REPORT OF ROADSIDE LAKES SURVEYED ALONG DENALI HWY.--JULY 1965

MUD LAKE ¼ mile south side. Existing blue card in file. No nets were set in 1965 as lake has a direct connection with the Gulkana R. and therefore no significant changes in fish populations would be expected. A visual check was made and little evidence of sport fishing activity was noted. Some grayling fishing is conducted along outlet creek.

3 Mile north side Small pond located 30 yards off road. Vegetation visible on pond surface--No value.

6.5 Mile north side--100 yards off road and lying directly between 7 mile lake and highway. Is a 3 or 4 acre pond which is very shallow and has no value.

(7) Mile north side Existing blue card in file. An excellent fishery for stunted lake trout. 2 nets had a catch frequency of 1.30 with average length of 15.0". This compares with a catch frequency of 1.76 and average length of 13.5" in 1960. Extensive litter, trails etc. indicate a heavy public utilization. Sport fishing has probably resulted in lowering of catch frequency and increase in average length. This lake needs the introduction of a prey species to increase the size of lake trout.

9 Mile north side. Forgot to check this lake which lies in a deep canyon and may be quite deep. Map Mt. Hayes (A-4) shows lake to be perhaps 20-30 acres.

(10) Mile south side adjacent to road Existing blue card in file. 2 nets were set and lake trout to 15 lbs. were taken in addition to many lake whitefish. Grayling were observed but not captured. This lake appears to be very productive. It contains a large prey fish population and a near maximum and almost totally unexploited lake trout population.

(TEARDROP) 11 miles south side This small lake of app. 4 acres lies app. 150 yds. south of the highway and app. 100 yds. downstream from 10 mile lake. The outlet of 10 mile lake is the inlet of this lake. This lake was nether sounded nor netted. However, many grayling can be observed rising and sport fishermen were observed at the lake shore on numerous occasions. Fishermen were checked with grayling and fine-scale suckers. Lake whitefish must also exist in this lake. The lake is probably too shallow to contain fish year round and is probably a summer forage area for grayling. Despite its small size it has considerable value as a grayling fishery.

NETTED Aug 65

OCTOPUS 11.2 mile, south side This lake is another in a complex of 9 lakes including 10 mile, Teardrop, and several small shallow ponds. The outlet of Teardrop flows app. 400 yds. before becoming the inlet of Octopus Lake. The lake lies about 400 yds. southeast of the Denali Hwy. directly behind a state highway gravel pit. 1 net set produced lake trout, grayling and lake whitefish. The lake was not sounded but appears to have considerable depth. If lake were advertized and had a roadside sign it should have considerable recreational value. Made out blue card.
Directly behind Octopus Lake is another lake without inlet or outlet in which grayling were observed to be rising. No survey was made on this unnamed lake.

CARIBOU mile 13, north side, 1¼ miles off hwy. Set 2 nets and found no record of 1961 rainbow plant. Lake is now barren. This lake does not contain much organic material; looks to be deep. In general does not appear to be a lake which winterkills. Survey card shows max. depth of 40'. However, lake was only ½ ice free on July 7, 1965. Since this is the only major lake in the area in which a rainbow fishery might be established, a late winter DO check should be made.

16.8 Mile north side, 200 yds. off road This lake contains a stunted population of lake trout similar to 7 mile lake. Female lake trout are mature at 14". Like 7 mile lake, this lake needs a transplant of prey fish to accelerate the growth of lake trout. This lake is close to road and is well suited to casting for lake trout from the shore.

RUSTY 16.8 mile, north side, 1/3 mile off road This lake is located almost directly behind 16.8 mile lake. Lack of time precluded test netting this lake. It appears deep and grayling were observed rising. Several fishermen, contacted as they walked to hwy. from Rusty Lake, had nearly limit catches of large grayling and reported many small lake trout. This lake should be surveyed and netted when time permits. It probably, like 16.8 mile lake, does not contain a prey fish population.

17 Mile north side, adjacent to hwy. max. depth 5' Grayling apparently enter through the outlet creek. 1 net set produced 3 grayling but good sport catches were reported from this pond. This pond has some recreational value as a summer grayling fishery. Probably no grayling are present until until mid-June or even later.

18.3 Mile both sides of road New hwy. passes over a small pond which produced good grayling fishing in previous yrs. However, new hwy. roadbed was relocated directly through lake. Weight of roadbed pushed out large banks of mud on either side. Water is turbid with 12" visibility. 1 net set produced no catch. This lake no longer has any recreational

value. It is interesting to note that inlet is very tiny and the only time fish could pass through it would be during the spring runoff. Therefore, in previous years grayling must have overwintered in this 6' deep pond or died out each year.

TANGLE LAKES SYSTEM OMITTED

DOWNWIND mile 28.1, north side, 100 yds off road, max. depth listed as 12'. We rechecked depth and found max. depth only 6'. No recreational value. Another similar sized lake lies directly behind (NE) and appears to be somewhat deeper. However, did not have time to sound this lake. No fish were seen. This lake should be sounded and netted as it might support a limited number of grayling.

