

KIDNEY POND  
T3 R10, Piscataquis Co.  
U.S.G.S. Harrington Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows

Redbelly dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 96 acres

Temperatures

Maximum depth - 33 feet

Surface - 67° F.

33 feet - 46° F.

Kidney Pond is one of several good trout ponds located in the southwest corner of Baxter State Park. The sporting camps on some of these ponds were there prior to the establishment of the park, and they have binding agreements about their continued operation as commercial enterprises. The road to the pond is private, and fishermen who are not guests at the sporting camps need permission from the proprietor to use the access facilities there.

Most of Kidney Pond is shallow and cool. The water below 20 feet has a low oxygen content in late summer.

A small minnow is the only other species of fish living with the trout. These minnows naturally consume some food, but the larger trout feed on them. It is difficult to say whether the pond would produce a greater poundage of trout if the minnows were not there.

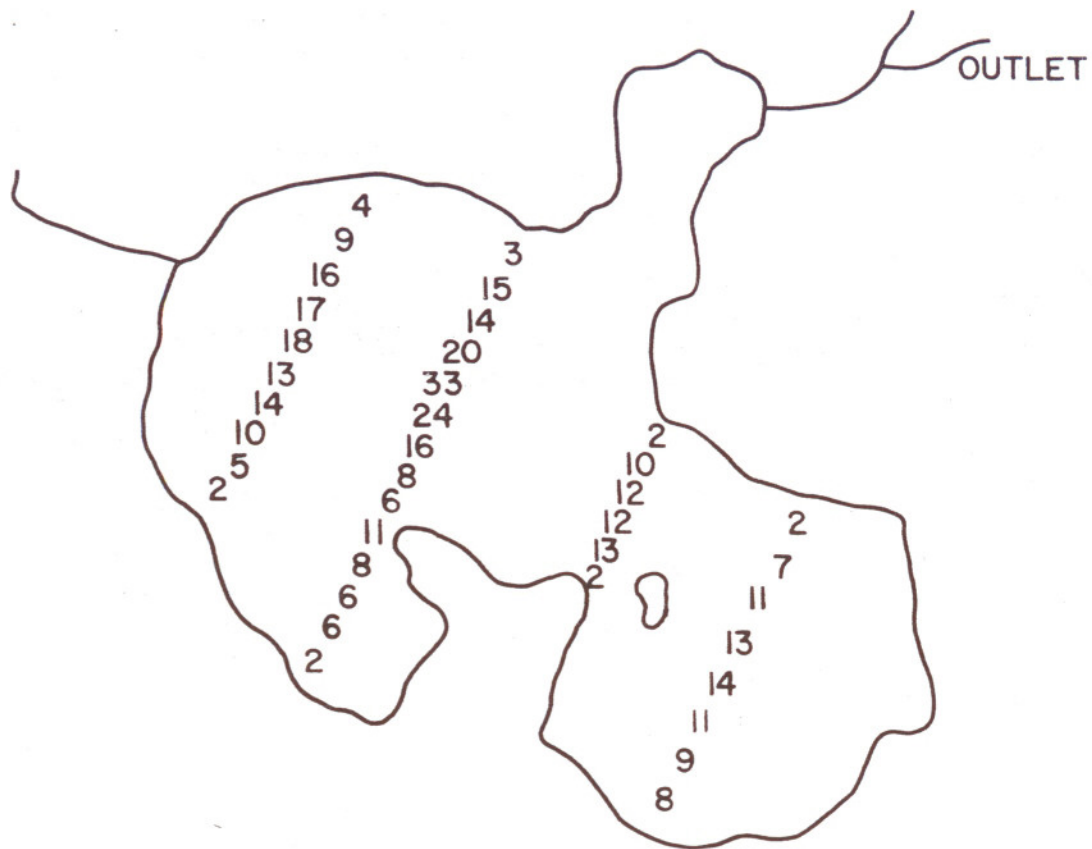
A small tributary flowing into the northwest corner of the pond has some good gravel at its mouth for trout to spawn on. The lower section of the brook is presently used as a nursery area by many young trout. Some gravel bars around the shores are also available for trout to spawn on.

Kidney Pond is protected by the Baxter Park bag limit of five trout, and also by a fly-fishing-only regulation. The pond should never be without a regulation that would prohibit introductions of additional species.

Kidney Pond has been stocked regularly with hatchery trout; a procedure considered unnecessary and undesirable. Wild trout have many desirable qualities that hatchery trout lack, and the practice of mixing hatchery trout with a good wild population is poor fishery management. The stocking of hatchery trout should be discontinued.

Surveyed - August, 1961

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game



# KIDNEY POND

T3 RIO, PISCATAQUIS CO., MAINE

96 ACRES



TENTHS OF MILE