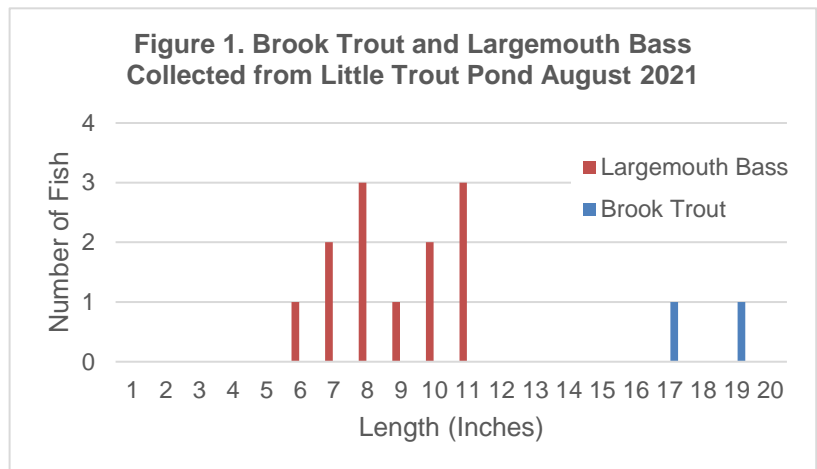


Little Trout Pond Brook Trout Survey (Survey #:621209)

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06/10/2022

Little Trout Pond (SL-1-P109-11-P144-1-P145) is a 49-acre pond located in the Round Lake Wilderness in southern St. Lawrence County and has a maximum depth of approximately 60 feet. Round whitefish were stocked in 2000 as part of an effort to restore a New York State endangered species. Surveys conducted in 2002, 2005, 2009, and 2014 found low numbers of these fish caught (1, 2, 2, 1; respectively). Currently, Little Trout Pond is stocked with Temiscamie hybrid brook trout fingerlings each fall. The brook trout are approximately 4 inches when stocked. Largemouth bass found their way into the pond sometime between 2005 and 2009 likely via the outlet that flows into Hitchins Pond. Special trout fishing regulations include use or possession of baitfish is prohibited, ice fishing is prohibited, and brook trout open season is April 1 – October 15 with a daily limit of five with no minimum length. Three experimental gill nets and one minnow net were set overnight in August 2021 to assess the brook trout stocking.



Two stocked brook trout were collected. Both brook trout were age 5 and measured 17.5 and 19.9 inches (Figure 1). Twelve

largemouth bass were collected and ranged in length between 6.6 and 11.7 inches with an average length of 9.2 inches. Additional species collected included pumpkinseed, white sucker, and brown bullhead. In addition to these species, a 2009 survey also collected golden shiner and creek chub.

Water chemistry is good for brook trout survival and growth (Table 1); however, predation by the recently established largemouth bass population negatively effects survival of stocked brook trout. The majority of stocked fingerling brook trout are likely consumed by largemouth bass as evidenced by the capture of zero brook trout younger than age-5. We recommend ending the stocking of fall fingerling brook trout and round whitefish based on poor survival.

Table1. Water Chemistry of Little Trout Pond.

Date	Lab pH	Air Eq pH	ANC µeq L-1	Sp Cond µS cm-1	Color PtCo	SiO2 mg L-1	SiO2
8/25/2021	6.076	6.83	86.604	22.24	160	3.19	

