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A FIVE-YEAR FISH DISTRIBUTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN  
FOR THE  
POLSON HATCHERY DISTRICT  
MONTANA

Field Work by

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Compiled By

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE  
FOREST SERVICE  
REGION ONE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Approved By  
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Table 3a. Management data on streams recommended for planting in the Flathead River Drainage (East Side) from the mouth of Swan River to the junction with the Clark Fork of the Columbia River.

Sheet 1 of 1

| Name of stream | Miles fishing water | Width in feet | Number tributaries | Temperature degrees Fahrenheit | Food condition | Amount of fishing | Species fish present            | List barriers in stream or rearing pond possibilities           |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Flathead River | 70                  | 300           | 10                 |                                | Fair           | Light             | Ct, Rb, Wf, Bass perch, catfish | Large power dam 5 mi. below Polson                              |
| Spring Creek   | 6                   | 8             |                    |                                | Good           | Med.              | Ct, Rb                          |                                                                 |
| Post Creek     | 25                  | 10            | 12                 |                                | "              | Heavy             | Ct, Rb                          |                                                                 |
| Jocko River    | 35                  | 20            | 8                  |                                | "              | "                 | Ct, Rb, DV, S Squaw             | Many irrigation canals                                          |
| Flathead Creek | 12                  | 6             |                    |                                | "              | Light             | Ct                              | State fish rearing ponds under construction near head of stream |

Table 3b. Management data on streams recommended for planting in the Swan River Drainage.

Sheet 1 of 2

| Name of stream   | Miles fishing water | Width in feet | Number tributaries | Temperature degrees Fahrenheit | Food condition | Amount of fishing | Species fish present                            | List barriers in stream or rearing pond possibilities |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Swan River       | 100                 | 90            | 38                 |                                | Good           | Heavy             | Ct, Rb, Eb, DV, Wf, Sockeye, Squaw, S, Peamouth | 20' power dam with fish ladder 3 mi. from mouth       |
| Noisy Creek      | 3                   | 6             |                    |                                | Med.           | Light             | Ct                                              |                                                       |
| Birch Creek      | 4                   | 6             |                    |                                | Med.           | Light             | Ct                                              |                                                       |
| Wolf Creek       | 7                   | 7             |                    |                                | Good           | Light             | Ct                                              |                                                       |
| Hall Creek       | 7                   | 5             |                    |                                | Med.           | Light             | Eb                                              | Falls 1½ mi. from mouth                               |
| N.Fk. Lost Creek | 9                   | 7             |                    |                                | Med.           | Light             | Ct, Eb                                          | 10' falls 6 mi. from mouth and 60' falls              |
| S.Fk. Lost Creek | 12                  | 7             |                    |                                | Med.           | Light             | Ct, Eb                                          | 7 mi. from mouth                                      |
| Soup Creek       | 9                   | 8             | 1                  |                                | Poor           | Light             | Ct                                              |                                                       |
| Goat Creek       | 11                  | 10            | 3                  |                                | Fair           | Light             | Ct                                              |                                                       |
| Squeezer Creek   | 8                   | 8             |                    |                                | Good           | Light             | Ct                                              |                                                       |
| Lion Creek       | 12                  | 30            |                    |                                | Good           | Med.              | Ct, DV                                          |                                                       |
| Pony Creek       | 7                   | 15            | 2                  |                                | Good           | Light             | Ct, DV                                          | Beaver dams, falls 7 mi. from mouth                   |
| Dog Creek        | 7                   | 15            | 1                  |                                | Good           | Light             | Ct, DV                                          | Beaver dams                                           |
| Condon Creek     | 9                   | 18            | 2                  |                                | Good           | Light             | Ct, DV                                          | " "                                                   |
| Smith Creek      | 9                   | 10            | 1                  |                                | Good           | Light             | Ct, DV                                          | " "                                                   |
| Cooney Creek     | 5                   | 10            |                    |                                | Good           | None              | Ct, DV                                          | " , closed to fishing                                 |
| Rumble Creek     | 6                   | 10            | 2                  |                                | Good           | None              | Ct, DV                                          | " do                                                  |
| Buck Creek       | 7                   | 10            |                    |                                | Good           | Light             | Ct, DV                                          | " "                                                   |
| Barber Creek     | 8                   | 10            | 2                  |                                | Good           | Light             | Ct, DV                                          | " "                                                   |
| Beaver Creek     | 14                  | 14            |                    |                                | Good           | None              | Ct, DV                                          | " do                                                  |
| Glacier Creek    | 17                  | 30            | 4                  |                                | Good           | None              | Ct, DV                                          | " do, between Stoner homestead and Glacier Lake       |
| Kraft Creek      | 9                   | 15            |                    |                                | Good           | None              | Ct, DV                                          | Beaver dams                                           |
| Red Butte Creek  | 4                   | 10            |                    |                                | Good           | None              | Ct, DV                                          |                                                       |

