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STATE OF ALASKA

William A. Egan, Governor



ANNUAL REPORT OF PROGRESS, 1963 - 1964

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

SPORT FISH INVESTIGATIONS OF ALASKA

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

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INTRODUCTION

This report of progress consists of Job Segment Reports from the State of Alaska Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Project F-5-R-5, "Sport Fish Investigations of Alaska."

The project is composed of 25 separate studies designed to evaluate the various aspects of the State's recreational fishery resources. Of these, eight jobs are designed to continue the cataloging and inventory of the numerous State waters in an attempt to prepare an index of the recreational waters. Four jobs are designed for specific sport fishery creel census while the remainder of the jobs are more specific in nature. These include independent studies on king salmon, silver salmon, grayling, Dolly Varden, a statewide access evaluation program, egg take program and a residual toxaphene study. The information gathered from the combined studies will provide the necessary background data for a better understanding of local management problems and assist in the development of future investigational studies.

The subject matter contained within these reports is often fragmentary in nature. The findings may not be conclusive and the interpretations contained therein are subject to re-evaluation as the work progresses.

JOB COMPLETION REPORT

RESEARCH PROJECT SEGMENT

STATE: ALASKA Name: Sport Fish Investigations of Alaska.

Project No: F-5-R-5 Title: Inventory and Cataloging of the Sport Fish and Sport Fish Waters of Southwest Alaska.

Job No: 5-A

Period Covered: July 1, 1963 to October 12, 1963.

Abstract:

Inventory and cataloging activities were carried on in areas adjacent to the road system on Kodiak Island.

The programs of past years were reviewed and used as a guide to project continuity.

Standard survey techniques were used throughout the program and the results were tabulated.

Two factors have limited work on this segment of the project to 17-1/2 days of D-J field activity. The portion of the fiscal year falling between July 1 and October 1 was of necessity devoted primarily to management activities in the Kodiak area. This year, aid to the Research Division kept the hatchery operating for a month longer than usual. Transfer of the Biologist in charge from Kodiak to Fire Lake on October 12, 1963 terminated all Sport Fish activity at Kodiak.

During the 1962-63 field season, 60,000 grayling (Thymallus arcticus) were planted in 3 lakes adjacent to the Kodiak road system. This was an experimental introduction of an exotic species meant to supply dry fly fishing for the sportsmen where none had existed before. Experimental fishing was done with dry flies, fykes and variable mesh gill nets to determine the success of the plants.

Surveys were made on three lakes; Bells Flats No. 24, Cliff Point No. 31 and Narrow Cape No. 55:

Name	Surface				
	Acres	Latitude	Longitude	D.O.	pH
BF No. 24	15.75	57°42'N	152°37'30"	9.8	6.75
CP No. 31	7.59	-	-	-	-
NC No. 55	9.92	57°26'15"N	152°27'30"	-	-

Re-establishment of a series of lakes on Cliff Point was commenced on an experimental basis, in cooperation with the Kodiak Conservation Club, when an earth fill dam was built at the outlet of the lowest lake bed in the series.

Objectives:

To evaluate the extent, the potential and the current use of the waters readily available to the area's anglers (Figure 1).

To determine the relative need for further management investigations and to direct the course of such studies.

Recommendations:

Since the grayling fishing elicited much favorable comment from the public and the fish showed such a remarkable growth rate, it is felt that more work should be done to establish a self-maintaining population in several lakes accessible to the Kodiak road system.

Re-establishment of the now empty lake beds on Cliff Point is being continued with the help of the Kodiak Conservation Club and should be continued until completed. This will add about 60 acres of fishable water to a much utilized recreational area.

Cataloging should be continued because many lakes and streams have not been touched due to the more pressing need for cataloging the more heavily used waters.

Spruce Cape, from Melnitsa Lake to Monashka Bay, needs to be surveyed and regulations established before it is

