

MIDDLE BRANCH POND
T5 R9, Piscataquis Co.
U.S.G.S. Sebec, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Physical Characteristics

Area - 34 acres

Temperatures

Surface - 65° F.

Maximum depth - 11 feet

10 feet - 65° F.

Middle Branch Pond is an ideal brook trout pond located at the headwaters of the Middle Branch of the Pleasant River. Fishermen must travel 7 miles over a rough jeep road to reach this remote pond.

Middle Branch Pond has an excellent trout population because:

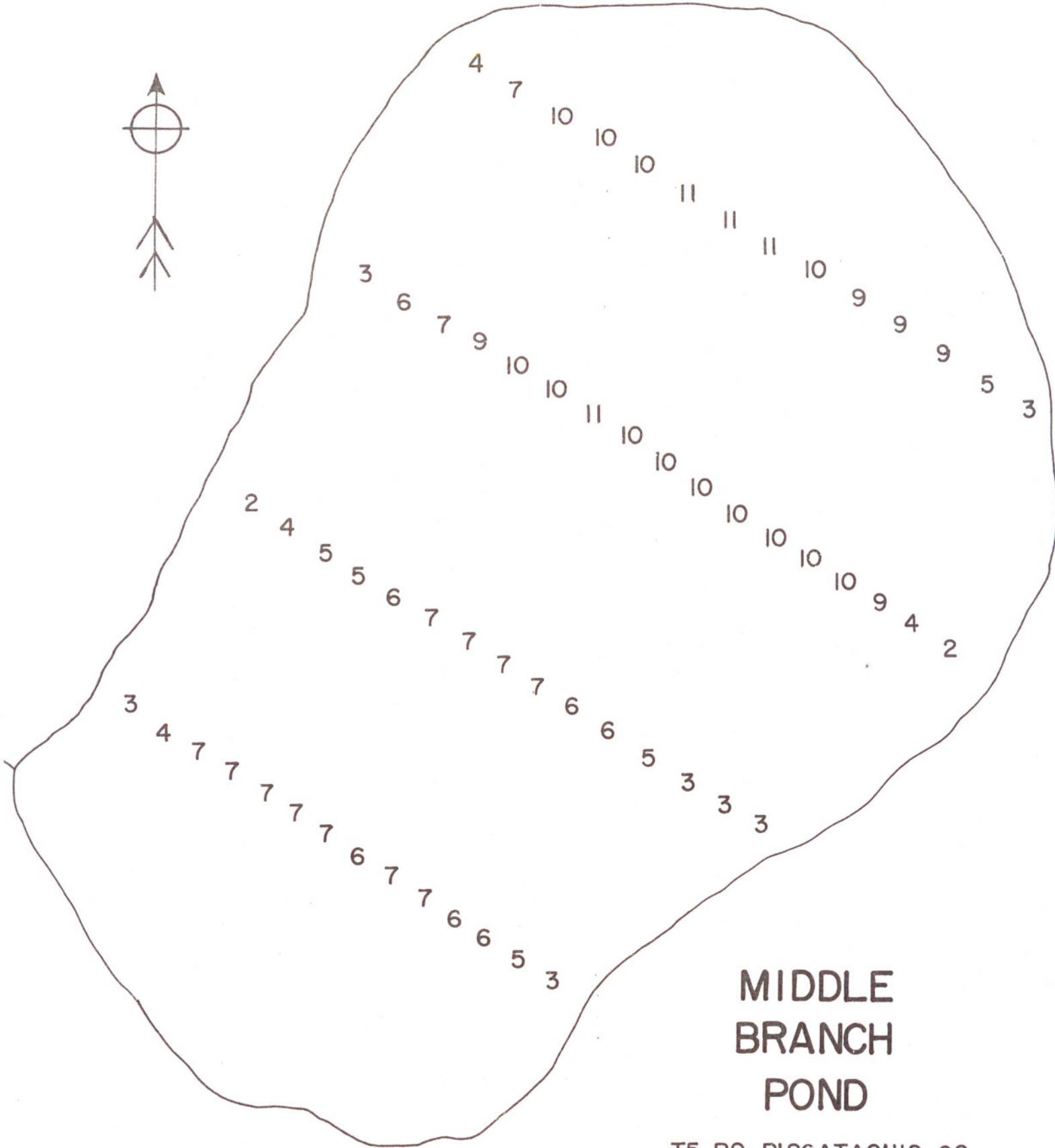
1. There are no other kinds of fish in the pond, therefore all the food is available for trout production.
2. Water quality, temperature, and depth are such that food is produced over the entire area, and trout are not limited by low oxygen or high temperatures.
3. Mature trout can spawn on the clean gravel areas, and young trout can hide and grow in the shallow rocky and weedy areas.
4. The pond is not overfished because of the long, difficult, access route.

A beaver dam on the outlet probably prevents trout from traveling up and down this stream, but the stable water level caused by the dam is beneficial in this particular pond. If shoreline spawning proves to be insufficient, the beaver dam should be removed to allow trout to use the outlet for reproduction.

The greatest danger to this pond is the possible introduction of other fish. To reduce this threat a law prohibiting the use or possession of live fish as bait should be established as soon as possible. The County bag limit of 10 trout is not too high as long as the access remains as difficult as it is.

Surveyed - August, 1962

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game



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MAINE
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