



A FIVE-YEAR FISH DISTRIBUTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR THE
GREAT FALLS 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 Missouri River Drainage between the Gates of the Mountains and Fort Peck Dam.

Sheet 1 of 3

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
Missouri River	300	300	35		Good	Heavy	Rb, Eb, Ll, Wf, S, Carp, Catfish, Pike, Bass, Perch, Ling, Crappie, Sturgeon	6 high dams in district no. 9
Shonkin Creek	20	10	5		Good	Med.	Eb	Many beaver dams
W. Branch Shonkin Cr.	8	6	2		Good	Light	Eb	"
E. Branch Shonkin Cr.	8	6	2		Good	Light	Eb	"
Highwood Creek	20	12	4		Good	Heavy	Eb	Lower end dries up
Beaver Creek	6	5			Good	Light	Eb	Feeder streams
N. Fk. Highwood Creek	5	6	3		Good	Med.	Eb	Stream polluted from Belt to mouth
Belt Creek	75	25	17		Good	Heavy	Eb, Rb, Ct	Beaver dams
Little Belt Creek	12	8	6		Good	Med.	Eb, Rb, Ct	"
Big Otter Creek	9	8	6		Good	Med.	Eb, Rb	"
Little Otter Creek	9	5			Med.	Light	Ct, Eb	Polluted from Hughesville down
Dry Fk. Belt Creek	12	6	6		Med.	Light	Ct, Eb, Rb	Beaver dams
Hoover Creek	10	10	1		Good	Med.	Ct, Eb, Rb	Many beaver dams
Ruby Creek	4	5			Med.	Light	Ct, Eb, Rb	"
Jefferson Creek	6	8	1		Good	V. Heavy	Ct, Eb, Rb	"
O'Brien Creek	4	4	1		Med.	Med.	Ct, Eb, Rb	"
Harley Creek	4	5			Good	Med.	Ct, Eb, Rb	"
Tillinghast Creek	10	12	1		Good	Med.	Ct, Eb, Rb	Sinks 3 mi. from mouth

Table 3a. Management data on streams recommended for planting in the Missouri River Drainage between the Gates of the Mountains and Fort Peck Dam.

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
Pilgrim Creek	9	8	1		Good	Med.	Ct	
Logging Creek	10	12	1		Good	Heavy	Ct, Rb, Eb	
Big Timber Gulch	5	4			Good	Light	Ct, Eb	
Smith River	50	30	11		Good	Med.	Eb, Rb, Ll, Gr, Ct	Inaccessible above Milligan by truck except about three places
Tenderfoot Creek	18	15	7		Med.	Light	Ct, Eb	
Fisher Creek	3	5			Med.	Light	Ct, Eb	Feeder stream
Trout Creek	10	5			Med.	Light	Ct, Eb	" "
Hound Creek	14	20	4		Good	Heavy	Rb, Eb, Ll, Ct	Beaver dams
E. Fk. Hound Creek	15	10	6		Good	Med.	Eb, Rb, Ct	" "
Sheep Creek	6	15	1		Med.	Heavy	Eb, Rb	
Stickney Creek	13	10			Fair	Light	Ct, Rb, Eb	Lower end dries up
Willow Creek	10	6			Fair	Light	Ct, Rb	
Prickly Pear Creek	25	15	6		Good	Heavy	Eb, Rb, Ll	
Little Prickly Pear Cr.	15	10	3		Good	Heavy	Eb, Rb	
Lyons Creek	11	10	1		Med.	Med.	Eb	Beaver dams upper end
Wolf Creek	10	10	4		Fair	Med.	Eb, Ll, Rb, Ct	
Dearborn River	60	30	25		Med.	Med.	Ct, Rb, Eb, Ll	Upper part fast and rocky
S. Fk. Dearborn River	15	12	10		Med.	Med.	Ct, Rb	Beaver dams
Mid. Fk. Dearborn River	15	12	5		Med.	Med.	Ct, Eb, Rb	
Green Creek	7	8	2		Med.	Light	Ct	
Falls Creek	4	10	5		Good	Light	Ct	Falls near mouth

Table 3a. Management data on streams recommended for planting in the Missouri River Drainage between the Gates of the Mountains and Fort Peck Dam.

