OTTER POND T3 R13, Piscataquis Co. U.S.G.S. Ragged Lake, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)

Minnows Golden shiner Redbelly dace

Physical Characteristics

Area - 25 acres

Temperatures

21104 20 4010

Surface - 72° F.

Maximum depth - 16 feet

15 feet - 59° F.

Otter Pond, a small, shallow pond with a soft, silty bottom, is completely surrounded by a mixed growth of spruce, fir, cedar, and white pine. The pond is located along the Ragged Lake Road — about 6 miles above Ragged Lake Dam. Access is easy via a short trail from the east side of the gravel road.

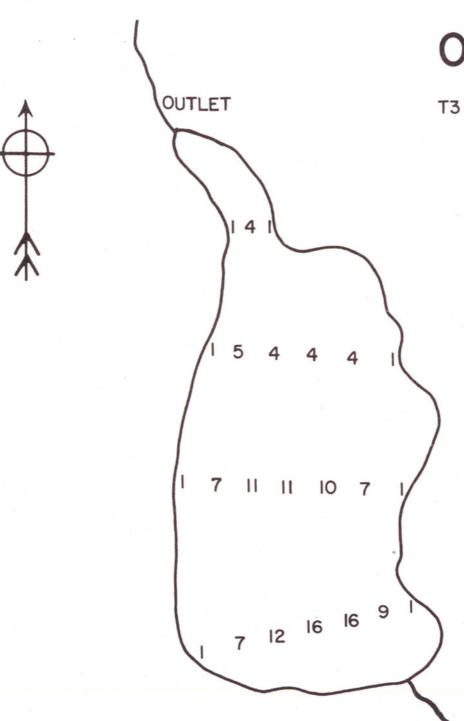
There are no major inlets, but one very small tributary on the south end of the pond affords concealment for a few trout. The outlet, located on the north end of the pond, flows under a natural wall and spreads out through the alders and spruce for a short distance. Although a few trout were seen in the outlet, spawning and nursery facilities are poor just below the pond.

The water quality is excellent for brook trout, with cool,

well-oxygenated water throughout.

Otter Pond should be managed for its existing native trout population. Now that the pond is easily accessible, regulations prohibiting the use or possession of live fish as bait should be adopted to prevent the establishment of additional species. The five-fish limit should also be considered to help spread the catch among the greater number of fishermen.

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OTTER POND

T3 R13, PISCATAQUIS CO., MAINE

25 ACRES

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ONE TENTH MILE