

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS  
FISHERIES DIVISION

JOB PROGRESS REPORT

State: MONTANA Project Title: STATEWIDE FISHERIES INVESTIGATIONS  
Project No: F-46-R-6 Study Title: SURVEY AND INVENTORY OF COOLWATER AND WARMWATER ECOSYSTEMS  
Job. No: I-s Job Title: BIGHORN WALLEYE EGG COLLECTION  
Project Period: July 1, 1992 - June 30, 1993

OBJECTIVES AND DEGREE OF ATTAINMENT

- 1) To expand the walleye egg taking operation at Bighorn Lake to meet increased state demands for eggs.

Electrofished 7 nights for mature walleye on Bighorn Lake between April 19 and April 28, 1993. Concentrated efforts in the Ok-A-Beh area where most mature walleye have been collected in the past. Cold spring weather slowed water temperature increases which extended the spawning period and caused female walleye to ripen slowly. A total of 203 mature walleye were collected including 86 females, but only 9 females were ripe when collected. Spawned 53 females between April 23 and May 3 collecting approximately 6.6 million eggs. Planted 5 million walleye fry and 196,000 fingerlings back into Bighorn Lake.