

A FIVE-YEAR FISH DISTRIBUTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

1948 - 1952

FOLSON HATCHERY DISTRICT - MONTANA

By

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and

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
REGION ONE
IN COOPERATION WITH
STATE OF MONTANA
FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

Approved by
A. G. Stubblefield
Montana State Superintendent of Fisheries
and
Montana State Fish and Game Commission

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FOREWORD

This is the second 5-year fish planting plan for the Polson Hatchery District. It has been prepared for the purpose of more nearly correlating the efforts of all agencies concerned. It is an extensive survey of the stream and lake resources within district number 4 as shown on the map. The material presented is not based on a detailed study but is a composite of information secured from hatchery men, forest officers, game wardens, and sportsmen having intimate knowledge of the area.

Its purpose is to record the available information and to focus attention on the problems. It is designed to serve as a management plan and record of achievement for a 5-year period beginning with 1948. Since the entire output of the Polson Hatchery will be distributed in this area, the hatchery problems will be greatly simplified. Revision will, undoubtedly, be necessary and your constructive criticism is solicited. Since the plan has been examined and approved by all the interested agencies, it is the sincere wish of this department that it be followed as closely as conditions will permit.

/s/ A. G. Stubblefield
A. G. STUBBLEFIELD
State Superintendent of Fisheries

Table 3. 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

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, Cat	Large power dam 5 mi. below Polson
Spring Cr.	6	8			good	medium	Ct, Rb	
Post Cr.	25	10	12		"	heavy	Ct, Rb	
Jocko River	35	20	8		"	"	Ct, Rb, DV, S, Sq	Many irrigation canals
Flathead Cr.	12	6			"	light	Ct	State fish rearing ponds under construction near head of stream

Table 4. 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

Name of lake	Acre- age	Temper- ature 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 vegeta- tion present	Principal type of shore line; mud, gravel, rock, etc.	Drains into
Flathead Lake	120,320		good	Ct, Rb, DV, Wf, Sf, Bass, Perch, S, Sq, Peamouth, SS	20	40	medium	gravel, rock	Flathead River
L. Crow Reservoir	160		fair	Rb, Perch, Cat, Bass, Sf	50		"	mud, gravel	Irrigation ditches
Horte Reservoir	120		"	Bass, Perch, Cat, Sf	25		"	"	"
Kicking Horse Reservoir	400		good	Bass, Perch, Cat, S	35		large	"	Nine Pipe Reservoir
Nine Pipe Reservoir	500		"	Sf, Perch, Bass, Cat	50		"	"	Irrigation ditches
Mission Reservoir	100		"	Ct	30		"	"	"

Table 7. Species of fishes and their distribution in the main rivers and lakes in the Polson Hatchery district

River or lake	Species of fish												
	Cutthroat	Rainbow	Eastern brook	Dolly Varden	Grayling	Whitefish	Silver Salmon	Suckers	Squawfish	Peamouth	Bass	Perch	Sunfish
<u>Rivers</u>													
Flathead River	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Jocko River	x	x		x				x	x				
<u>Lakes</u>													
Flathead Lake	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Kicking Horse Reservoir											x	x	x
Nine Pipe Reservoir											x	x	x
Native species	x			x		x		x	x	x			
Introduced species		x	x		x		x				x	x	x