

SECOND ST. JOHN POND
T4 R17 WELS, Somerset Co.
U.S.G.S. Saint John Pond, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)	Minnows
Yellow perch	Common shiner
White sucker	Creek chub

Physical Characteristics

Area - 105 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 77° F.
Maximum depth - 5 feet	4 feet - 75° F.

Principal Fishery: Brook trout

Second St. John Pond is one of a series of 5 major waters in the headwaters of the Baker Branch of the St. John River. A height of land barely separates this drainage from the West Branch of the Penobscot drainage, and some headwater brooks of the West Branch drainage originate very close to some of the ponds in the St. John drainage. There is evidence that yellow perch, native to the St. John drainage, got into the West Branch drainage through a canal dug from Fifth St. John Pond to Big Bog to transport pulpwood from the St. John Ponds area down the North Branch of the Penobscot into the West Branch, and on down to Millinocket.

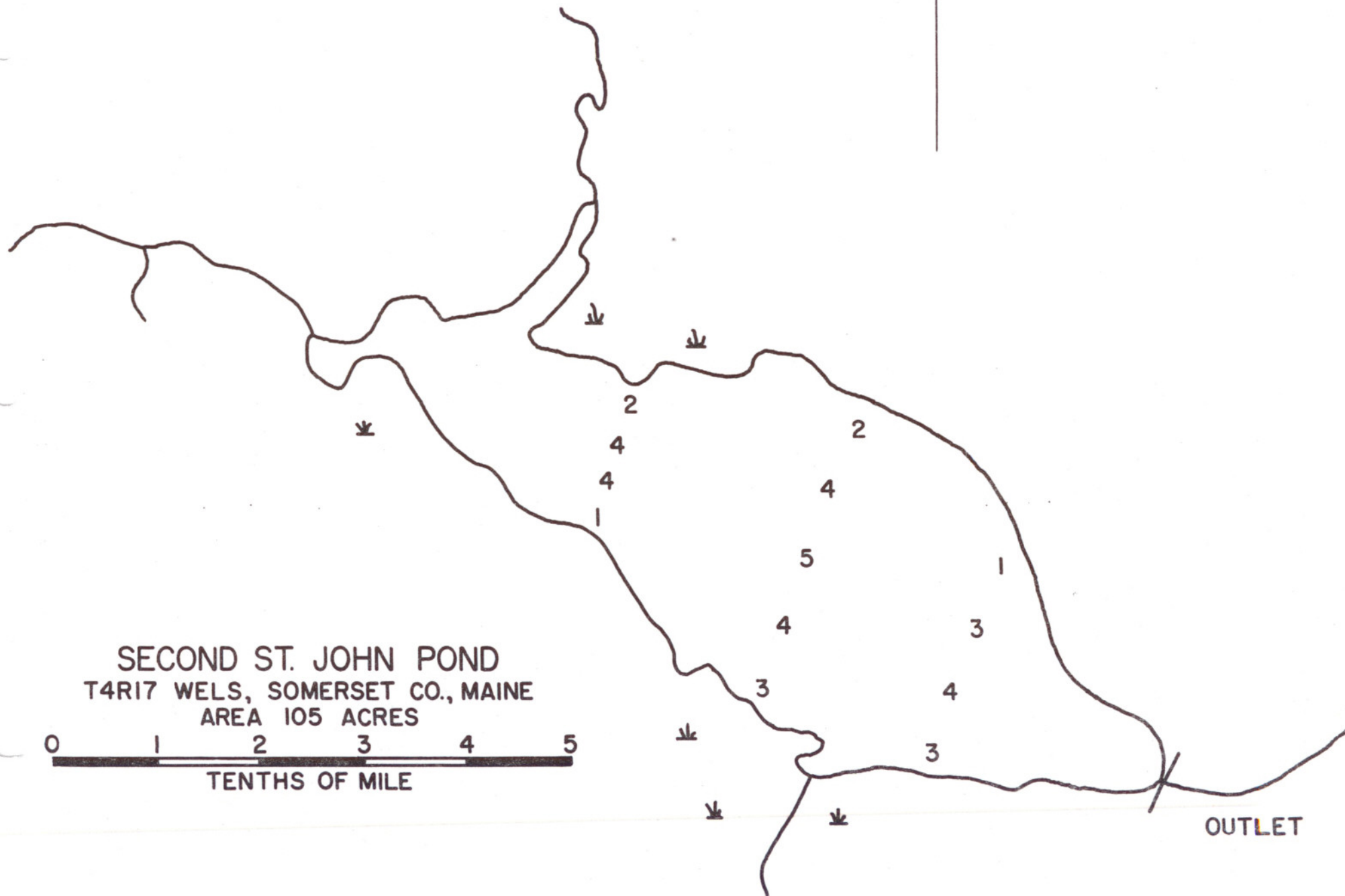
Like most of the ponds in this area, Second St. John Pond is shallow with a large accumulation of soft mud and organic material that has filled a large portion of the original glacial basin. The water is stained a medium brown from organic matter but surprisingly is neutral instead of on the acid side as is usually the case in our spruce-fir areas. The water temperature was in the high 70's from top to bottom in August, and daytime netting operations failed to produce any trout. However, we are confident that trout are present as some have been caught by anglers at times. There are probably cool water areas (spring holes) we did not find where trout can survive the hot weather. The tributaries are not suited for trout spawning or nursery, but the outlet has some gravelly areas where trout may spawn, and rocky riffles where young trout can feed and grow.

Because of the high summer temperatures, shallow water, and

especially the competition from large numbers of yellow perch, suckers and minnows, we cannot expect to produce many trout in this pond. However, the remoteness of the area may discourage most anglers and allow some trout to attain a fairly large size.

The remains of an old log driving dam on the outlet is a partial obstruction to trout movements and should be removed as trout need this stream for spawning and possibly to move around during periods of unfavorable conditions. Young trout were present in the lower section of this stream where spring influence provides cool water. No special regulations are required to protect the trout at this time.

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SECOND ST. JOHN POND
T4R17 WELS, SOMERSET CO., MAINE
AREA 105 ACRES



OUTLET