Table 3b. Management data on streams recommended for  
planting in the Swan River Drainage

Sheet 2 of 2

| Name of stream          | Miles<br>fishing<br>water | Width<br>in<br>feet | Number<br>tribu-<br>taries | Temperature<br>degrees<br>Fahrenheit | Food<br>condition | Amount<br>of<br>fishing | Species<br>fish<br>present | List barriers in<br>stream or roaring pond<br>possibilities |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Frenchy Creek           | 2                         | 10                  |                            |                                      | Good              | None                    | Ct, DV                     |                                                             |
| Hemlock Creek           | 5                         | 10                  |                            |                                      | "                 | Light                   | Ct, Rb                     |                                                             |
| Elk Creek               | 10                        | 25                  | 2                          |                                      | "                 | Med.                    | Ct, Rb, DV                 | Beaver dams                                                 |
| N. Fk. Elk Creek        | 3                         | 10                  |                            |                                      | "                 | Light                   | Ct, Rb                     |                                                             |
| Cold or Gold Creek      | 12                        | 14                  | 2                          |                                      | "                 | Med.                    | Ct                         |                                                             |
| N. Fk. Cold or Gold Cr. | 4                         | 10                  |                            |                                      | "                 | Med.                    | Ct                         |                                                             |
| Jim Creek               | 20                        | 15                  | 1                          |                                      | "                 | Light                   | Ct                         | "                                                           |
| Piper Creek             | 14                        | 15                  | 1                          |                                      | Med.              | Med.                    | Ct                         | "                                                           |
| Moore Creek             | 3                         | 10                  |                            |                                      | Good              | Light                   | Ct                         | "                                                           |
| Cedar Creek             | 12                        | 15                  | 2                          |                                      | "                 | Med.                    | Ct                         |                                                             |
| S. Fk. Cedar Creek      | 2                         | 8                   |                            |                                      | "                 | Light                   | Ct                         | "                                                           |
| Fatty Creek             | 7                         | 10                  |                            |                                      | "                 | "                       | Ct                         |                                                             |
| Woodward Creek          | 15                        | 12                  |                            |                                      | "                 | Med.                    | Ct                         | "                                                           |
| Whitetail Creek         | 3                         | 12                  |                            |                                      | "                 | Light                   | Ct, Eb                     | "                                                           |
| Gilbert or Gildart Cr.  | 3                         | 12                  |                            |                                      | Med.              | "                       | Ct                         | "                                                           |
| Kain's Slough           |                           |                     | Feeder for Swan Lake       |                                      | Good              | None                    | Ct, Eb                     |                                                             |

Table 4a. Management data on the lakes recommended for planting in the Flathead River Drainage (East Side) from the mouth of Swan River to the junction with the Clark Fork River.

