

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Fisheries Division
Job Progress Report

State: Montana Project Title: Statewide Fisheries Investigations
Project No: F-46-R-4 Study Title: Survey and Inventory of Cold Water Streams
Job No: I-C Job Title: Upper Clark Fork River Study
Project Period: July 1, 1990 through June 30, 1991

1. Maintain instream flows at present conditions.

The Clark Fork instream flow moratorium was passed by the 1991 legislature. No further water use permits will be issued for depletion diversions for four years. The FWP instream flow reservation request will also be delayed for four years.

2. Determine why trout numbers are low and why the juvenile segment is absent from the trout population.

Additional studies on this topic were conducted in 1991. Data are unavailable for analysis.

3. Use data collected in fish population studies and studies by other agencies to direct clean-up efforts for maximum benefits to the river fishery.

Continued clean up efforts were conducted in the Warm Springs treatment pond complex in 1990-91. Work with those directing the NRDA suit was undertaken in 1990-91 and will continue.

4. Work with other agencies to see that data are collected which will supplement fisheries data.

During the reporting period expanded cooperation efforts were implemented with ARCO consultants, USFWS, USEPA, MT DHES, and consultants working for the Governor's Office under the NRDA program.

5. Develop citizen participation in river cleanup.

Formal paper presentations on Clark Fork fisheries topics were made at two scientific meetings. Speaking opportunities were fulfilled with schools, civic groups and sportsmen's clubs. Media attention and coverage of Clark Fork topics has been intensive during 1989-90.

Prepared by Wayne F. Hadley
September 4, 1991

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