

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

FISHERIES DIVISION

JOB PROGRESS REPORT

State : Montana

Project Number: F46R4

Job Number: Ik

Project Title: Statewide Fisheries Investigations

Study Title: Survey and Inventory of Cold Water Streams

Job Title: Southwestern Montana Cold Water Stream Investigations

Period Covered: July 1, 1990 through June 30, 1991

JOB OBJECTIVES

1. Make population estimates of fluvial grayling on at least two sections with objective of maintaining population size of at least 40 II and older grayling per mile (Headwaters of Big Hole to Pintlar Creek) and older brook trout at >400 per mile.

Population estimates were made on two sections of the Big Hole River. Data will be included in a future report.

2. Maintain rainbow trout populations in mid-Big Hole River (Pintlar Creek to Divide) at densities >1300 age I and older per mile, brown trout densities at >200 age II and older per mile and limited numbers of grayling and brook trout.

Population estimates were made on one section of the Big Hole River in the mid-river reach. Data will be included in a future report.

3. Maintain quality of existing arctic grayling and brook trout spawning and wintering areas.

Time was spent with private landowners adjacent to the Big Hole River informing them of the importance of instream flows to grayling reproduction and rearing.

Prepared by: Richard Oswald and Richard Vincent

Date: August 26, 1991