29.2 Mile south side, 20 yds. from road. Large pulloff area present. In 1962 at net check showed lake to be barren. We rechecked with 2 sets and made no catch. Survey cards state "to be stocked with rainbow". This lake has little or no shoal area, is very small in size, and appears very unproductive. Could perhaps grow a few rainbow. Hardly justifies a planting trip unless other lakes suitable for rainbow can be found in the same general area. V

GLACIER mile 31, north side, complex of 3 lakes lying ½ to 1 mile off hwy., the largest of which is Glacier. Walked into Glacier Lake and sampled with pole and line and determined that lake trout are present. This lake and the 2 smaller lakes lying to the south should be surveyed. 4 sport fishermen were at Glacier Lake, being transported in by a helicopter air taxi. Est. acreage of Glacier Lake is about 600 while other 2 lakes contain 300 and 125.

30-36 mi. north side of road a series of 100 or more lakes and ponds lying on a big flat shelf. Most of these are undoubtedly shallow. None were surveyed as all were judged to be too small, too shallow, or too far from the road

36 Mile north side A single unnamed lake of 80 to 100 acres lies app. 1/3 mile from road. This lake was not surveyed and may well be shallow. However, depth should be checked.
NETTED see FOLDER

41 Mile north side Just east of MacClaren R. are 3 small ponds. File has lake survey cards on 2 of them (called 41 mile lake and 41.5 mile lake) All 3 are small and shallow and have no recreational value.

41.7 Mile Just west of MacClaren R. Bridge. 1 lake lies just north of road, another lies just south of road and adjacent to MacClaren River Lodge. Both lakes sre shallow (6' or 7') and are connected to the MacClaren River. Lake to south, beside lodge, contains grayling, whitefish, and suckers. Lake is open to the public and has some value as a grayling fishery. Lake to north of road is turbid from river inflow and does not have any recreational value.

46.9 Mile 2 small lakes lying just to north of hwy. Lake to west has no inlet or outlet, 6' deep and has no value as a sport fishery. Lake to east is connected into stream system which runs into 50 mile lake. This lake of about 7 acres, and max. depth of 6', is blocked at upstream end by a beaver dam and at downstream end flows through a culvert to south side of hwy. This pond contains many large grayling during the summer months. Trails, litter, etc. indicate considerable public utilization. 1 net set produced a catch frequency of 1.44 of grayling. Good parking area in adjacent gravel pit. A sign would increase public utilization.

48.8 Mile south side, 6 acre lake adjacent to hwy. This lake was only visually checked and no fish activity was noted. Lake appears t be quite shallow but a brief depth check should be made when time permits.

50 Mile north side, adjacent to hwy. This large lake of app. 300 acres is tied in with an extensive creek system running to 46.9 mile lake on the east and into clearwater creek on the west. Did not test net as original test netting showed only large catch of suckers and whitefish. However, now have received a request to conduct subsistence fishery in the lake during the summer months.

50.5 Mile south side A 15 acre, unnamed lake which appears to be quite shallow; no depth check was made and no fish activity was noted.

72.8 Mile north side Survey card lists lake as 75 acres and 31' deep. Found lake to be about 6 acres and 3' deep. May contain grayling in summer as outlet runs down to Susitna R. No net set was made. Survey card lists round whitefish, lake whitefish, and suckers. I doubt that this lake contains any of the above species and net catch does not list them. May have some recreational value if grayling are present during summer. I probably should have set a net.

74 Mile north side Map lists this as Swampbuggy Lake; our survey card lists it as 74 Mile Lake. Per 1962 netting is 15' deep and barren. I did not test net as we have no grayling stock available for a 1965 plant. However, should be renetted before planting.

77.5 Mile north side, adjacent to Susitna Lodge. Used as floatplane base by owner of lodge. Per lodge owner's wife, this lake has a max. depth of 7'. I did not have time to check this lake but may have value as a grayling gishery if a good outlet exists to Susitna River.

Our survey ended at mile 77.5 at the Susitna Lodge. As time and budget permits I believe the following actions should be taken on the Denali area:

(1) Continue roadside survey from mile 77.5 to park entrance

(2) Transplant lake whitefish, probably from 10 mile lake, into 7 Mile Lake, 16.8 Mile Lake, and if necessary into Rusty Lake

(3) Post roadside fishing signs on :

| | |
|---|---|
| 7 Mile Lake | Teardrop Lake |
| 10 Mile Lake | Octopus Lake |
| Rusty Lake | 17 Mile Lake |
| 16.8 Mile Lake | 46.9 Mile Lake |

Lake adjacent to MacClaren Lodge, south of road

(4) The following large lakes are either being used for fly in fish trips from local lodges or are large enough to justify a survey by aircraft:

| | |
|---|---|
| Swede Lake | Glacier Lake |
| Little Swede Lake | Roosevelt Lake |
| Boulder Lake | Tenas Lake |
| Deadman Lake | Big Lake |

unnamed lake located between Fielding Lake and 7 Mile Lake
unnamed lake in Hungry Hollow (lat. 63 N, Long. 145° 45' W) in which Earl Butcher reports a rainbow population exists

It was noted that monofilament gill nets consistently had larger catches than did linen nets. Therefore, all lakes in which a principal objective is measuring lake trout characteristics, should be test netted with monofilament nets. Also, we determined the presence of lake trout in several lakes (such as 10 Mile Lake) in which they did not show up in previous net catches. I believe this was due to our netting being conducted before the water temp. rose above 55°F. Previous surveys in which lake trout were not detected were conducted in August when the water was quite warm.

