

END OF YEAR PROJECT REPORT/JOB PROGRESS REPORT  
FY 93: JULY 1, 1992 - JUNE 30, 1993

Division Fisheries Region 3 SBAS Project Number 3321

Project Title Southwest Montana Coldwater Lakes

Federal Aid Project Number F-46-R-6

Study II Job C

Report Period 7/1/92 Ending Date 6/30/93

Principal Investigators

E. Richard Vincent, Regional Fisheries Manager  
Mark Lere, Fisheries Program Specialist  
Brad Shepard, Fisheries & Wildlife Biologist  
Ron Spoon, Fisheries & Wildlife Biologist  
Richard Oswald, Fisheries & Wildlife Biologist  
Jeff Bagdanov, Fisheries Fieldworker II

OBJECTIVES

1. Increase late summer and fall reservoir pool in Ruby Reservoir (Post irrigation levels) to provide greater amount of aquatic habitat. **COMPLETED.**
2. Insure that land uses do not adversely affect lake water quality or tributary stream spawning habitat. **COMPLETED.**
3. Collect necessary information to properly manage mountain lake fisheries as time and funding allows. **COMPLETED.**
4. Maintain catch rates at an acceptable level for mountain lake cutthroat fisheries. **COMPLETED.**
5. Maintain wild rainbow trout fishery in Hidden lake sustaining 1000 angler days/yr. with catch rates of >0.5 fish/hr. Maintain densities reflected in average sample of >20 fish per 125 foot floating gill net set. **COMPLETED.**
6. Maintain fishery of Elk Lake sustaining 4000 angler days/yr. with catch rates of 0.5 fish/hr. Maintain densities reflected in average sample of >18 cutthroat per 125 foot gill net set with the opportunity to catch trophy grayling. **COMPLETED.**
7. Maintain wild rainbow and brown trout fishery in Ruby Reservoir sustaining 4000 angler days/yr. with catch

rates of 0.5 fish/hr. and rainbow densities reflected in average samples of >18 fish per gill net set. **COMPLETED.**

8. Develop a consistent rainbow trout fishery with the opportunity to catch edible size yellow perch in Dailey Lake. **COMPLETED.**

9. Introduce Eagle Lake strain rainbow trout to Haypress lakes and establish population as a brood source for further introductions. **COMPLETED.**

10. Manage Culver Pond as a trophy brook trout fishery with the opportunity of catching brook trout >18 inches. **COMPLETED.**

11. Manage McDonald Pond as a trophy rainbow trout fishery with the opportunity of catching rainbow trout >18 inches. **COMPLETED.**

12. Provide opportunity for catching trophy size cutthroat trout in selected mountain lakes of the region. **COMPLETED.**

Prepared by E. Richard Vincent

Date 9/15/93

Regional Supervisor Richard Vincent

Date 9/17/93