Sheet 1 of 1

| Name of lake        | Acreage | Temperature<br>degrees<br>F. | Food<br>condi-<br>tion | Species<br>fish<br>present                                                                                   | Percent of area under<br>30 feet<br>in depth | Percent of area over<br>100 feet<br>in depth | Amount of vegeta-<br>tion pres-<br>ent | Principal type<br>of shore line;<br>mud, gravel,<br>rock, etc. | Drains into           |
|---------------------|---------|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Flathead Lake       | 120,320 |                              | Good                   | Ct, Rb,<br>DV, Wf, Sf,<br>Bass, Perch<br>S, Squaw,<br>Peamouth,<br>Sockeye<br>Bass, Sf,<br>Catfish,<br>Perch | 20                                           | 40                                           | Med.                                   | Gravel, rock                                                   | Flathead Riv.         |
| S. Pablo Reservoir  | 40      |                              | Fair                   | Rb, Perch,<br>Catfish,<br>Bass, Sf<br>Bass, Perch<br>Sf, Catfish                                             | 20                                           |                                              | Med.                                   | Rock, mud                                                      | Flathead Riv.         |
| L. Crow Reservoir   | 160     |                              | Fair                   | Bass, Perch<br>Sf, Catfish                                                                                   | 50                                           |                                              | Med.                                   | Mud, gravel                                                    | Irrigation<br>ditches |
| Horte Reservoir     | 120     |                              | Fair                   | Bass, Perch<br>Sf, Catfish                                                                                   | 25                                           |                                              | Med.                                   | Mud, gravel                                                    | do                    |
| Kicking Horse Res.  | 400     |                              | Good                   | Bass, Perch<br>Catfish, S                                                                                    | 35                                           |                                              | Large                                  | "                                                              | Nine Pipe Res.        |
| Nine Pipe Reservoir | 500     |                              | Good                   | Sf, Perch,<br>Bass, Cat-<br>fish                                                                             | 50                                           |                                              | "                                      | "                                                              | Irrigation<br>ditches |
| Mission Reservoir   | 100     |                              | Good                   | Ct                                                                                                           | 30                                           |                                              | "                                      | "                                                              | do                    |

Table 4b. Management data on the lakes recommended for planting in the Swan River Drainage

Sheet 1 of 1

| Name of lake       | Acreage | Temperature<br>degrees<br>F. | Food<br>condi-<br>tion | Species<br>fish<br>present     | Percent of<br>area under<br>30 feet<br>in depth | Percent of<br>area over<br>100 feet<br>in depth | Amount of<br>vegetation<br>present | Principal type<br>of shore line;<br>mud, gravel,<br>rock, etc. | Drains into |
|--------------------|---------|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Upper Holland Lake | 20      |                              | Med.                   | Rb                             | 10                                              |                                                 | Small                              | Rock                                                           | Holland Cr. |
| Sapphire Lakes     | 3       |                              | "                      | None                           | 30                                              |                                                 | "                                  | "                                                              | "           |
| Pierce Lake        | 4       |                              | Good                   | Ct, Rb                         | 50                                              |                                                 | Good                               | Mud                                                            | No drainage |
| Lindbergh Lake     | 900     |                              | Fair                   | Rb, Ct, W<br>Squaw,<br>Suckers | 50                                              |                                                 | Large                              | Rock, gravel                                                   | Swan River  |
| Crystal Lake       | 250     |                              | Fair                   | Ct                             | 25                                              |                                                 | Good                               | Rock, gravel                                                   | Swan River  |
| Glacier Lake       | 120     |                              | Fair                   | Ct                             | 25                                              |                                                 | Good                               | "                                                              | Glacier Cr. |

Table 5a. Lakes in the Flathead River Drainages (East Side) from the mouth of Swan River to the junction with the Clark Fork River in which no planting is recommended.

Sheet 1 of 1

| Name of lake        | Acreage | Species fish present | Reason for not planting |                          |             |                 | Needs investigation | Other                 |
|---------------------|---------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
|                     |         |                      | Too warm                | Undesirable fish present | Too shallow | Inadequate food |                     |                       |
| Twin Lakes (2)      | 80      | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Adequately stocked "  |
| Mud Lake            | 30      | Bass                 |                         |                          |             |                 |                     |                       |
| Crow Cr. Lakes (2)  | 120     | Ct, Rb               |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | Used for irrigation " |
| McDonald Lake       | 250     | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 |                     |                       |
| First Lake          | 35      | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Disappointment Lake | 5       | Unknown              |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Cliff Lake          | 40      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Duncan Lake         | 10      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Ice Floe Lake       | 10      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Lake of the Clouds  | 30      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Lucifer Lake        | 60      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Picture Lake        | 10      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Lake of the Stars   | 20      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| No Fish Lake        | 15      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Lower Jocko Lake    | 160     | Ct, Rb               |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | Used for irrigation " |
| Upper Jocko Lake    | 300     | Ct, Rb               |                         |                          |             |                 |                     |                       |
| Meadow Lake         | 10      | Unknown              |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Sudden Lake         | 5       | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Tabor Reservoir     | 60      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                     |
| Wapiti Lake         | 10      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Crazy Fish Lake     | 5       | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Lake Sa-ol-Sooth    | 25      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Maggie Lake         | 10      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |
| Burgess Lake        | 6       | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                       |

