

PANTHER POND
Raymond Twp., Cumberland County
U.S.C.S. Raymond, ME

Fishes

Landlocked salmon	Hornpout (bullhead)
Lake trout (togue)	Rainbow smelt
Brook trout	White sucker
Smallmouth bass	Golden shiner
Largemouth bass	Blacknose dace
White perch	Fallfish (chub)
Yellow perch	Cusk
Chain pickerel	Banded killifish
Pumpkinseed sunfish	

Physical Characteristics

Area – 1,439 Maximum Depth – 70 feet
Temperatures: Surface - 74°F 70 feet - 49°

Principal fishery: Landlocked salmon, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, white perch, rainbow smelt.

Suggested Management

Panther Pond thermally stratifies in the summer months, but the deeper coldwater layers experience depressed dissolved oxygen levels, reducing its potential to sustain large populations of coldwater fish. There is ample habitat to support all warm water fish species.

Panther Pond is stocked annually with landlocked salmon, which at times provide excellent fishing. The annual draw-down of the lake to attract spawning runs of salmon up from Sebago Lake also attract salmon from Panther Pond into the outlet. Landlocks that drop out of Panther Pond in the fall are unable to return because of the impassable dam on the outlet. The Department will attempt to return salmon dropdowns from Panther Run into the Pond after the spawning run. An experimental lake trout program was initiated in 1982. The lake has been stocked annually since then at a low rate in order to provide the best possible growth. The objective of this program is to provide some additional fishing opportunity for lake trout, even if only on a limited basis. It is too soon to evaluate the success of this program.

Results tabulated from annual bass tournaments held on the lake indicate a higher quality smallmouth bass than largemouth bass population, but a balanced population of both currently exists. White perch fishing is very popular summer and winter at Panther. A handline fishery for rainbow smelts is also popular during the winter season.

Panther Pond is not as heavily fished in either summer or winter as other surrounding lakes. General law fishing regulations are therefore adequate to maintain all populations existing in the lake with the exception of smelts.

Dipping for smelts is allowed on a limited basis during the spring; however, if the lake trout program becomes successful, dipping may have to be curtailed.

Currently, access to Panther Pond is less than ideal. Limited access is provided at the outlet near Panther Run and also via the Tenny River and boat launching facility on Crescent Lake. A boat launching facility is needed on Panther to improve accessibility for the sporting public.

Surveyed – August, 1939 (Revised, 1967, 1984)

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Published under Appropriation #4550

A contribution of Dingell-Johnson Federal Aid Project F-28-P, Maine