

KATAHDIN LAKE
T3 R8, Penobscot Co.
U. S. G. S. Katahdin, Me.

Fishes

Brook trout (squaretail)	Minnows (Cont'd)
Eel	Common shiner
White sucker	Golden shiner
Minnows	Blacknose dace
Fallfish (chub)	Ninespine stickleback
Creek chub	Yellowbelly sunfish
Lake chub	

Physical Characteristics

Area - 717 acres	Temperatures
	Surface - 69° F.
Maximum depth - 28 feet	24 feet - 67° F.

Katahdin Lake is relatively shallow over most of its area, and the water does not separate into warm and cool layers during the summer. However, this lake is at a high elevation, and water temperatures do not often exceed 70°F. Oxygen remains abundant throughout the summer. Sunfish, minnows, and suckers are well established and are reducing the capacity of the lake to support trout, but trout are still the dominant species. Much of the shoreline is shallow and weedy, making it very productive of food organisms for fish. In a warmer climate this lake would probably not support trout, but, located as it is, Katahdin Lake unquestionably provides an excellent habitat for brook trout.

The brook trout population of Katahdin Lake is being maintained mainly by natural reproduction in the two major tributaries and in the outlet. The tributaries are undoubtedly producing many trout, but they are so choked with beaver dams, impassable in the aggregate, that the number of trout reared in these streams is but a fraction of what could be produced if free movement were possible. Removal of the beaver dams would greatly increase the number of trout contributed to the lake by these tributary areas.

The outlet, Katahdin Brook, has excellent spawning and nursery areas for brook trout, and brook trout are abundant. However, the remains of a decaying logging dam at the outlet of the lake obstruct passage of fish at low water levels. This obstruction should be removed.

Natural reproduction is sufficient to maintain the present brook trout fishery. Removal of obstructions could improve the fishery. For these reasons, no further stocking is recommended.

It is very important that no additional warmwater species, particularly perch, bass, or pickerel, be introduced into Katahdin Lake. It is recommended that local sportsmen seek to have a "no-live-fish-as-bait" regulation enacted for Katahdin Lake.

Surveyed - August, 1959
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game



KATAHDIN LAKE

T3 R8, PENOBSCOT CO., MAINE

AREA 717 ACRES



TENTHS OF MILE

