CLAYTON LAKE T12 R8, Aroostook County U.S.G.S. Big Machias Lake, Me. (7 1/2')

FISHES

Landlocked salmon Redbelly dace Brook trout Blacknose dace Round whitefish Creek chub Rainbow smelt Fallfish (chub) Yellow perch Longnose sucker Minnows White sucker Lake chub Hornpout (bullhead) Common shiner Threespine stickleback Blacknose shiner Slimy sculpin

Physical Characteristics

Area - 268 acres Temperatures Surface - $75^{\circ}F$ Maximum depth - 17 feet 17 feet - $64^{\circ}F$

Principal fishery: Landlocked salmon, brook trout, rainbow smelt

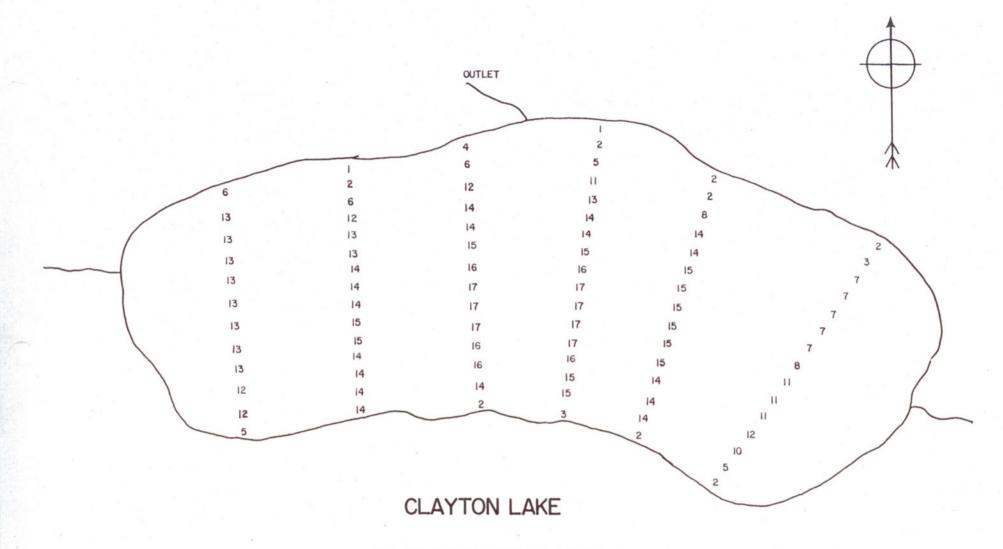
Clayton Lake is shallow with nearly equal water temperatures at all depths throughout the summer. Salmon and trout seek the cool water of springs and inlet tributaries when lake temperatures become warm.

The brook trout population is maintained through natural reproduction in inlet tributaries and migration from the outlet stream. The outlet provides fair spawning area and abundant nursery area for salmon. The lack of abundant coldwater habitat limits the number of adult salmon in the lake.

The Department introduced smelt eggs into Clayton Lake in 1981 and 1983. These introductions were made in an attempt to increase the forage base and provide a smelt fishery. Smelts have become successfully established in Clayton Lake.

Access is via private gravel roads built and maintained by large landowners for forest management purposes.

Surveyed - August, 1958 (Revised - 1979, 1982, 1994) Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Funded in part by Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act under Federal Project F-28-P L1958G



T12 R8, AROOSTOOK CO., MAINE

