

PROJECT SUMMARY

F-12-R-10 - Western Montana Fishery Study

Job. No.2 - Georgetown Lake Creel Census

The objective of this study is to obtain estimates of winter ice fishing pressure and angling success on Georgetown Lake. For many years the lake has been opened to ice fishing on weekends and holidays, in effect to keep fishing pressure at a minimum. Theorizing that a seven-day-a-week season would not greatly increase fishing pressure but would tend to distribute the week end pressure through the week, the lake was opened to fishing every day of the week during the 1963-64 winter season. A secondary objective then will be to compare pressure and harvest estimates for the two types of seasons.

A creel census technician has been collecting completed trip information from anglers on Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and an average of 3 days during the week. This information, supplemented by car and light counts made at 3 hour intervals, is used to estimate total pressure and catch estimates. The data analysis is under the direction of the department statistician.

This job will terminate June 30, 1964.