Sheet 3 of 3

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
Eagle Creek	15	8	4		Good	Med.	Eb	
Birch Creek	10	10	4		Good	Med.	Eb	
Cow Creek	20	10	7		Good	Heavy	Eb	

Table 3b. Management data on streams recommended for planting in the Sun 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
Sun River	100	40	15		Med.	Heavy	Rb, Eb, Ct, Wf, S	Irrigation
S. Fk. Sun River	15	30	10		Med.	Heavy	do	Irrigation
Elk Creek	17	15	10		Good	Heavy	Rb, Eb	
Blubber Creek	6	8			Good	Med.	Rb, Eb	Beaver dams
Goss Creek	8	8			Good	Med.	Eb	"
Smith Creek	17	12	6		Good	Heavy	Eb, Rb	
Ford Creek	13	10	1		Med.	Med.	Eb, Ct	Falls 8 mi. from source
N. Fk. Sun River	25	30	20		Good	Heavy	Rb, Eb, Ct, Wf, S	Unscreened ditch at Diversion Dam
Little Willow Creek	5	6	2		Good	Med.	Eb	Beaver dams
S. Fk. N. Fk. Sun River	20	25	10		Good	Heavy	Rb, Eb, Ct	"
Wood Creek	7	10	4		V. Good	Med.	Eb, Ct	Many beaver dams
Fairview Creek	8	6	2		Good	Heavy	Eb	Beaver dams
Straight Creek	13	15	6		Poor	Heavy	Rb, Eb	
W. Fk. S. Fk. Sun River	13	15	6		Fair	Heavy	Eb	
Bear Creek	5	8			Med.	Light	Rb, Eb	Lake at head
N. Fk. N. Fk. Sun River	25	20	10		Good	Med.	Rb, Eb, Ct	
Moose Creek	13	12	3		Good	Med.	Rb, Ct	Beaver dams
Rock Creek	12	12	4		Good	Med.	Rb, Ct	Falls 6 mi. above mouth
Lick Creek	4	10	2		Med.	Light	Rb, Ct	Beaver dams
Open Creek	16	6	1		Med.	Light	Rb, Ct	
Route Creek	5	10	1		Good	Light	Rb, Ct	Spring fed
Biggs Creek	8	10	2		Good	Light	Rb, Ct, Eb	Beaver dams
Big George Creek	5	6			Good	Med.	Rb, Eb	
Blacktail Creek	7	6			Good	Med.	Rb, Eb	
Hannan Gulch	6	6			Good	Med.	Rb, Eb	Beaver dams

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

Sheet 2 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
Fairfield drain ditches	25	10			Good	Med.	Rb, Eb	

Table 3c. Management data on streams recommended for planting in the Teton River Drainage.

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
Teton River	50	30	10		Good	Heavy	Ct, Rb, Eb	Irrigation ditches above Choteau
Deep Creek	10	10	3		Good	Med.	Ct, Rb, Eb	Beaver dams
Willow Creek	18	8	3		Med.	Light	Eb	"
S.Fk. Teton River	14	20	5		Good	Heavy	Ct, Eb, Rb	
Mid.Fk. Teton River	12	6	5		Med.	Med.	Ct	
Waldron Creek	5	5			Med.	Light	Ct	
W.Fk. Teton River	8	5	4		Med.	Light	Ct	
Spring Creek	8	10			Good	Heavy	Rb, Eb	Spring fed (Kids' stream)
Miller Spring	1	4			Med.	Med.	Rb, Eb	

Table 3d. Management data on streams recommended for planting in the Marias River Drainage.

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
Marias River	150	75	2		Good	Med.	Rt, LL, Eb, Rough, Pike, Cat.	
Birch Creek	50	25	7		Good	Med.	Ct, Rb, Eb	Swift dam
Dupuyer Creek	25	15	3		Good	Med.	Ct, Rb, Eb	Heavily posted
Scoffin Creek	5	10	3		Good	Med.	Eb	
Sheep Creek	18	10	3		Med.	Heavy	Eb, Rb	
S.Fk. Birch Creek	7	10	3		Med.	Light	Rb, Ct	Falls 3 mi. above Swift Dam
Mid.Fk. Birch Creek	6	8	6		Med.	Light	Rb, Ct	Falls 3 mi. above Swift Dam
N.Fk. Birch Creek	8	10	5		Good	Light	Rb, Ct	
Two Medicine River	55	50	5		Good	Med.	Rb, Eb	
Big Badger Creek	35	20	5		Good	Med.	Ct, Rb	
Little Badger Creek	15	15	7		Good	Med.	Ct	
S.Fk. Two Medicine River	30	15	3		Good	Med.	Ct, Rb	Beaver dams
Cut Bank Creek	40	15			Good	Med.	Rb, Eb, LL	
S.Fk. Cut Bank Creek	22	12			Good	Med.	Ct, Eb	

Table 39. Management data in streams recommended for planting in the Milk River Drainage.

