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Area Director of Fisheries

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LETTER No.

Mr. R.C. Edwards  
District Supervisor of Fisheries,  
Prince Rupert, B.C.Annual Narrative Report for 1961, Bulkley-Morice Area, Dist. # 2, B.C.

## A Trend of the several Fisheries,

1 Commercial - None at present.

2 Sport Fishery - Was very good this season, rainbow were in abundance in all areas, a good escapment of steelhead in all the main streams however no extra large ones were caught this year.

3 Indian Fishery - Moricetown natives had the largest food catch of salmon in the last 12 years, Grand total was 7915 salmon.  
or Spring 1016 Sockeye 2092 Coho 1145 Steelhead 593 Pink 1078  
Chum 1 assorted jacks 1990. All natives who fished obtained an adequate winter stock of salmon.

## B Fishing Vessels,

1 Commercial - None in Area.

2 Sports - More bigger and better craft on the local lakes and streams each year.

## C Developments and Changes.

1 The Fish Culture and Development Branch operated the Nanika River Hatchery again this year. They now have approx 5½ million sockeye eggs hatching. To date all has gone well with the project.

2 The Fish Culture and Development Branch made an escapment survey at the Moricetown Fishways. Some fish were tagged at this point and recoverys made on the spawning grounds.

3 The Fisheries Research Board made a spawning survey of the Upper Skeena River spawning grounds.

## D Abusments.

1 Sport Fishery - None to my knowledge.

2 Indian Fishery - Reports received that natives had sold salmon to sport fishermen were not confirmed. Guardian reports that natives did not properly care for all pink salmon taken as the sockeye were preferred. Advise that next year a closure be placed on Moricetown Canyon fishing during Pink escapment peak at that Point. Also permits cover one person only (not a family group) and number of salmon allowed marked on permit.

## E Close seasons.

1 The Area observed two days closure to food fishing each week.

Continued on page two.

Salmon Spawning

Annual Narritive Report continued from page one.

- F Steps taken for the prevention of illegal Fishing.
- 1 A Guardian stationed at Moricetown to ckeck Indian food catch of salmon, to prevent illeagal fishing or the sale of salmon.
  - 2 Periodic patrols over the various spawning grounds by Inspector.
- H Condition of Fishways
- 1 Moricetown . Fishways requires some repair work as requested in annual work order.
- I Spawning Conditions.
- 1 Water levels were very low in the small streams this year but fall rains corrected this condition with the exception of the very small streams that remained dry.
  - 2 Sockeye - Sockeye in the Sustut watershed were light, The escapment to Morice and the Nanika was the best for some years but still away below the required numbers for a good seeding.
  - 3 Springs - A very poor run to all areas.
  - 4 Pinks - Runs light to all areas.
  - 5 Coho - Very good run to all the areas checked.
  - 6 Steelhead - a larger number of steelhead than usual appeared to cover all the spawning grounds.
- J Summary.

At time of this report water levels are good in all main streams and snow protective cover heavy. Less than usual amount of anchor ice in streams.

*L. J. Gelliey*  
L. J. Gelliey  
Fisheries Inspector

*B. B. B. B.*

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT- TERRACE-LAKELSE AREA1961Weather Conditions;

The winter conditions of 1960-61 were generally favorable from a fisheries standpoint throughout the area. Mild weather and frequent rainfall with between two and three feet of snow provided good cover on most of the area's spawning streams. There was a short period of flooding in the lower Skeena portion early in December 1960 during which there was slight evidence of silting and scouring on bars of the Kalum and Copper rivers. A later than normal spring by about two weeks with slow rise in temperatures to middle of May resulted in a steady increase in runoff waters with the result that there was no severe spring or summer flooding. Conditions in the interior Kispiox region were also generally good, not as much rain, good snow cover with reasonable normal winter temperatures, coldest reported for January-February 1961 from Hazelton-Kispiox being 10 degrees below zero. Summer period was a prolonged dry period with high temperatures. The summer runoff was adequate to provide the main larger watershed streams with cooling water although a few of the smaller tributary creeks were low up to end of August. Water levels increased satisfactorily from September onwards, increasing to high flood levels early in December, when considerable debris-windfalls and mud silt deposit particularly on sloughs of the lower Skeena became evident after water levels receded in late December. Winter 1961-62 conditions to date during incubation period on main stem Skeena spawning grounds have fluctuated from periodic quick thaws to sharp below zero temperatures resulting in some heaving and drying of spawn sections of main stem Skeena and Kalum rivers. Lakelse river does not appear to have fluctuations in water levels similar to other main streams, and there is no evidence of unfavorable spawning incubations there. Some of the feeder tributary streams of the Kitsumkallum lake system did suffer from flash flooding this past winter, heaving anchor ice was evident on two medium producers there which will no doubt have some adverse effect on the Sockeye spawn deposit portions. A record of annual temperatures and precipitation obtained through the courtesy of the meteorological station of the local Terrace airport for the immediate Terrace-Lakelse area may give some information of value to Area Headquarters Fish Culture staff in the compilation of material in cataloguing of streams of the area. Table given shows Maximum Minimum and Precipitation for each month with snowfall when the snow count was not included in precipitation water content. A comparison with 1960 also obtained from the same source for information is also given. Max.-Min. and Pcpn. Precipitation is rain plus one tenth snow.

