

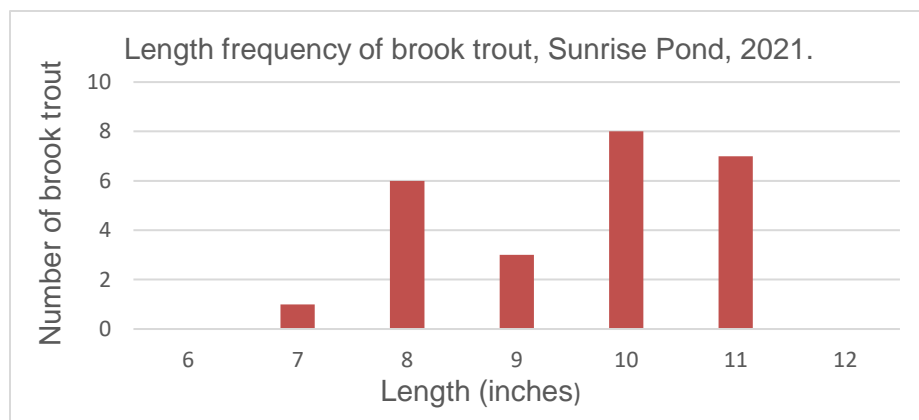
Sunrise Pond General Biological Survey #521030

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Sunrise Pond (C-P117) is a 7.9-acre lake in Franklin County in the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest. It has been stocked annually with brook trout since 1942 and was last surveyed by DEC in 2000. The current annual stocking policy was reduced to 400 Temiscamie x Domestic hybrid brook trout from 1500 fingerlings in 2018. The pH of Sunrise Pond was quite acidic in the past, 4.40 pH units in 1976. Sunrise Pond was limed in 1984 and 2005. The maximum depth is 55 feet, but dissolved oxygen sufficient for trout was present only to a depth of 15 feet in this late June survey. A water sample was not drawn for chemical analysis as this pond has not experienced issues related to water chemistry.

In June of 2021, a single 150-foot Swedish experimental gill net, a 30-foot minnow net, and a minnow trap were set overnight. A total of 25 brook trout were collected during the survey. No other species was captured so this water remains a monoculture. The average length of a Sunrise Pond brook trout was 10.0 inches and the largest trout collected was 11.7 inches. The length at age, as determined by scale analysis, was very poor; with 2-year-old fish averaging only 9.2 inches and 3-year-old fish averaging only 11.2 inches. Despite the



large reduction in trout stocking in 2018, the 2021 survey showed a slight increase in the number of brook trout collected, compared to the 2000 survey. The available summer habitat for brook trout is limited so the number of fish stocked should be reduced again, to 300 Temiscamie x Domestic brook trout fingerlings annually. This reduction should promote brook trout growth and continue to provide an easily accessed brook trout fishery. This stocking change should be evaluated in 5 years.