

HAMPSHIRE ROAD

PELHAM STREET

One Way

Access

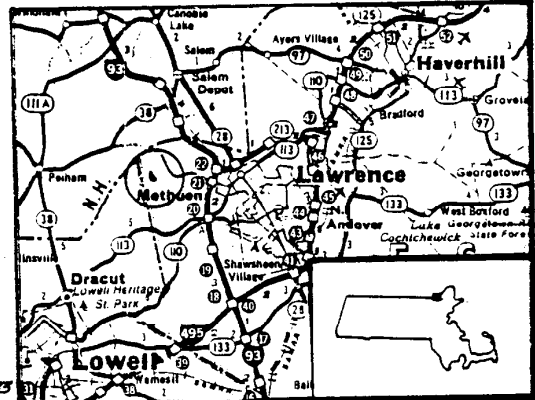
Ramp

Becht



FOREST LAKE (METHUEN) AREA = 49 Acres

LOCATION



NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES

2-83

FOREST LAKE (Methuen)

General Information:

This 55-acre, relatively infertile natural great pond has a maximum depth of 28 feet and an average depth of 10 feet. It is located about two and a half miles east of Methuen center. Transparency is fair at seven feet, but aquatic vegetation is scarce except for scattered patches in the coves. Development of the shoreline is moderate to heavy, with the exception of the northeastern end, bordered by town forest.

Public access is provided by a paved beach ramp located off a road through the town forest. Parking space is limited and the ramp is best suited to car top boats and canoes.

Fish Populations:

A fisheries survey conducted in the summer of 1982 recorded six species: largemouth bass, brown bullhead, yellow perch, pumpkinseed, golden shiner and bluegill. Stocked trout are also present during at least a portion of the year. This lake also receives broodstock salmon when they are available.

Fishing:

Annual spring stockings of trout, usually rainbows, provide most of the fishing action at this pond. As a result, fishing pressure is high throughout the spring and trout stocks are depleted by early summer. The warm water fish species generally cannot provide fast action because production is low and most of it is taken incidentally by trout anglers. Jigging for perch through the ice is somewhat productive, however, although the fish are not of large average size. We have reports that nice bass are occasionally taken through the ice as well.

February 1998