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# ARLIS

Alaska Resources  
Library & Information Services  
Anchorage, Alaska

Volume 3

1961-1962

STATE OF ALASKA

William A. Egan, Governor

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Walter Kirkness, Commissioner

Sport Fish Division

Alex H. McRea, Director

ANNUAL REPORT OF PROGRESS, 1961-1962

FEDERAL AID IN FISH RESTORATION PROJECT F-5-R-3

SPORT FISH INVESTIGATIONS OF ALASKA

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## INTRODUCTION

This report of progress consists of the job completion reports from the State of Alaska Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Project F-5-R-3, "Sport Fish Investigations of Alaska."

The current project is composed of twenty separate studies and was designed to evaluate the various aspects of the State's recreational fishery resources. The information gathered will provide the necessary background data for better management practices and for the development of future studies. During the current segment, continued emphasis was placed on the overall inventory and cataloging of accessible waters, evaluation of catch data, and investigations on various species of fish.

As a result of several problems of immediate concern, several new studies were instigated during the report year. Data accumulated from these studies has helped solve some problems in projects already in progress.

The population of Alaska is increasing rapidly and this is being reflected in the ever increasing number of "No Trespassing" signs put up by individuals in the vicinity of population centers. Fortunately, much of Alaska's fishery waters are still in the public domain. The division's program of acquiring access to fishing waters continued at a much faster pace since being instigated in 1959. Emphasis is being placed on this job and the successful continuation of this activity will forstall many serious recreational use problems currently facing other states.

The enclosed progress reports are fragmentary in many respects and the interpretations contained therein are subject to re-evaluation as the work progresses.

JOB COMPLETION REPORT  
RESEARCH PROJECT SEGMENT

State: ALASKA

Project No: F-5-R-3                      Name: Sport Fish Investigations  
of Alaska

Job No: 8-C-1                              Title: Salmonoid Rearing and  
Migration Study: Fire  
Lake System.

Period Covered: July 1, 1961 to May 30, 1962

Abstract:

Rehabilitation of Upper Fire Lake was postponed. The trapping facilities between Upper Fire Lake and Lower Fire Lake were started in September, 1961, but had to be postponed due to high water; however, the structure was completed in May, 1962.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Phase I of this job be completed and action started on Phase II.

Objectives:

To evaluate the lake rearing and migratory characteristics of various salmonoid stocks. To determine the suitability of these stocks for use in the various aspects of the sport fish management program. To provide recommendations for management use and to direct the course of future studies.

Techniques Used:

Each homeowner on the lake was contacted about the



FIGURE 1. FIRE CREEK AND LAKES.

SCALE - 1 INCH = 1 MILE

program of rehabilitation and the ensuing migration study. Information on construction details was obtained from the Department engineer and local contractors.

Findings:

Rehabilitation of Upper Fire Lake was postponed until public relations problems are resolved.

Construction of the Hatchery Creek fish control structure started September 13. The creek water was by-passed and excavations made for the footings. All concrete forms were built and readied for placement. Due to heavy rains, the creek was carrying more water than could be by-passed. Before the stream flow decreased, freezing weather arrived and this phase was postponed until spring. As soon as ground conditions permitted, the trap was installed and completed by May 16, 1962. The structure was backfilled and the area cleared of all debris.

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