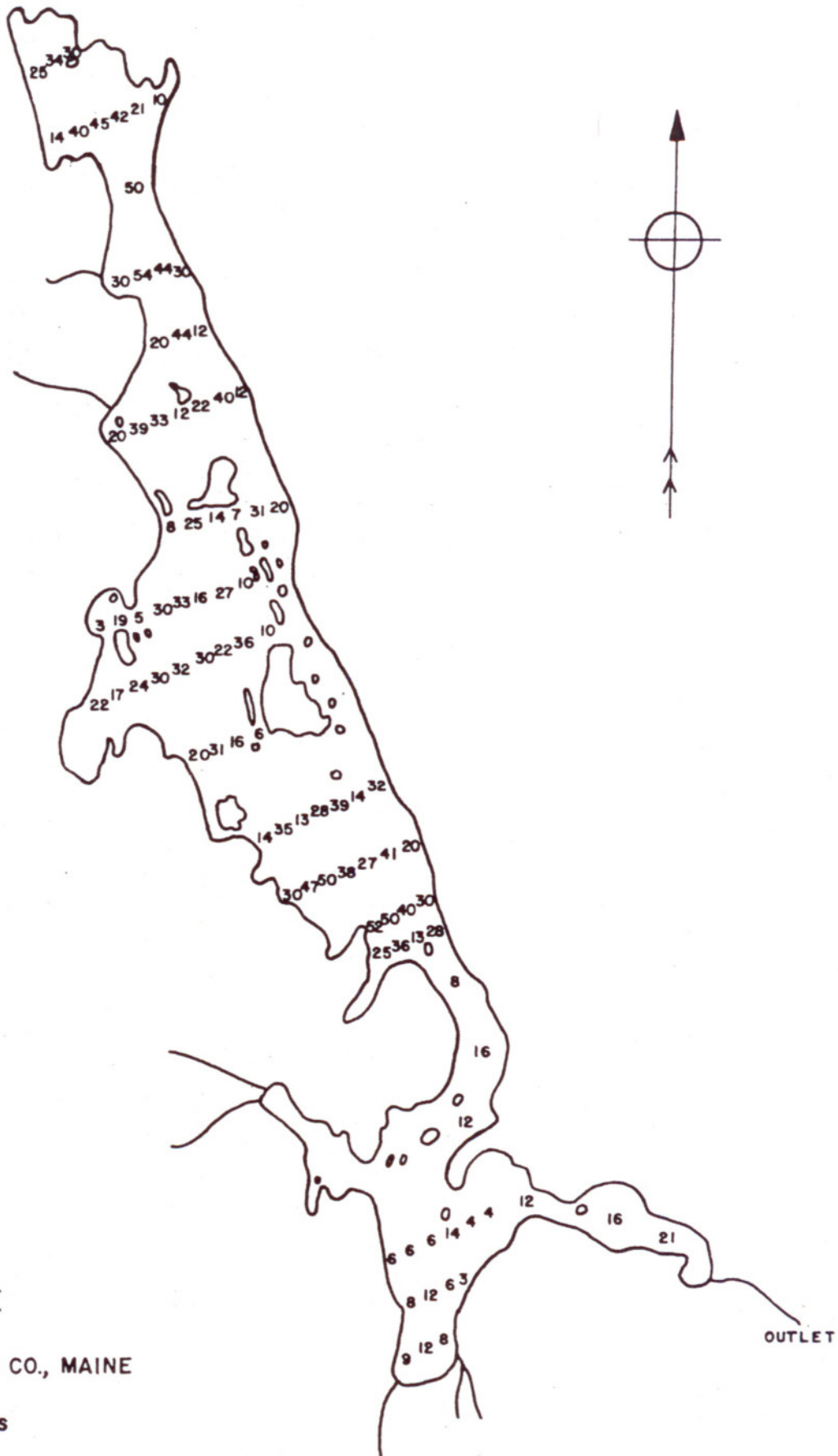
Surveyed – August, 1954

Revised – 1980, 2003

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Funded in part by Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act under Federal Project F-28-P.

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T.2R.13, T.3R.13, PISCATAQUIS CO., MAINE

AREA 2712 ACRES