|                       |             |                  |                 |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1960 January.         | 43-04-5.7   | Feb. 44-15-3.88  | Mar. 51-10-5.81 |
| 1961 Jan.             | 41-13-8.77  | Feb. 43-12-10.16 | Mar 57-20-2.68  |
| Snowfall Jan 1961 was | 25.8"       | Feb. snow 29.5"  | March snow 7.8" |
| 1960 April            | 70-28-2.59  | May 72-32-1.81   | June 73-33-1.46 |
| 1961 April            | 68-27-1.54  | May 76-37-0.98   | June 81-37-1.42 |
| April 1961 snowfall   | 1.3"        |                  |                 |
| 1960 July             | 90-40-2.00  | Aug. 93-40-5.32  | Sept 78-37-1.62 |
| 1961 July             | 93-44-0.20  | Aug. 89-48-1.78  | Sept 79-32-4.05 |
| 1960 Oct.             | 60-34-10.44 | Nov. 48-19-5.38  | Dec. 40-12-5.17 |
| 1961 Oct.             | 65-24-9.72  | Nov. 46-14-4.30  | Dec. 38-05-6.64 |
| October snowfall      | 0.3 "       | Nov. snow 10.9"  | Dec snow 42.3"  |

The above figures would indicate that during the year 1961 there was 52.24 inches of precipitation and an accumulative 9.8 feet of snowfall in the Terrace region of the Skeena watershed.

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### Spawning Summaries:

In summarizing the spawning assessments of the Terrace Lakelse area for 1961 it is considered of interest to firstly briefly account for the seaward migration of the Pink salmon as the main species produced in the area. The Fisheries Research staff carried out Fry trapping programs on the Kispiox -Kitwanga and Lakelse rivers as those rivers are the more important Pink salmon producers. Data provided shows an overall survival Egg to Fry stage of 31%. Information received from Mr. H. Smith-Biologist in charge of Skeena Management field staff in the area, indicates that in applying the weighted mean survival figure from the three control rivers mentioned above, that it can be assumed that from a Skeena river Pink escapement in 1960 of 261,000 Pinks and a 31% survival rate from a sex ratio computed at 50:50 and an average egg count per female of 1,880 a Pink salmon fry migration in the order of seventy-three million, eight hundred thousand from the Skeena in 1961. Rough field figures obtained from the observations and data provided in 1960 would compare with this as follows. In 1960 fry trappings the above three rivers survival rates were roughly 12% from Kispiox, with Kitwanga river survival as 14% and Lakelse as 22% or a fry migration from the overall Skeenain 1960 from an escapement of near a million and a half in 1959 approximating one hundred seventy million. The estimated near 74 million output in 1961 for Skeena Pinks must be considered as resulting from a light escapement as the figure of 261,000 escapement in 1960 is one of the poorest on record. Redd sampling during this 1961-62 winter season on a section of the main Skeena slough at Shames from December onwards indicates at this reporting that a Pink salmon Egg to Alevins stage starting with 50% eyed in December shows 35% roughly survived to Alevin stage so far.

