

MONTANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
FEDERAL AID IN FISH RESTORATION SECTION
HELENA, MONTANA

JOB COMPLETION REPORT
INVESTIGATIONS PROJECTS

State of Montana

Project No. F-7-R-5

Job No. I

Title of Job: Inventory of the Waters of the Project Area

Abstract:

Two lakes and one stream in the project area were surveyed for physical and biological characteristics. All data have been recorded on lake and stream survey cards.

Objectives:

The purpose of this project is to determine the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of the waters of highest importance to the total recreational fisheries picture of the project area, and where practicable to obtain estimates of existing or potential fisherman use.

Techniques Used:

Width, length, depths and volumes were taken of the streams and lakes surveyed. Samples of fish were taken by angling or gill nets and bodies of water were observed for spawning facilities.

Findings:

Two lakes and one stream were surveyed this past year. Due to the amount of time spent assisting on the Marias River rehabilitation (F-15-D-2) not many streams and lakes were surveyed.

One high mountain lake (Wildcat) was surveyed for spawning facilities and fish populations. The spawning facilities found were adequate for the amount of fisherman use that the lake would get. This lake is located on the divide between the Swan River and the South Fork of the Flathead. It is about a three-mile hike into the lake. Cutthroat trout were found to be present.

Skag Lake near Lake Mary Ronan was surveyed for species of fish present. No fish were found and the deepest part of the lake was 19 feet. No spawning facilities were present and it was recommended for an annual plant of cutthroat trout.

Prospect Creek, south of Thompson Falls, was observed for stream flow, at various places on the stream.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that this study be continued so that inport fishing waters of the project areas can be managed wisely.

Summary:

Two lakes and one stream were surveyed for physical and biological characteristics. All data have been recorded on lake and stream survey cards. Data collected have been used in changing the fish planting programs and fishing regulations for the better utilization of fish.

Data and Reports:

The original Data and reports are with the project leader at Kalispell and duplicate reports are filed in the Helena office.

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Date April 20, 1956