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MEMORANDUM

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TO: Art Schmidt
Sport Fish
Sitka
Dept. of Fish and Game

DATE : November 13, 1974

FROM: Donald L. Siedelman
Sport Fish
Ketchikan
Dept. of Fish and Game

SUBJECT: Buschmann Creek Survey

On November 12, 1974, we flew to Bakewell Creek (Bakewell Arm) to check on coho below the Bakewell fish ladder (which was inoperative) for a possible egg take. There were no coho observed in the creek. Supposedly there were over 1,000 below the ladder about 1 1/2 months ago (verbal from Paul Larson and Paul Novak). At that time, the fish ladder did not work either.

Then, on a tip that there were coho observed off the mouth of Buschmann Creek (Hugh Smith Lake-Boca de Quadra), we flew to this area. Upon landing, we observed about 250-300 red salmon off the mouth of the creek. We surveyed up stream for about 150 yards noting an abundance of spawning red salmon. Estimate the creek to possess up to perhaps 800 spawning red salmon if they were spread in the same numbers throughout the upper stream area.

Did see one coho in the first hole of the creek and one Dolly Varden.

There was an old fish hatchery site at this location in the past. Interesting to note that the fish were very near the peak of spawning and perhaps a little prior to the peak. There were very few carcasses in the creek.

Saw at least two eagles and then mergansers, seagulls and no bear signs.

The water temperature was 3° C in the lower creek area.

Taxied over to Cobb Creek on Hugh Smith Lake. Observed one dead coho and one alive coho. Did not see an adult fish within the first 100 yards of stream. Appeared to be some redds within this lower stream area. Observed some small fingerlings - species unknown.

CC: Armstrong
Valentine