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### Adult Sockeye Escapement:

Stream surveys summarized on spawning reports F 381 (BC16's) would indicate a light overall seeding of this species to the main Sockeye producers of the area. An estimated 25,000 adult stock in the main streams made up of Allistair Lake grounds-Upper Kispiox Stevens-Club lakes portions and Lakelse Lake and Kalum lake system inspections. In comparison the brood year 1957 stocks assessed by Inspector Giraud was a good escapement overall in the order of about 43,000. All of the Stevens Lake grounds were not covered in 1961 and a late follow up of Allistair was not possible so that the 1961 assessment may be a low one. A loss of Kispiox Sockeye adults can be expected on account of the condition of low water and difficult passage through Gitwangulf Canyon. September observations at the canyon and observation of spent Sockeye unspawned below the Lakes in the main Kispiox river would indicate that out of a light run to that system that showed roughly 3,000 on the grounds checked, there were approximately 1,000 adults worn out in the main access river that were unable to reach the lake spawning grounds. The main run to Lakelse lake system were trapped by Research on Williams and Scully creeks for the requirements of the Hatchery. It is reported that approximately one million eggs are in incubation at the Hatchery from the escapement to Lakelse in 1961. A noticeable feature of the early Allistair run observed in late September was that there were many Green Sockeye spawned out in comparison to the Red ones as is usual for Sockeye in their spawning condition. Very few 'Jacks' were observed and size of the fish checked would suggest the Skeena Sockeye run was predominately of the four year class.

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## Spawning Summary:

### Springs:

The Spring salmon escapement was classified as Medium for the area in 1961. A good spawning stock was observed on the Stevens Lake outlet creek and a survey on Kalum river where 357 large 40 to 60 lb. size springs were recovered as well as better than average indications of runs to other streams, Lakelse -Kispiox rivers would suggest a satisfactory escapement. The 1957 escapement in comparison was considered one of the best in the area.

### Coho:

Flood conditions prevented a late spawning survey to give an accurate count of spawners, however a good escapement was observed in the Stevens lake-Kispiox river system, and fair signs were seen in the Kalum outlet river and in the lower reaches of Gitnadoix. The run to Lakelse was good, a fence count during operation of 10,000 before the fence was dismantled there would indicate that a Medium escapement for the area in comparison with 1958's assessment of 'best in years' was obtained.

### Pinks:

The Pink salmon escapement could be assessed as Good. Fence data and stream observations, carcass recoveries, strip counting by Research staff and Protection personnel would indicate an escapement of near a million and a half to streams of the area in 1961. Lakelse river gave a fence count of 311,000 Pinks. Kitwanga and the Kispiox river had good runs also, and a very good showing throughout the Terrace-Shames portion of the main stem Skeena and sloughs that was estimated to be in the order of near 400,000 would confirm the estimation of a satisfactory good escapement of this species. In comparison the escapement of 1959 was considered a Large one in the area, the estimated escapement in the order of 1,475,000 is near similar to the escapement achieved in 1961. This total estimated Pink escapement is considered by the Skeena River Management committee as still below the desirable level.

### Chums:

The Chum salmon escapements observed and reported would seem to be on a par with other years usual light abundance in the area. A brood year 1958 report reveals that an unusual late run was achieved that year. There was a similar showing of late run Chums to the Kispiox river and on a few of the bars of the Skeena east of Terrace to Usk, late run Chums were also observed in 1961. The overall area escapement of Chums to Terrace-Lakelse is usually Light and the indications in 1961 would confirm this similar estimation.

### Steelhead:

No actual Steelhead spawning was observed in 1961. The only yardstick of assessment would be the better than average year catch by sportsfishing effort. Kispiox-Kitwanga-Kalum and Copper Rivers produced good catches in 1961 despite prolonged Fall flood levels and lesser effort on account of unfavorable weather during late spring and winter runs. An interesting report from Kispiox River sampling of steelhead scales by a USA sportsman Dr. H. Joseph and findings by a Biologist Mr. R. Hallock also of USA would indicate that the Skeena-Kispiox Steelhead runs are predominately 5 year fish. Coastal reports -Lower Skeena would indicate a satisfactory run of steels entered in 1961.

Indian Fishery:

The number of permits issued in the Terrace-Lakelse area in 1961 totalled 146. The permits issued covered food fish requirements of the native families in all settlements on the Skeena from Terrace to Kispiox. The Hagwilget Indians that normally fished the Hagwilget Canyon of the Bulkley River seemed to accept the Skeena as an alternate fishing site, no friction between tribes was apparent. There was some suggestion in 1960 that since the obstruction was removed from the Canyon resulting in poor catches in the Bulkley on account of the removal and quick passage of fish through that section, that the Indians on the Skeena would resist the encroachment of the Hagwilgets to the Skeena, and also that they did not wish to fish in any other than their own historical grounds of the Bulkley. This does not appear to be any problem as far as 1961 was concerned. Those Indians who chose to extend operations to the Skeena were satisfied. Fair catches were also taken at the canyon by netting instead of the previous gaffing effort. It would seem that there is no cause for any further departmental assistance or education in the orderly transfer of effort from the Bulkley Canyon to the Skeena as far as the Hagwilgets are concerned. The Indian catches over the past few years would appear to be a fluctuating production depending on employment conditions in the interior and outcome of coastal commercial effort. Employment was good in the interior during the season as many natives were engaged in logging, sawmill work and forestry protection during fire season, coupled with a good salmon fishery at the coast. Catches were good at all known fishing locations, all Indians contacted reported ample food fish obtained. Hereunder a table of comparison catches 1957-61. in pieces

