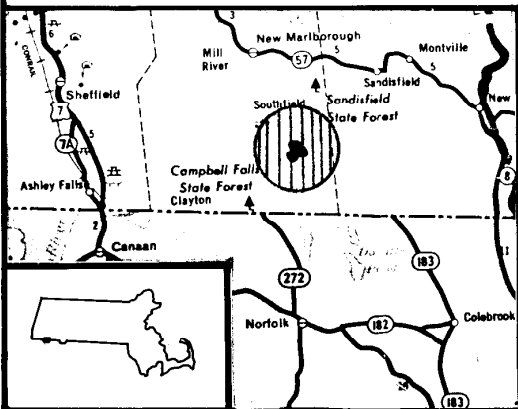


LOCATION



**THOUSAND ACRE
SWAMP
(NEW MARLBOROUGH)
Area: 155 Acres**

NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES

THOUSAND ACRE SWAMP (New Marlboro)

General Information:

This 155-acre shallow pond is located about six miles south of New Marlboro center. Maximum depth is 8 feet and average depth is around 4 feet. The shoreline is almost completely wooded and protected within the boundaries of a state forest, hence there is no shoreline development. Transparency is poor in this fertile water, extending to only 4 feet. The bottom is composed of clay, but there is abundant structure in the form of numerous tree stumps. Aquatic vegetation is abundant over more than half of the surface area, but most of it is in discrete patches and clumps. There are two inlet streams and a single outlet.

Access is provided by a Public Access Board concrete pad ramp suitable for shallow draft boats, car top boats and canoes. The parking area has space for approximately eight vehicles. The access is located off Hotchkiss Road, which can be reached from Norfolk Road south of the town center or from East Hill Road, south off Route 57.

Fish Populations:

The pond was most recently sampled in 1981, at which time six species were found present: largemouth bass, chain pickerel, yellow perch, brown bullhead, pumpkinseed and golden shiner.

Fishing:

This quiet mountain lake is ideal for bass fishermen, and in general must be considered one of the better warm water fishing ponds in the Western District. There is so much cover from the weed beds and structure formed by tree stumps that anglers have difficulty deciding where to fish!

Large bass are relatively common. The best sport is to try for them with surface lures, which are very popular and effective during late spring and throughout the summer. Weedless jigs or spoons tipped with pork rind tails and retrieved slowly are also effective, particularly in the spring and fall.

This is also an excellent ice fishing pond. Yellow perch in the 9 to 11 inch size range are abundant and can be jigged up in numbers. While not as abundant as the bass, there are some very nice pickerel here, and most large examples are taken through the ice. A small stocking of tiger muskie fingerlings in 1985 has failed to result in any significant return of legal size (28 inches) fish, but there is always the possibility that a large tiger muskie will turn up here on the end of some lucky angler's tip-up.

February 1998