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Mile 7 — Had reports that one fisherman caught six lake trout running 14 - 16 inches.

10 mile — A net was set and ten white fish were caught. Lake trout were caught in nets and on poles. Lake has depth of 55 feet. Lake trout ranged from 34.2 to 18.5. This lake seems to be overlooked by fishermen because there is an absence of parking facilities.

Tangle — Lake was checked but only grayling were taken. Thirty-two anglers were fishing which shows a heavily fished lake.

Mile 46.9 — Took creel census at both North and South lakes. No fish were were taken. Lake is 4 to 5 feet deep which made it difficult to fish.

Mirror Lake — Had reports of Lake trout. This lake has a rocky shore line. Water has visibility of 4 feet and milky. Lake would be good for Rainbow. Nets were set at 3:32 pm. and picked up at 11:30 am. No lake trout were caught.

Summit Lake — Creel census was taken. Only one grayling was taken. At 9:30 pm. condition was poor because of rainy weather and it was late in the day. Mrs. Ayers reported because of the railroad it is heavily fished and an abundance of lake trout have been taken. Lake has a large amount of White fish. Net was not set because of lack of time but was fished with tackle. White fish were caught and lake seemed very active.

Mrs. Ayers

Mile 129 — Lake is $\frac{1}{4}$ mile off road. There is a cabin sight to which you can drive. Lake covers approximately 10 acres and seems to be 20 feet deep or more. Grayling and Whitefish were reported.

Mile 124 — Lake lies eight miles out of town, one on the south side and one on the north side. These lakes are both approximately 7 acres in size. The lake was not sounded but appears to be quite shallow. Nets were not set but it is reported that the lake contains Whitefish but that it is not overpopulated. Weather was rainy so lake was not fished.

Report of roadside lakes surveyed along Denali HWY.

Summit Lake — Two nets were set in summit lake for a period of 18 hr. Grayling, lake trout and a large amount of white fish were taken. The lake has a surface temperture of 50 deg., depth temperture were not taken because of high winds and rough rolling waves. The lake has a low rating in plankton samples. Lake trout seemed to be small, running from 14.0 inch to 18.5 A deep net was not set which could be taken into consederation for the small lake trout, or the lake is overly fished being so close to the railroad and faa station.

Wright Lake — This lake is 15 acres it has an inlet at the East end of the lake, on the west end is the outlet, this outlet is 1 to 2 ft. wide and varries according to the seasons. 19 white fish were caught in a 15 hr. set net period. stickle back are in lake but was unable to catch in gill net. Plankton samples were taken. This lake seems to have a fair supply of plankton. surface temp of this lake is 64degres, ,according to the electric thermometer The lake has a thermocline at 30 ft. in which the temperture drops to 58 degres. The lake is 400 yards long and 100 yardss wide. The depths. run from 5 ft. to 52 ft. This lake would do well with a supply of rainbow if right of way could be obtained.

Joe lake — This lake is located mile 125.5 on the denali, south side. the lake is fairly shallow with depth not more than 12 ft. The bottom of this lake is quite aquadic vegitated which would cause difficulity in sports fishing other than fly fishing. The lake has grayling running from 7.3 to 11.8 in. One net was set for a period of 16 hr. The lake covers 18 acres , and has a surface temperture of 50 degres. The lake rates fair on the plankton sample test.

Jerry lake — This lake lies adjacent to joe lake mile 125.5 on the denali hwy. There is a pull off on the south side and the lake lies 1/8 of a mile from the road. The lake covers 23 acres but dispite its small size it has considerable value to grayling fishing. two nets were set for a period of 16 hr. 30 grayling were taken , ranging from 9.1 to 14.0 in. The lake rates very High on the plankton sample taken. Water temp. is 48 degres and clear The shore line is mud from 1 to 3 ft. deep The lake itself is 15 ft. deep. The temp. is colder than most the lakes we have checked standing at 48 segres.

Sterensons lake — This lake lies at mile ~~184~~ 84 on denali hwy. It is on the south side and 1/4 mile from the denali hwy. The lake is avout 12 acres fould lake to be 15 ft. deep. The rates fair on the plankton sample test Temp. at this time was 48 degres . The lake is 3 to 4 ft. deep all except a small hole which is 15 ft. deep. The lake does not seem deep enough for future studies or transplanting Although 11 grayling was caught in a 19 hr. set net period using 2 gill nets.