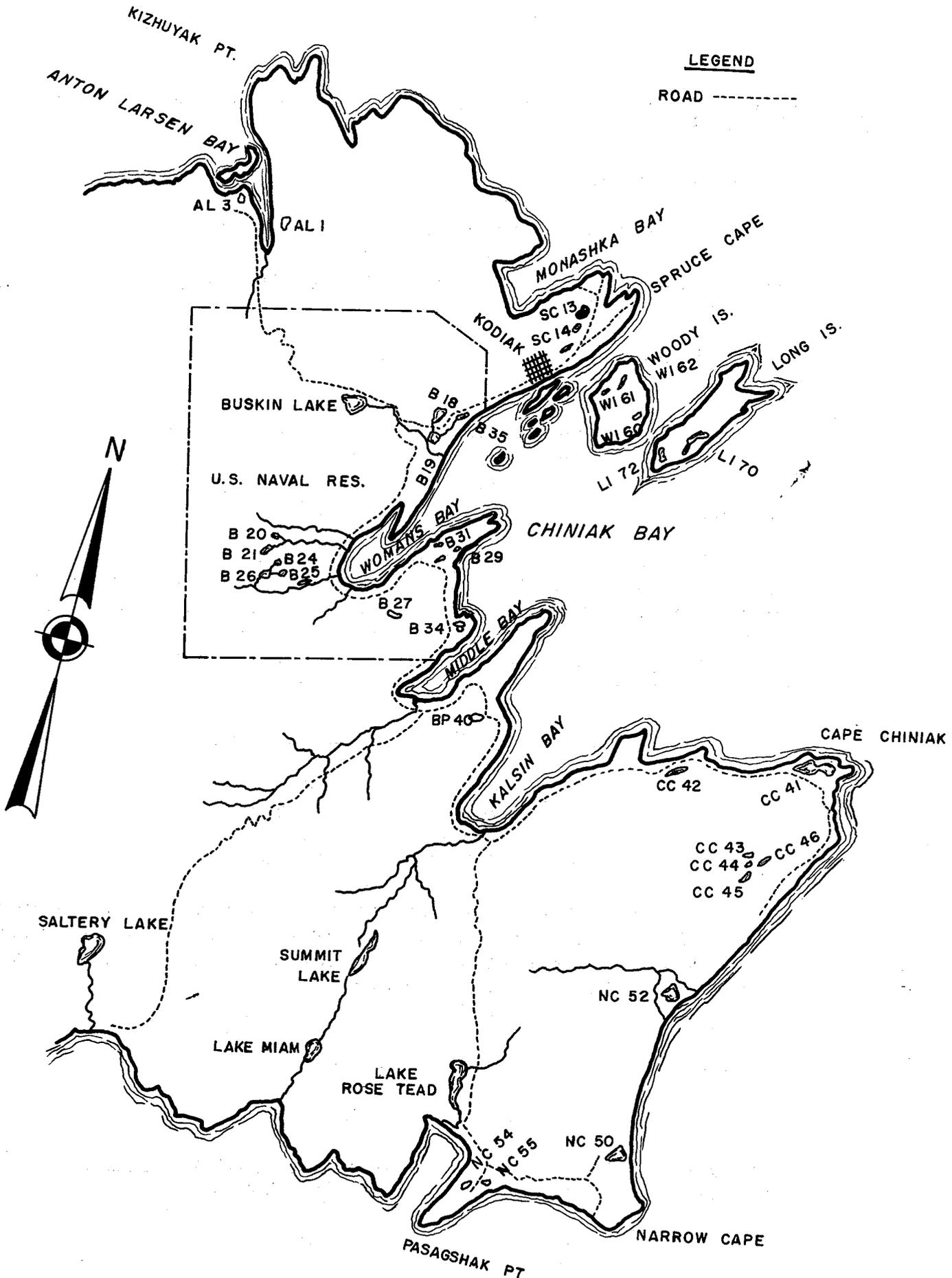


Figure I. Waters readily available to Kodiak area anglers.

opened up by a new road being constructed during the summer of 1964.

Techniques Used:

Information gathered during the past three seasons has been used to guide the course of future work by providing continuity of effort and avoiding repetition of phases already accomplished.

Standard survey techniques were used to determine physical and biological properties.

Surface surveys were accomplished using an alidade, plane table, tripod and stadia rod.

Findings:

The experimental introduction of grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*) was partially successful. Catches of these fish were made at Narrow Cape No. 55 Lake. The other two lakes, Anton Larson No. 3 and Cape Chiniak No. 42, have produced no grayling to date, although young fish were observed in Anton Larson No. 3 one month after the plant.

Grayling measurements from NC No. 55:

♀	262 mm	222 gm
♂	243 mm	195 gm
♂	252 mm	186 gm
♀	262 mm	215 gm

Approximately 20 surface acres of water were impounded behind the earth-fill dam on the lowest lake bed of the series on Cliff Point. Waterfowl were observed utilizing this new lake a week after its impoundment.

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Date: April 8, 1964

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