

April 22, 1986

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SPORT FISH DIV.
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Dear Sir/Ms.:

In combination with the on-going lake enrichment research program at Redoubt Lake the Alaska Department of Fish and Game-Division of Fisheries Rehabilitation, Enhancement and Development (ADF&G-FRED) is proposing stocking chinook salmon fry into this lake in 1986. The objective of this project is to take advantage of the identified under-utilized rearing area of the lake and the increased food production from fertilization to produce adult chinook for the established fisheries in the Sitka Sound area. In addition this project will produce research information to biologists studying the rearing ability of chinook fry in a lake environment.

This lake is currently accessible to anadromous fish populations which include: Dolly Varden char, sockeye, coho, pink and chum salmon. Due to the continuation of the fertilization project, it is the Division's opinion that this fry stocking project will have a negligible effect on the lake's current fish production ability. Since this lake is currently accessible to anadromous fish populations there is a possibility of establishing a self-perpetuating chinook run to this lake if the project is successful.

Fisheries and limnological investigations were initiated at this lake by the ADF&G-FRED Limnology Section in 1982 as part of the statewide cooperative lake enrichment project which includes participation from the USDA Forest Service and Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association. These investigations have been conducted continuously from 1982 and are anticipated to continue in the future to evaluate the results from this fry stocking and lake enrichment program.

This proposed stocking project will involve transplanting one million 1.5-2.0 gram fry from the ADF&G-FRED Snettisham Hatchery during the third week of July. These fry are the progeny of broodstock collected at the ADF&G-FRED Crystal Lake Hatchery (stock originating from Andrews Creek) during the fall of 1985. This chinook broodstock was screened and cleared by the ADF&G-FRED Pathology Laboratory for appropriate diseases. Prior to stocking, the fry will again be screened for disease in accordance with Alaska state law.

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Approximately ten percent (100,000) of the stocked fry will be tagged in the hatchery using coded wire tags and adipose fin clips. This tagging is designed to monitor the adult survival success, distribution and contribution to the established commercial and sport fisheries in the area.

The Department is also currently planning to evaluate the freshwater survival, growth, and production of these fry in combination with the on-going lake enrichment project. The stocked fry will remain in the lake from one to two years before emigrating to the ocean. If these stocked fry perform successfully during the first year in the lake additional fry could be stocked in successive years.

Adult chinook will be available for harvest from two to six years after the fish enter the ocean. The most optimistic production timetable for this project would be to provide adults to the fishery as early as 1990.

If you have any comments and/or concerns about this project, please send them to me preferrably before May 15, 1986. If I can provide any additional information concerning this project, please contact me at 747-6239.

Sincerely,



David L. Barto
Fishery Biologist
Division of Fisheries Rehabilitation,
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Redoubt Lake King Salmon Stocking Project

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