

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

FISHERIES DIVISION

JOB PROGRESS REPORT

STATE: Montana PROJECT NO.: F-46-R-4  
TITLE: Statewide Fisheries Investigations JOB NO.: IV-F  
STUDY TITLE: Survey and Inventory of Warmwater Lakes  
JOB TITLE: Tiber Reservoir Creel Census  
PERIOD COVERED: July 1, 1990 through June 30, 1991

OBJECTIVES

1. Determine fishing pressure, harvest and angler characteristics for the high use portion of the fishing season (mid-April through mid-October).
2. Estimate relative fishing pressure and harvest during the ice fishing season.
3. Determine food habits of walleye and northern pike.

PROGRESS

A local pilot was contracted to make periodic aerial counts of all anglers on the reservoir. A randomized aerial count schedule was developed. Counts were made at randomly selected times once per day on five weekend days and three weekdays during April. Flights were made twice daily on four weekend days and six weekdays per month during the summer. A creel clerk was hired to conduct angler interviews on one weekend day per week during April and on four days per week during the summer. A total of 247 parties representing 580 anglers were interviewed during the report period. Anglers reported fishing 2,627 hours, harvesting 256 walleyes, 95 northern pike, 116 yellow perch and 21 rainbow trout. Fieldwork is scheduled to finish at the end of March, 1992. Data analysis will follow and a final report is scheduled to be completed in spring, 1993.

Prepared by: Stephen A. Leathe

Date: September, 1991

PRINCIPAL FISH SPECIES INVOLVED:

Walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, rainbow trout.

CODE NUMBERS OF WATERS REFERRED TO IN REPORT:

14-9240 Tiber Reservoir (Lake Elwell)