Table 5b. Lakes in the Swan River Drainage in which no planting is recommended.

Sheet 1 of 3

| Name of lake         | Acreage | Species fish present         | Reason for not planting |                          |             |                 | Needs investigation | Other                                                           |
|----------------------|---------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                      |         |                              | Too warm                | Undesirable fish present | Too shallow | Inadequate food |                     |                                                                 |
| Swan Lake            | 3900    | Ct, Rb, Eb, Wf, Squaw, S, DV |                         | x                        |             |                 |                     | No planting in main lake, plant tributaries only                |
| Birch Lake           | 50      | Ct                           |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Adequately stocked                                              |
| Hall Lake            | 10      | Ct, Rb                       |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | "                                                               |
| Trinkus Lake         | 8       | Ct, Rb                       |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | "                                                               |
| Bond Lake            | 5       | Ct, Rb                       |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | "                                                               |
| Van Lake             | 45      | Ct, Rb                       |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | "                                                               |
| Pony Lake            | 30      | None                         |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Inaccessible                                                    |
| Cat Lake             | 10      | "                            |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                                                               |
| Rumble Cr. Lake      | 40      | Ct                           |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | Stocked                                                         |
| Holland Lake         | 500     | Rb, Ct, S Squaw, Bass, Perch |                         | x                        |             |                 | x                   | Used in irrigation of Gordon Ranch; overstocked with rough fish |
| Grey Wolf Lake       | 350     | Ct                           |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Stocked with eyed eggs, 1939                                    |
| High Park Lake       | 200     | None                         |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Inaccessible                                                    |
| Angel's Bathing Pool | 40      | "                            |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                                                               |
| Mountaineer Lake     | 100     | "                            |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                                                               |
| East Lake            | 3       | "                            |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                                                               |
| Seepela Lake         | 2       | "                            |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                                                               |
| Sleeping Elk Lake    | 5       | "                            |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                                                               |
| Beanhele Lake        | 3       | "                            |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                                                               |
| Eagle Lake           | 5       | "                            |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | "                                                               |
| Skylark Lake         | 5       | "                            |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | "                                                               |
| Meadow Lake          | 8       | Ct                           |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | "                                                               |
| Bunyan Lake          | 4       | Ct                           |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | "                                                               |
| Stoner Lake          | 5       | Ct                           |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | "                                                               |
| Loon Lake            | 4       | None                         |                         |                          | x           |                 |                     | Adequately stocked                                              |

Table 5b. Lakes in the Swan River Drainage in which no planting is recommended.

