

**Shaw Pond Biological Survey # 521077**  
 Tom Shanahan, Region 5 Fisheries

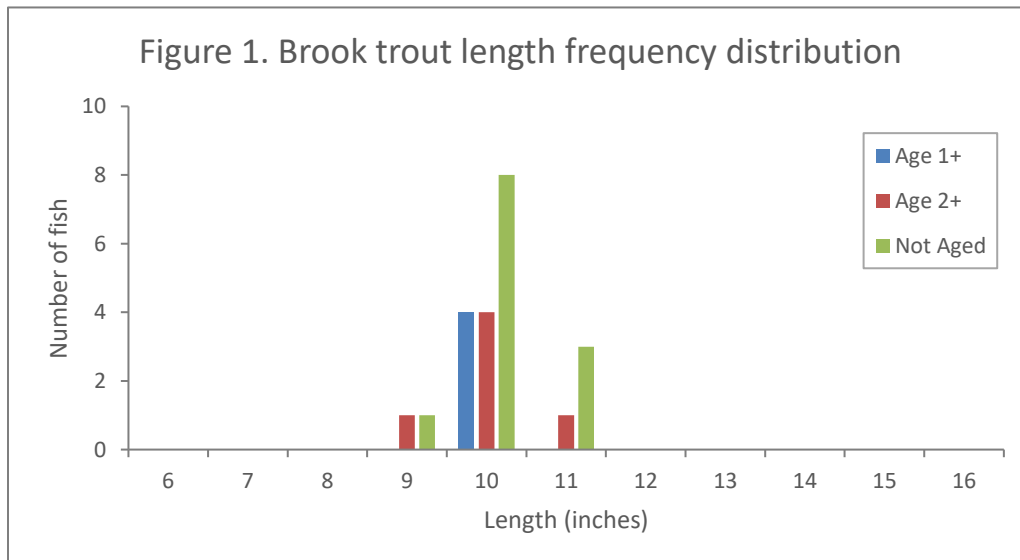
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Shaw Pond (Pond# 222-R) is a small and very shallow (four feet deep) pond in the Town of Newcomb in Essex County. It is northwest of Newcomb Lake, next to Moose Pond, and part of the Raquette watershed. The pond is completely contained by the High Peaks Wilderness, so public access is guaranteed. A sizeable hike is required to reach Shaw Pond; it is more than five miles on a foot trail from the Santanoni Great Camp access road. This was a general biological survey with a focus on assessing the brook trout population; the previous survey was in 1994. The current stocking policy is for fall fingerling Temiscamie hybrid brook trout.

The pond was surveyed in October 2021 using our standard suite of sampling gear: 150' experimental gill net (2), 30' minnow net and a metal minnow trap. A total of three fish species were caught in the 2021 survey (Table 1). Water chemistry was not evaluated for this survey, but previous data show pH values above seven, which is exceptional.

Table 1. Numbers caught and size ranges of fish from Shaw Pond in 2021.

Species	Number caught	Length range (in)
Brook trout	22	8.9 – 10.9
Eastern Blacknose Dace	3	2.3 – 2.6
Creek Chub	31	3.5 – 8.0



The catch rate (11 per experimental net) for brook trout was high, but overall size was not impressive (Figure 1). Looking at fish with available age data, the two-year-olds are roughly the same size as the 1+ cohort, indicating poor growth and suggesting that the stocking rate may be



too high. The current rate is 1,000 fish per year based on a surface area of 11 acres. Using current aerial photos and GIS software, the pond's acreage was determined to be seven acres. Recalculating the stocking rate for this adjusted surface area yields a new annual rate of 625 fall fingerling Temiscamie hybrid brook trout. Management recommendation is to adopt the new stocking rate and survey the pond in a few years to see if growth is improved. As is the case for all waters in the High Peaks Wilderness, the use of baitfish is prohibited. The pond is otherwise subject to statewide angling regulations.