## HALE POND T2 R10, Piscataquis Co. U. S. G. S. Katahdin, Me.

## Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail) Hornpout (bullhead) White sucker Minnows Creek chub

Minnows (cont'd) Redbelly dace Ninespine stickleback Redbreast sunfish

## Physical Characteristics

Area - 168 acres

Temperatures
Surface - 63° F.

Maximum depth - 58 feet

58 feet - 43° F.

The bottom of Hale Pond is a jumble of boulders and rocks near shore, changing to soft mud in deeper water. The pond is not more than 30 feet deep except for the bay at the southern end. Water quality is excellent for brook trout at all depths. Spawning sites for brook trout are limited to small patches of gravel on the lake bottom near the outlet. The small tributary at the western end of Hale Pond is of little value to spawning trout, and the outlet seeps underground for a distance of 30 yards before finally emerging as a recognizable stream.

The number of brook trout in Hale Pond is limited by inadequate spawning facilities and by large populations of suckers and sunfish. The seeping underground at the outlet has prevented perch and pickerel from entering the pond from the West Branch of the Penobscot River. Trout in Hale Pond grow rapidly after they become large enough to prey on the abundant forage fish, and individuals weighing in excess of 3 pounds are not uncommon.

To get to Hale Pond, take the jeep road just west of Abol Bridge on the Ripogenus Dam road. This side road ends near the junction of the outlet from Hale Pond and the West Branch of the Penobscot River. Follow the outlet to the pond. You will have an excellent view of Mt. Katahdin from Hale Pond.

Surveyed - August 1963 Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game

Published under Appropriation No. 7750