Sheet 2 of 3

| Name of lake                                   | Acreage | Species fish present | Reason for not planting |                          |             |                 | Needs investigation | Other                         |
|------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                                |         |                      | Too warm                | Undesirable fish present | Too shallow | Inadequate food |                     |                               |
| Lagoon Lake                                    | 5       | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Stocked with eyed eggs, '41   |
| Lace Lake                                      | 30      | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | " " " "                       |
| Turquoise Lake                                 | 250     | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | " " " "                       |
| Jewell Lake                                    | 2       | None                 |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | Inaccessible                  |
| Island Lake                                    | 4       | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                             |
| Heart Lake                                     | 5       | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                             |
| Crescent Lake                                  | 6       | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                             |
| Loco Lake                                      | 2       | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                             |
| Unnamed lake head of Hemlock Creek             | 10      | Rb                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Adequately stocked at present |
| Unnamed lake head of N.Fk. Hemlock Creek       | 6       | Rb                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | do                            |
| Elk Lake                                       | 160     | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Stocked in 1941               |
| McIlman Lake                                   | 20      | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | " "                           |
| S.Fk. Cold Cr. (Gold Cr.) (13)                 | 100     | None                 |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                               |
| Unnames lakes head of Cold Cr. or Gold Cr. (3) | 10      | "                    |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                               |
| Cold Lake                                      | 70      | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Adequately stocked at present |
| Frigid Lake                                    | 50      | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Stocked with eyed eggs, '41   |
| Peck Lake                                      | 4       | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Adequately stocked            |
| Unnamed lakes head of Jim Cr. (20)             | 200     | None                 |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   |                               |
| Moore Lake                                     | 4       | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | " "                           |
| Piper Lake                                     | 100     | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | " "                           |
| Upper Piper Lake                               | 10      | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Stocked in 1941               |
| Shay Lake                                      | 6       | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | " "                           |
| Cedar Lake                                     | 30      | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Adequately stocked            |
| Unnamed lakes head of Cedar Cr. (5)            | 15      | Ct                   |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | "                             |

Table 5b. Lakes in the Swan River Drainage in which no planting is recommended.

Sheet 3 of 3

| Name of lake                        | Acreage | Species fish present | Reason for not planting |                          |             |                 | Needs investigation | Other              |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
|                                     |         |                      | Too warm                | Undesirable fish present | Too shallow | Inadequate food |                     |                    |
| Fatty Lake                          | 7       | None                 |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Adequately stocked |
| Rainbow Lake                        | 3       | Rb                   |                         |                          |             |                 |                     |                    |
| Unnamed lakes head of Fatty Cr. (2) | 6       | None                 |                         |                          |             |                 | x                   | Privately owned    |
| Horseshoe Lake                      | 15      | Eb                   |                         |                          |             |                 |                     | "                  |
| Loon Lake                           | 20      | Eb                   |                         |                          |             |                 |                     |                    |

Table 7. Species of fishes and their distribution in the main streams and lakes in the Polson Hatchery District.

| Stream or lake          | Species   |         |               |              |          |           |                |         |           |           |      |       |         |         |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------|----------|-----------|----------------|---------|-----------|-----------|------|-------|---------|---------|
|                         | Cutthroat | Rainbow | Eastern Brook | Dolly Varden | Grayling | Whitefish | Sockeye Salmon | Suckers | Squawfish | Pearmouth | Bass | Perch | Sunfish | Catfish |
| Stream                  |           |         |               |              |          |           |                |         |           |           |      |       |         |         |
| Flathead River          | x         | x       | x             | x            |          | x         | x              | x       | x         | x         | x    | x     | x       | x       |
| Swan River              | x         | x       | x             | x            |          | x         | x              | x       | x         | x         |      |       |         |         |
| Jocko River             | x         | x       |               | x            |          |           |                | x       | x         |           |      |       |         |         |
|                         |           |         |               |              |          |           |                |         |           |           |      |       |         |         |
| Lakes                   |           |         |               |              |          |           |                |         |           |           |      |       |         |         |
| Flathead Lake           | x         | x       | x             | x            | x        | x         | x              | x       | x         | x         | x    | x     | x       | x       |
| Lindbergh Lake          | x         | x       |               | x            |          |           |                | x       | x         |           |      |       |         |         |
| Kicking Horse Reservoir |           |         |               |              |          |           |                |         |           |           | x    | x     | x       | x       |
| Nine Pipe Reservoir     |           |         |               |              |          |           |                |         |           |           | x    | x     | x       | x       |
|                         |           |         |               |              |          |           |                |         |           |           |      |       |         |         |
|                         |           |         |               |              |          |           |                |         |           |           |      |       |         |         |
| Native Species          | x         |         |               | x            |          | x         |                | x       | x         | x         |      |       |         |         |
| Introduced Species      |           | x       | x             |              | x        |           | x              |         |           |           | x    | x     | x       | x       |