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
Peoples Creek	20	10	8		Good	Heavy	Eb, Rb	Beaver dams
Little Peoples Creek	8	5			Fair	Heavy	Eb	Used for irrigation
Box Elder Creek	10	10	3		Good	Med.	Eb, Rb	
Clear Creek	20	15	4		Good	Heavy	Eb, Rb	Sinks and rises about 8 mi. from head
Beaver Creek	20	15	5		Good	Heavy	Eb, Rb	Sinks and rises about 6 mi. from reservoir boundary
Big Sandy Creek	15	8			Med.	Med.	Eb	
Box Elder Creek	10	8	2		Med.	Med.	Eb	
Sun Dance Creek	3	5			Med.	Med.	Eb	
S.Fk. Milk River	25	20	5		Good	Med.	Eb, Ct	
N.Fk. Milk River	25	15			Good	Med.	Eb, Ct	
Big Sage Creek	5	5			Good	Light	None	Lower part dries up
Breed Creek	10	5			Good	Med.	Eb	" " "

Table 4a. Management data on lakes recommended for planting in the Missouri River Drainage.

Sheet 1 of 1

Name of lake	Acreage	Temperature degrees F.	Food condi- tion	Species fish present	Percent of area under 30 feet in depth	Percent of area over 100 feet in depth	Amount of vegetation present	Principal type of shore line; mud, gravel, rock, etc.	Drains into
Ft. Peck Reservoir	*		Good	Rb, Cat, Pike, Perch, Crappie, Sturge., Ling, Rough			Medium	Mud, rock	Missouri R.
Rainbow Dam	100		Good	Rb, LL, S, Carp, Wf	25		Small	Mud, rock	Missouri R.
Holter Dam	800		Med.	Rb, LL, S Perch, Carp	15		Small	Mud, rock	Missouri R.

*No acreage given for Ft. Peck Reservoir because it will not be filled for several years.

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

Sheet 1 of 1

Name of lake	Acreage	Temperature degrees F.	Food condi- tion	Species fish present	Percent of area under 30 feet in depth	Percent of area over 100 feet in depth	Amount of vegetation present	Principal type of shore line; mud, gravel, rock, etc.	Drains into
Renshaw Lake	6		Fair	Gr, Ct	15		Scarce	Rock	Wood Creek
Wood Lake	40		Good	Eb, Ct	20		Med.	Mud	Sun River
Gibson Lake	800		Good	Rb, Eb	30		Med.	Rock	Sun River
Diversion Lake	100		Good	Rb, Eb	50		Med.	Rock, gravel	Bear Creek
Bear Lake	10		Fair	Ct	20		Med.	Mud, gravel	Ditch
Pishkun Reservoir	2000		Good	Eb, Rb, Gr	50		Med.	Mud, gravel	No drain
Tunnell Lake	30		Good	SS, Rb	75		Med.	Mud, gravel	" "
Unnamed lake near Pishkun Reservoir	30		Good	None			Med.	Mud, gravel	" "

Table 40. Management data on lakes recommended for planting in the Teton River Drainage.

Sheet 1 of 1

Name of lake	Acreage	Temperature degrees F.	Food condi- tion	Species fish present	Percent of area under 30 feet in depth	Percent of area over 100 feet in depth	Amount of vegetation present	Principal type of shore line; mud, gravel, rock, etc.	Drains into
Eureka Lake	400		Good	Rb, Ct	25		Medium	Mud, gravel	Teton River
Hidden Lake	35		Med.	Rb	20		Medium	Rock	"

Table 4d. Management data on lakes recommended for planting in the Marias River Drainage.

Sheet 1 of 1

Name of lake	Acreage	Temperature degrees F.	Food condi- tion	Species fish present	Percent of area under 30 feet in depth	Percent of area over 100 feet in depth	Amount of vegetation present	Principal type of shore line; mud, gravel, rock, etc.	Drains into
Lake Francis	4000		Med.	Rb, SS, S Ling	15		Medium	Mud, gravel	Irrigation ditch
Fish Lake	45		Good	Rb, S	20		Medium	Mud, gravel	Fish Creek
Swift Dam	750		Good	Rb, Ct	10		Scarce	Sand, gravel	Birch Creek
Dawson Lake	40		Good	Eb, Ct	40		Large	Mud	Dawson Cr.
Mad Plume Lake	15		Good	SS, Ct	50		Small	Gravel	Lower Twin Cr.
Four Horn Lake	350		Good	Ct	40		Large	Mud, gravel	Ditch
Mission Lake	250		Good	Rb, SS	25		Large	Mud, gravel	Mission Creek
Pothole Lake	75		Good	Rb, SS	50		Medium	Mud, gravel	No drain
Fred and George Lake	50		Good	Eb, Rb	50		Large	Mud, gravel	" "
Lubec Lake	25		Good	Ct			Medium	Gravel	Summit Creek
Squaw Lake	10		Good	None	50		Large	Mud, rock	No drain
Twin Lake (Fey)	5		Good	LL	50		Medium	Gravel	" "
Gold Butte Lake	10		Good	Rb	50		Medium	Rock, gravel	" "
Hope Lake	40		Good	Rb	35		Large	Mud, rock	" "
Two Medicine Lake	600		Good	Rb, Eb, Ct, Wf, Mack.	20		Large	Gravel	Two Medicine River

Table 4e. Management data on lakes recommended for planting in the Milk River Drainage.

