

## Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge: Areas to be Opened to Fishing

### Baring Division - Lakes and Ponds

**Bearce Lake** is a shallow 295-acre lake located within the Baring Wilderness Area east of Route 191. Primary fish species include smallmouth bass and chain pickerel. No motorized or mechanized equipment is permitted in Wilderness Areas including electric trolling motors or foot pedal powered kayaks. A gravel road from Route 191 to the shore of the lake was excluded from the Wilderness Designation to provide continued access to Bearce Lake. A pair of common loons usually nest on the lake or along the shore.

**Conic Lake** is a shallow 30-acre lake located within the Baring Wilderness Area east of Route 191. Primary fish species include smallmouth bass and chain pickerel. No motorized or mechanized equipment is permitted in Wilderness Areas including electric trolling motors or foot pedal powered kayaks. Access is by a .3-mile foot trail. A pair of common loons usually nest on the lake or along the shore.

**Vose Pond** is a 43-acre shallow pond; the water and bottom owned by State of Maine, the refuge controls access. Warmwater species including chain pickerel, small and large mouth bass, yellow perch; bullhead. An unimproved gravel boat ramp is available. Outboard motors are permitted under state regulations. Vehicle access across refuge is permitted when conditions permit (Spring-Fall). Common loons sometimes nest on the pond.

**James Pond** is 28 acres in size; it is managed for brook trout. James Pond is located along the southerly boundary of the Baring Division. The refuge only owns approximately 0.5 miles of shoreline around the northern  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the pond. Access to James Pond from the refuge is via foot or bicycle from the South Ridge Road, approximately 3 miles from the Charlotte Road.

**Ledge Pond** is 14 acres in size and managed for brook trout. Ledge Pond is located along the southerly boundary of the Baring Division. The refuge owns approximately 0.2 miles of the shoreline. Access from the refuge is by foot or bicycle from the South Ridge Road, approximately 3 miles from the Charlotte Road.

### Baring Division—Brooks and Streams

**West Branch Magurrewock Stream** includes 1.8 miles of stream extending from the Observation Blind/Fishing Pier, south to the outflow of the Howard Mill Water Control Structure. The primary fishery is brook trout, which is maintained by annual stocking by the Maine.

Clark Brook flows northerly 1.3 miles, from the outlet of the Tyler Flowage bridge and water control structure to Upper Magurrewock Marsh. The stream drops approximately 40 feet in this 1.3-mile segment. The average width of the stream is 15 feet, and the banks are forested, primarily with softwoods.

Fishing is permitted during the State fishing season. The portion of the stream open to fishing is posted and begins approximately 0.3 miles above the Upper Magurrewock Marsh and continues for a mile to the Tyler Bridge and water control structure.

Access to the West Branch of Magurrewock Stream is gained from the Charlotte Road, from which it is a 600 to 700-foot walk. There is also a handicapped accessible paved trail to a fishing pier and wildlife observation blind located just off the Charlotte Road.

Anglers primarily fish for brook trout in this stream; other species that are fished include American eel, alewife, fallfish, pumpkinseeds, white suckers, blacknose dace and chain pickerel.

**Moosehorn Stream** 7.5 miles on refuge. Moosehorn Stream originates in the Baring Division just south of the Calais-Baring town line. Its upper reaches consist of several beaver flowages. For a time in the past, the roads from the Hanson and Lunn Gravel Pits crossed the brook and railroad grade to provide access to the Charlotte Road. These roads partially impounded the stream, although culverts were apparently used to maintain some flow. When the roads were abandoned, beavers periodically blocked the culverts and created the flowages, which are excellent habitat for migrating and breeding waterfowl and waterbirds.

Moosehorn Stream lies just west of the Charlotte Road, which it runs parallel to until it crosses under the road at the point where the railroad bed also crosses the Charlotte Road. The Stream then runs east of the Charlotte Road and eventually leaves the refuge. It empties into Pennamaquan Lake. Approximately 7 miles of the stream is within or along the refuge boundary.

**Seeley "Spring Hole"** is a one-half acre area of Moosehorn Stream that is periodically impounded by beavers. It is located north of, adjacent to, the end of the westerly end of the dike

for Seeley Flowage off the Mile Bridge Road. It can provide some good fishing for brook trout.

**Cranberry Brook** 1.0 Miles from Cranberry Outlet to Mahar Brook. Cranberry Brook originates at Cranberry Outlet and flows easterly for approximately 1 mile, where it joins Mahar Brook. The gradient for the length of the stream is estimated to be 40 feet. Stream width is approximately 6 feet in the vicinity of Cranberry Outlet and at Charlotte Road. The water is lightly colored, and the banks are densely covered with alders. The substrate varies from muck and detritus covered silt to predominately small gravel.

The 1-mile reach of Cranberry Brook is an important spawning area for brook trout. Cranberry Brook is open to fishing throughout the State fishing season. Access is from Charlotte Road and by roads maintained by and for the refuge which are pedestrian access only.

**Mahar Brook** originates at the outflow of the Daly Flowage water control structure, it flows in a northeast, north, and then easterly direction to the point where it merges with Cranberry Brook and flows into Moosehorn Stream. When water levels and temperatures are optimal this stream provides habitat for native brook trout. During the summer months some large stands of cardinal flower are present in parts of the stream. It is also one of the few places on the refuge known to have a population of two-lined salamanders.

**Barn Meadow Brook** is a .2-mile-long stream and wetland area that is open to fishing; it lies between the Barn Meadow Road, adjacent to the western end of the Upper Barn Meadow Marsh, and the exterior refuge boundary. It is a small area that has some deep holes that provide habitat for brook trout.