| Year: | Sockeye: | Springs: | Coho: | Pinks: | Chums: | Steelhead: | Families |
|-------|----------|----------|-------|--------|--------|------------|----------|
| 1961  | 12,996   | 1,508    | 1,576 | 1,670  | nil    | 495        | 103      |
| 1960  | 11,282   | ,841     | 1,700 | 1,010  | 162    | 131        | 155      |
| 1959  | 24,761   | 5,540    | 8,936 | 2,858  | 1904   | 637        | 181      |
| 1958  | 31,000   | 2,400    | 8,750 | 11,400 | 900    | 1,330      | 204      |
| 1957  | 34,700   | 3,170    | 8,750 | 17,500 | 600    | 980        | 208      |

Eulachon Runs:

Very good runs of Eulachons occurred in the lower Skeena in 1961 from observations of the widespread activity of birdlife during the spawning run period late March into April. Not much activity by local natives on the Skeena in comparison to reports from the Nass and other adjacent systems. Indians at Terrace and upriver obtain their requirements usually from the natives of the Nass and Kitimat.

As in all of District 2 no commercial Eulachon fishery is carried out. Some local area food supply stores managements advised that representation would be made to the department to relax the commercial closure to permit a commercial fishery to supply the light demands for this species in view of the very minor demand of the natives for the exclusive needs of their families. It is expected that the coastal Co-Op fishermen would be requesting this opening of the Fishery at least on the Skeena run Eulachons.

Sport Fishery:

During 1961 there were 2,133 Angling licences issued through Provincial sources in the area. Of this total 160 were Non-Resident anglers, most of which were U.S.A. Sportsmen. Catches reported indicated average year salmon catches, with better than last few years Steelhead. In comparison the licences issued in 1960 amounted to 1,293 of which 37 only were Non-Resident. Activities were noticable on Kalum River-Lakelse River and on Kispiox River, those were the main producers of salmon catches reported. Copper River has been reported as poor over the past few years. Kasiks river west of Terrace is becoming an important Coho field for sportsmen.

Logging Activity:

Notice of seven applications re timber sales were processed through to District Supervisor by the Forestry department during 1961 including one application for approval of a river drive on the upper Skeena from Kitsegas to Glen Vowell. Logging operations proposed for the area suggest a stepped up activity can be expected on salmon streams in the area, and protective clauses are included in licences issued by the Provincial Forestry department as required by the District Supervisor to safeguard fisheries interests. The volume of timber cut in 1961 slightly exceeds the 209 million board feet of 1960 as Forest Ranger reports a near allowable area cut in 1961 totalling 231,750,000 BFM. Water transport Skeena River driven volume increased from roughly 16 million BFM in 1960 to 17½ million BFM in 1961. Good water levels over a longer season account for the increase in river towing to tidewater. Columbia Cellulose Company operating under timber licence number 1 in the area annually operate a tree nursery farm and plant cottonwood from the farm on the Skeena river islands and side areas between Terrace and Shames 20 miles west of Terrace. This firm also experimented with a debarking spray program on approximately 10 acres of cottonwood timber near Exstew River also west of Terrace. The experiment is to facilitate processing of the logs at the Cellulose plant by killing the tree so that the bark is shed whilst still standing.