Sheet 1 of 1

Name of lake	Acreage	Temperature degrees F.	Food condi- tion	Species fish present	Percent of area under 30 feet in depth	Percent of area over 100 feet in depth	Amount of vegetation present	Principal type of shore line; mud, gravel, rock, etc.	Drains into
Fresno Dam	3000		Good	Rb, Pike	25		Medium	Mud, rock	Milk River
Duck Lake	500		Good	LL, Eb	30		Medium	Mud	None
Bevans Reservoir	2		Good	Eb, Rb	100		Medium	Mud	"
Windbrake Res.	2		Good	Eb, Rb	100		Heavy	Mud	"
Great Northern Reservoir (Chester)	2		Good	None	75		Light	Mud	"

Table 6a. Lakes in the Missouri River Drainage
in which no planting is recommended.

Sheet 1 of 1

Name of lake	Acreage	Species fish present	Reason for not planting					Other
			Too warm	Undesirable fish present	Too shallow	Inadequate food	Needs investigation	
Harwood Lake	50	?					x	
White Lake	160	?					x	
Big Lake	160	?					x	
Shonkin Lake	50	?					x	
Kingsbury Lake	200	?					x	
Morony Dam Lake	100	Rb, Carp, Suckers		x				
Volta Dam Lake	50	do		x				
Bean Lake	60	Ct, SS						
Black Eagle Dam	100	Rb, Carp, Crappie, Suckers		x				Private

IN WHICH NO OBJECTS TO RECOMMENDATION
 WERE IN THE WATERSHED AREA

Table 6b. Lakes in the Sun River Drainage in which no planting is recommended.

Name of lake	Acreage	Species fish present	Reason for not planting					Other
			Too warm	Undesirable fish present	Too shallow	Inadequate food	Needs investigation	
Willow Creek Lake	800	Ct, Rb, S, Eb						Too much fluctuation in level due to irrigation
Hidden Lake	10	?					x	
Alpine lake	5	None					x	
2 unnamed lakes (Falls Creek)	10	None					x	
Sock Lake	5	?						
Unnamed lake (Baldy Bear Creek)	5	?					x	
Lake Levale	5	Ct					x	Adequately stocked

Table 6c. Lakes in the Teton River Drainage
in which no planting is recommended.

Sheet 1 of 1

Name of lake	Acreage	Species fish present	Reason for not planting					Other
			Too warm	Undesirable fish present	Too shallow	Inadequate food	Needs investigation	
Bynum Reservoir	1000	Rb, Ct, Eb						Irrigation

Table 6d. Lakes in the Marias River Drainage in which no planting is recommended.

Sheet 1 of 1

Name of lake	Acreage	Species fish present	Reason for not planting					Other
			Too warm	Undesirable fish present	Too shallow	Inadequate food	Needs investigation	
Big Spring Lake	35	?			x			Alakli
Alkali Lake	640	None					x	
2 upper Mission Lakes	100	None					x	
Joe's Lake	4	None					x	
Round Lake	40	None					x	
Frank Henry Lake	20	None					x	

Table 7. Species of fishes and their distribution
in the main rivers and lakes in the Great Falls
Hatchery District.

River or lake	Species																
	Cutthroat	Rainbow	Eastern Brook	Loch Leven	Grayling	Silver Salmon	Sockeye Salmon	Mackinaw	Whitefish	Suckers	Carp	Ling	Catfish	Pike	Perch	Bass	Sturgeon
<u>Rivers</u>																	
Missouri River	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Sun River	x	x	x		x				x	x							
Teton River	x	x	x														
Marias River		x	x	x					x	x	x		x	x			
Milk River		x	x						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
<u>Lakes</u>																	
Holter Dam		x	x				x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Gibson Lake		x	x														
Pishkun Reservoir		x	x		x												
Eureka Lake	x	x															
Lake Francis		x				x	x			x		x					
Two Medicine Lake	x	x	x					x	x								
Native Species	x				x				x	x		x	x	x		x	x
Introduced Species		x	x	x		x	x	x			x				x		