

Work Plan No. 1  
Job No. 1

Reconnaissance of Sport Fishing  
Pressure, Southeastern Alaska

A. Trout Fishing

During early winter with the usual bad weather, hunting seasons, and the expected lowering of enthusiasm on the part of sportsmen, little sport fishing is done. However, it is not for lack of fish, for some of our best fishing is available.

Few lakes were frozen over during this quarter and fishing was available even though few people took part. Adverse weather is a handicap, particularly where plane flights are involved.

An interesting fishery that is little used is the fall run of steelhead in the warmer streams. These fish enter the fresh water in the fall and spawn on the rising temperatures in the spring. As long as the water stays at 39° F. or above, the trout are a great sport fishery potential. Although few people fish for them, this condition will certainly not exist for very many more years, particularly when the fish weigh as much as fifteen pounds.

Limited catch figures available for this quarter are as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fisher- men</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Cut- throat</u>	<u>Steel- head</u>	<u>Daily Yield</u>
11/9	Bakewell Lake	1	20 min.	2		
11/11	Bakewell Lake	1	30 min.	2		
11/16	Fish Creek	1	20 min.		1	
11/18	Fish Creek	1	30 min.		1	3
12/8	Fish Creek	2	3½ hrs.		7	2
12/29/53	Klawak Creek	3	3 hrs.		2	

B. Salmon Fishing

Fishing for king and coho salmon at this time is at a low point. The fish do not run as large as they do in the spring and the weather is not as pleasant. The coho run is over and there are only a few stragglers in the area. The kings are small and only run up to about 25 pounds.

However, on a weekend with fair weather, several skiffs may be seen fishing at Clover Pass and Mountain Point, or a few harpooners are working around the schools of herring in Tongass Narrows attempting to take a king salmon. The catch is low.

Work Plan No. 1  
Project F-1-R-3

RECONNAISSANCE OF SPORT FISHING PRESSURE, SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA HG

A. TROUT

Sport fishing pressures reached what will probably be the peak for the year in the Ketchikan area during the month of June. Trout fishing and salmon fishing was very good during that month and in the areas to the north. The spring temperatures during April and May were low and fishing correspondingly slow to get started generally over the entire district.

It is of interest to note that the spring thaw was very drawn out producing abnormally low spring runoffs. This low water condition plus low water temperatures was not attractive to the sea runs of trout and fishing was not as good as in former years on corresponding dates.

Checks in the field gave the following data:

DATE	LOCATION	FISHERMEN	(T - Fish taken, R - Fish Released)								DEN
			STEELHEAD		CUTTHROAT		RAINBOW		DOLLY V		
			T	R	T	R	T	R	T	R	
4/24	Fish Creek	4	0	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	
4/25	Fish Creek	7	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4/29/34	Klavak Lk.										
	(Outlet)	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	
5/1	Naha River	5	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	
5/2	Naha River	11	14	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	
5/6	Lk McDonald										
	(Outlet)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
5/8	Naha River	2	1	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	
5/9	Naha River	9	15	10	0	0	0	0	0	6	
5/15	Fish Creek	2	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	
5/16	Fish Creek	5	0	6	1	0	0	0	37	0	
5/29	Lk McDonald										
	(Outlet)	5	3	3	0	0	7	2	6	10	
5/30	(Inlet + Outlet)	12	4	4	0	0	6	0	10	0	
5/31	(Outlet)	4	4	4	1	0	3	0	4	0	
6/9	Boulder Lake	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	
6/9	Anan Lake	2	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	
6/12	Naha River	3	0	5	5	0	15	0	0	15	
6/13	Naha River	3	0	3	3	0	5	0	1	4	
6/17	Badger Lake	2	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	

Very little fishing pressure occurred prior to May 1 on the streams and lakes. Due to the late spring, ice remained late in the low lakes and most of the high lakes (above 1000 ft.) are still ice covered.