

Edmunds Division Fishing Areas

Edmunds Division: Lakes and Ponds

Hobart Lake: The refuge owns approximately 2,490 feet along the shore of Hobart Lake. Access is from the Dodge Road across private land. Brook trout and white perch are among the species sought after in this area.

Edmunds Division- Brooks and Streams

Hobart Stream: 11.7 miles on refuge: originates off the refuge in Marion Township, near the Edmunds-Marion Township boundary. It flows in an easterly direction, eventually crossing under the Dodge Road and into Hobart Lake. It exits Hobart Lake and flows into Hobart Bog, which is within the Edmunds Division National Wilderness. The river flows in a southeasterly, then in a northeasterly direction, approximately 6.5 miles, until it discharges into Denny's Bay.

For most of the 6.5 miles Hobart Stream forms the northern exterior boundary of the Edmunds Division of the refuge. According to the tract maps on file in the refuge office the boundary follows the thread of Hobart Stream (also referenced to as Little Falls Stream) to the center of the stream.

Hobart Stream is a large stream averaging approximately 25 feet in width along the refuge. It is estimated that the average depth is one foot. The gradient drops from the outlet at Hobart Bog to where it exits the refuge is approximately 100 feet, or 22 feet per mile. From a point west of the junction of the Weir Road and North Trail the stream is mostly riffle. Stream substrate from the junction west begins with rubble, goes through a steep area with boulder and ledge, re-enters a rubble segment that grades into gravel up to the outlet at Hobart Bog.

The banks of the stream are well defined. Portions of the stream bank in the vicinity of the Weir Road (now mostly a foot trail) and North Trail were burned by wildfires in 1985 and again in 2001. Unburned areas are primarily softwood with red spruce a major component of the overstory.

Young of the year native brook trout have been observed at several locations within the wilderness area. The stream served as a demonstration area for Atlantic salmon restoration projects in Maine in the 1960s. It has been reported by local anglers that "salters," or sea-run brook trout, spawn in the stream.

Fishing is permitted during the State-regulated season. The entire length of Hobart Stream is open to fishing including that portion in the wilderness area. Access within the wilderness area is by hiking only.

Two smaller streams that flow through the Edmunds Division Wilderness Area empty into Hobart Stream: Crane Meadow Brook and Cranberry Lake Brook (also called Cranberry Brook). Both streams support a brook trout fishery. Sunken Stream also empties into Hobart Stream from the north.

The refuge proposed to improve habitat of the stream for Atlantic salmon and brook trout in the draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP). The water quality in Hobart Stream is rated Class AA, the highest possible rating in the State of Maine.

Crane Mill Stream and Flowage: Crane Mill Stream is a low gradient coastal stream with moderate flow and long pools. The headwaters area has been altered to form a series of flowages for waterfowl management. The stream is approximately 1.5 miles long, but only 1.1 miles are within the refuge boundary. A portion of the stream is within the Edmunds Unit Wilderness Area.

The stream has an estimated width of 8 feet and an average depth of 1 foot. The water is tea colored, but not turbid. Substrate within the stream is predominately sand, but there are gravel segments in the faster flowing, higher gradient, areas. The watershed is forested with northern softwoods, mostly spruce. The stream banks are covered by a dense growth of alder.

The stream is an important spawning area for brook trout. Brook trout occupy the entire length of Crane Mill Stream. Crane Mill Stream is open to fishing throughout the State fishing season

from the outlet of Crane Mill Flowage downstream. Access is from the refuge's South Trail and Crane Mill Roads. Fishing in the stream is difficult because of the dense bank growth.

Crane Meadow Brook: is approximately 1.7 miles long, with 1.3 miles flowing through the refuge. The stream flows northwesterly, and discharges into Hobart Stream. Stream elevation at the refuge boundary is 120 feet above mean sea level and 72 feet above mean sea level where it discharges into Hobart Stream. Crane Meadow Brook is within the Edmunds Division National Wilderness. Pedestrian access is allowed in the wilderness area. Crane Meadow Brook is accessed from North and South Trails.

The estimated average width is 8 feet and estimated average depth is 1 foot. The water is tea colored, but not turbid. Except for the marsh area near the junction with Hobart Stream, the substrate is predominately rubble-gravel and scattered boulder. The segments of stream in the marsh area have a muck and sand substrata. The watershed is forested by softwood primarily spruce. The banks of Crane Meadow Stream are densely covered with alders. The stream is fished for native brook trout. Fish species present include American eel and white sucker. The stream is open to fishing during the State-regulated season.

Crane Meadow Brook is free of impoundments. Shoreline development is primitive with no evidence of human activity. Crane Meadow Brook is accessible only by foot trail.

Cranberry Brook: is approximately 1.5 miles long, with 1.2 miles flowing through the Edmunds Division, including part of the Wilderness Area. Cranberry Brook originates from Eastern and Western Lakes, located about .3 miles southeast of the refuge's boundary. The stream flows in a northern direction to its confluence with Hobart Stream.

The stream averages 12 feet in width and one foot in depth. It is a fast-flowing stream with few pools. The substrate is primarily boulder-rubble, with areas of sand and gravel. The stream elevation varies from 122 mean sea level (M.S.L.) at the refuge's southern boundary, to 75 M.S.L. at the confluence with Hobart Stream.

The watershed of Cranberry Brook is mostly forested with softwoods. In places, the stream banks are covered with a dense stand of alders. Brook trout, American eel, and white suckers are the most abundant fish species present. Access to Cranberry Brook is mostly pedestrian via the rustic trails in the Wilderness Area.