Forestry officials also advise that heavy infestations of insects, Bark Beetles have become evident in 1961 in addition to the defoliating effect of the looper infestation in the Zymoetz (Copper) river timber area. This is also a Columbia Cellulose licence area opened up in 1960. There were eleven logging outfits operating in the Skeena-Kitwanga S.Y.U region in 1961 similar to 1960 wherein 522 men were engaged compared to 550 in 1960. Twelve sawmills operated and five planer mills also. In sawmilling the work force approximates 188 men. One mill closed down in late 1961. Pole cutting occupied 77 men in the area and approximately 1,982,000 lineal feet of poles were recorded by forestry as the total pole yield in the area in 1961. There is on hand an inventory of about 10 million board feet of lumber in yards of the area, and except for some slight decrease in the demand for Cedar products all species of local timber are as reported in steady good demand. Mobile metal spar trees are becoming more popular and replacing spar trees and high lead methods in area operations. Tractor skidding to loading areas is main method of handling. There has been no new Cover maps issued or made of the areas timber, very little photography during 1961 season and no new photos available. The Forest industry was hampered by a severe dry season and numerous outbreaks of fire in the area during the summer, only on one stream of the Kalum system (Clear creek) was any fire dropped trees by necessity dropped into the stream by Forestry crew and all was removed to our satisfaction before adult salmon run entered. Gravel removal from salmon streams so far and in 1961 was not a major problem affecting fisheries. Provincial Highways dept. and CNR did remove about 25,000 yds from a dry portion high bars of lower Skeena for bridge fill in and culvert work on lower Skeena unimportant slough creek.

Terrace Forestry staff under Ranger W. Lindstrom are most cooperative and take an active interest in assisting in Fisheries protective controls in the area. There was no evidence of sawmill wastes or pollution of salmon streams by logging operations in the area. Municipal sewage has not presented a serious problem to date as septic tank settling for the local hospital and main portion of the town is operated.

Violations:

One only violation of Fishery Regulations prosecuted during the year. That of a gillnet illegally operated by a White resident. Fine of \$100 by Terrace Magistrate and confiscation of 15 Sockeye salmon that Magistrate ordered confiscated was donated to the local hospital. Frequent night patrols, road block checks and plain clothes patrols along CNR did not reveal any illegal traffic in Indian caught fish. A report to the Smithers Provincial Game Warden of a possible Indian sale of upriver Salmon from between Kitwanga-Terrace was checked out, and no evidence obtained. Further investigation and CNR personnel informants will be used to continue control of this alleged activity.



Water Rights:

Two applications for water rights on streams of the area were received for clearance. One for domestic supply for a small summer cottage at Lakelse Lake was approved as no effect on Fish would result, the other application was for 500,000 gpd from Deep creek, a tributary of Kalum river, required by the municipality of the District of Terrace for an extension of existing water supply. This application was protested through to District Supervisor as the considerations of departmental Engineering staff would have to be given in view of the spawning requirements of the creek.

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Stream Improvement:

During the year 1961, the writer and seasonal patrol staff cleared windfall debris and beaver dams that were potential blockages from 10 streams, and assisted to help ascending spawners over a spillway at the Columbia Cellulose log holding pond at the outlet of Kalum river, where the turbulence and velocity of the spillway attracted some of the Kalum run Sockeye-Coho-Springs that normally could ascend the main river without difficulty. C.C.Co. advised that remedial modification of the spill that was actually a break in the dyke forming the pond was being considered in the interests of fisheries. 193½ hours hand labor and 7½ hrs. work by a local D8 logging cat and explosives used by the writer and staff for a total expenditure of \$115.12 on stream improvement in the area in 1961.

Research Board field staff improved conditions in Schulubuchand (Scully) creek for Hatchery installation water flows. Beaver dams cleared totalled 12 and indications follow up inspections point up that this type blockages present a problem to eliminate completely.

Where traplines are registered and worked, the local Game Warden will cooperate in allowing out of season trapping out of the areas and will issue us a permit to destroy the Beaver houses as it seems that to completely eliminate the dams where storage by the dams is not considered as beneficial to spawning grounds, the whole colony must be trapped out or destroyed. On some of the dams located after spawning takes place we have had to defer removal on account of the flooding of the spawn area below the dams with mud silt that is held back, it would then be harmful to remove dams, so further removal will be necessary to clear some streams before next seasons adult salmon enters. The issue of a power saw to each area would be a help as in the case of Terrace-Lakelse area, one small saw is shared with the officers in Babine-Morice area, and is considered an unsatisfactory arrangement as oftentimes both officers require the saw urgently when timing and conditions permit use thereof.

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Fishways:

There are no fishways operating in the area. A full coverage of all salmon streams has not yet been completed by the writer to determine need for construction. A preliminary first observation of the canyon in the Kispiox river (Gitwanguk Canyon) would suggest that an engineering study and a biological survey is warranted there. Many adult Coho-Sockeye and Spring salmon must surely be lost there when low water levels and high water velocities make it a potential blockage.

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Predator Control:

There was no seal hunt on the Skeena in 1961 as this officer was required to assist on the seal hunt arranged for the Nass River. A few seal noses were turned in for bounty by local residents. A previous report by Inspector Giraud suggested that a hunt to destroy Grizzlies on the upper Kispiox system was necessary as much damage was indicated there on spawning fish. There has been an increased interest in Grizzlies there in past two years by U.S. hunters and numbers may be decreased annually in future.

