

April 20, 1964

REPORT OF TRACTOR ACTION IN SALMON CREEK

Returning from lunch on March 23, 1964, I observed a tractor in Salmon Creek, Juneau. The tractor was pushing logs into the creek bed. On reaching the office it was determined that no permit was issued for this activity. I reported to Mr. Fields of the Protection Division, informing him of the violation. In mid-afternoon I accompanied Mr. Fields, Mr. Huizer and Mr. Taylor to Salmon Creek to determine the amount of damage done.

Observation at the creek revealed the tractor had covered an area the width of the stream for approximately 500 feet. This entire area is utilized for spawning by chum and pink salmon and Dolly Varden char. In 1963, the Commercial Fisheries Division recorded 325 chum salmon in Salmon Creek. This was only in one observation so this would be a minimum figure. The area where the tractor was operating is utilized as the prime spawning area as over 75% of the redds are found there. If 50% of the redds in this area were damaged (which again is a minimum figure) the resultant market value of the fish lost would be between \$300.00 and \$500.00. This figure is based on returning adults after they would have been subjected to natural mortality amounting to 99% of the original outmigrants.

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