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General Information:

Furnace Pond is a fertile, 107-acre enlarged great pond with an average depth of five feet and a maximum depth of nine feet. Furnace Pond receives water from Oldham Pond and from cranberry bogs and drains into Herring Brook which eventually drains into the North River. The bottom is composed primarily of mud, and aquatic vegetation is extremely abundant. Most of the 2.7 miles of shoreline is developed with year round houses. Furnace Pond is an extremely fertile pond and in the summertime is subject to nuisance algae blooms. The pond is used as a secondary water supply for the City of Brockton; water is pumped from the pond during the winter months and used to refill Silver Lake.

Access:

The pond is readily accessible from Route 14, about 1.3 miles west of Pembroke center. Roadside parking is available along Mattakeesett Street (Route 14) and canoes and small boats can be launched.

Management History:

The name Furnace Pond dates back to about 1702, when one of Plymouth Colony's first blast furnaces was constructed nearby. Bog iron raked from the pond and nearby bogs was smelted and cast into pots, kettles and other utensils. Smallmouth bass, bluegill, bullhead white perch, yellow perch, pickerel and crappie are listed in old stocking records. An August 1946 survey found white perch, yellow perch, chain pickerel, largemouth bass, alewives, pumpkinseeds, bluegills, golden shiner, sea lampreys and tesselated darters.

Fish Populations:

The pond was last sampled in September of 1994, including largemouth bass, chain pickerel, brown bullhead, yellow perch, white perch, black crappie, bluegill, pumpkinseed, golden shiner, alewife and American eel.

Fishing:

Furnace Pond has long supported a reputation as an excellent largemouth bass fishery. Largemouths are clearly the dominant gamefish, and they are of large average size. Lunkers in the five to seven pound range are frequently reported. The abundant weed growth makes them difficult to catch throughout the summer and fall months, but those who have mastered the use of weedless gear can expect good catches. Don't overlook the panfish in this pond, however. The white perch are abundant and of good average size. This is also a good pond for crappie (calicos), which are also abundant and of large average size. Oldham Pond is just to the north, and Stetsons Pond, Little Sandy Bottom Pond, and Hobomock Pond are within the town of Pembroke. Indianhead Pond, Maquan Pond and Wampatuck Pond are located nearby in Hanson.

Updated: February 16, 2007 S.T.H.