

FROST POND

T4 R5 NBKP, Somerset Co., Maine
U.S.G.S. St. Zacharie, Sandy Bay, Penobscot Lake, Maine

Fishes

Brook trout
White sucker

Minnows
Fallfish

Physical Characteristics

Area — 170 acres

Temperatures

Surface — 63°F

Maximum depth — 10 feet

9 feet — 61°F

Principal Fishery: Brook trout

Frost Pond, a natural body of water situated near the headwaters of Dole Brook, was flowed for log driving purposes from 1916 through the 1930's or perhaps later. The dam was located more than a mile below the pond, at the lower end of a deadwater. This dam reportedly held a 14-foot head, but, because of a slight drop in elevation below the pond the rise in water level on Frost Pond was considerably less than 14 feet. The old dam has not held water for many years, but the flowage line is still apparent on Frost Pond. A large area at the western end of the pond is bog type with semi-floating mats of vegetation which grades down to a very shallow muddy area with an abundance of emergent floating vegetation or lily pads. The remainder of the pond's shoreline is firm gravel, sand and rocks, with excellent beaches where the old flowage line eliminated the vegetation. The surrounding forest is predominantly spruce, fir and cedar with a few white pines remaining. The pond is accessible by 2-wheel drive vehicles but the old road is very rough and only those with a high clearance vehicle should attempt the trip.

Although most of the pond is relatively shallow, a substantial area of 9 to 10-foot depth is present. The pond probably does not stratify and strong winds keep the water well oxygenated to the bottom when there is no ice cover. The water quality and temperatures are well suited for brook trout and some were netted from the deep water area of the pond. It is interesting that the water is on the alkaline side because alkaline waters are unusual in this section of the State.

The principal inlet (Fish Brook) has a well defined channel, a sufficient flow of cool water, some gravel suitable for trout spawning and nursery areas to rear young trout. Some beaver dams are present but these come and go with flood stages and food supply. The other inlet (Frost Brook) had a very low flow with meandering channels through the large bog area. This brook has little, if any, spawning or nursery

potential for trout. The outlet stream flows through gravel bars and has very good spawning and nursery areas for trout. Some trout fry were seen a few yards below the pond.

Frost Pond should be managed for brook trout. Suckers and chubs are present, but they do not appear to be abundant at this time. General law regulations are sufficient to protect these waters from excessive harvests at the present time.

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T4R5 NBKP, SOMERSET CO., MAINE
AREA 170 ACRES

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TENTHS OF MILE

