## BEAR POND T2 R13, Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Ragged Lake, Me.

## Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail) Yellow perch White sucker

Minnows
Lake chub
Blacknose dace
Finescale dace

## Physical Characteristics

Area - 81 acres

Temperatures

Surface  $-72^{\circ}$  F.

Maximum depth - 19 feet

19 feet  $-53^{\circ}$  F.

Bear Pond is a small pond made up of two separate basins. The upper basin has less than three feet of water with a heavy layer of flocculent silt on the bottom. The lower basin is deeper and provides most of the available trout habitat. The pond is surrounded by mixed conifers on the immediate margin. Water quality is excellent for brook trout, with sufficient oxygen and cool water, but competition from yellow perch and suckers help to hold down the trout population.

The outlet has sand and gravel suitable for brook trout spawning. The tributary flows through a cedar bog. Several old beaver dams provide good impoundments for trout. The cool water and pools provide refuge for trout during warm weather.

The pond can be easily reached via a gravel road from Ragged Lake Dam. Since this road has been built, fishing pressure has been heavy.

The pond will be managed for its existing brook trout population. Stocking of brook trout may be necessary to supplement the present population.

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