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Patrol Facilities and Seasonal Staff:

A 1957 International panel truck assigned to the area gave good service and did not require excessive expenditures to operate, total 1961 mileage on patrol duties amounted to 10,076. A river canoe and 10 H.P. motor is also used when necessary. Late in 1961 a new river boat and 40 H.P. outboard was supplied which will provide good facilities for lower river patrol coverage. A rubber raft is also used to float rivers and is a useful piece of equipment. Replacement of the truck is in hand with District Supervisor and at end of the year there was a total mileage of 56,228 miles logged.

Two seasonal employees are taken on strength to assist in the patrol duties in the area. One is situated at Hazelton and covers the upper region from Kispiox to Cedarvale, a sixty mile road distance. Duties in the upper portion usually commence June 1st. and continue to end of September. Satisfactory service was given in this position by Guardian Bennett who had to resign early in 1961 season for health reasons, replacement employee Parent gave good service and has applied for continuation in that position. In the lower portion Skeena the position is classified as patrolman, and the incumbent has been in that position 1960-61 seasons, satisfactory service provided, and employment over a period of seven months is usually allotted this position. There is however some dissatisfaction with the position voiced by the incumbent Collison as he feels that he should be classified as Guardian similar to the Hazelton employee for benefit of the higher rate of salary. Both employees are required to patrol and motor car allowance of 10¢ per mile is paid. There is a difference in salary rate between the Guardian and Patrolman classifications.

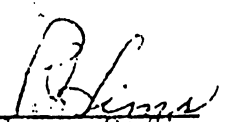
General:

The Protection staff in the area assist whenever required in the Research Field staff work as the work is considered part of the overall Fisheries Management in the area. We assist on stream fence counts that gives required information to Protection work. Fry trapping of downstream migrants and Redd sampling is often a cooperative duty, good public relations and valuable protection assistance is given by this arrangement. Provincial Game Wardens (Conservation Officers) Terrace and Smithers are very cooperative and joint patrols are often carried out in the various regions of the district. R.C.M.P and the local Magistrates also are cooperative. Adjoining area Inspectors Engelson-Gelley and previous incumbent Inspector Giraud have been very helpful in assisting when required. Reciprocal assistance has been extended from this writer when necessary. District Supervisor Edwards and assistant Supervisor Winsby have given every assistance and direction, Their office staff and marine personnel have given every help possible to the writer in the work details of the area.

The Area Director Mr. Hourston and his assistants have made visits to the area and matters taken to that level have been given prompt attention. During 1961 it was my pleasure to meet Doctor Pritchard from Ottawa Headquarters in the area. Mr T.R. Reid from Personnel office Hdq. also visited and resolved personal problems satisfactorily.

Respectfully Submitted:

March 14, 1962

  
Fishery Officer  
Terrace-Lakelse Area  
District 2 B.C.

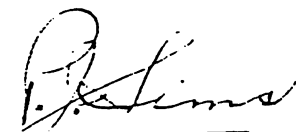
## INDIAN FOOD FISHERY: TERRACE-LAKEELSE AREA: 1962.

Page 1 of 2.

Location:      Sockeye:      Springs:      Coho:      Pinks:      Chums:      Steelhead:      Total:      Issued Permits:      Nets Used:

|                              |             |          |            |            |         |          |             |     |    |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------|------------|------------|---------|----------|-------------|-----|----|
| Terrace                      | 1,338       | 34       | 129        | 43         | -       | 30       | 1,574       | 14  | 12 |
| Copper City                  | 180         | 20       | 40         | -          | -       | 10       | 250         | 1   | 1  |
| Kitseles                     | 300         | 25       | 100        | -          | -       | 25       | 450         | 3   | 3  |
| Cedarvale                    | 200         | 20       | 50         | -          | -       | 20       | 290         | 1   | 1  |
| Kitwanga                     | 308         | 46       | -          | 61         | -       | 14       | 429         | 13  | 5  |
| Kitwancool                   | 400         | 10       | 150        | 300        | -       | 50       | 910         | 15  | 6  |
| Kitsegukla                   | 2,364       | 453      | 369        | 599        | 11      | 133      | 3,929       | 15  | 15 |
| Hagwilget                    | 189         | 28       | 21         | 115        | -       | 9        | 362         | 9   | 4  |
| Hazeltons                    | 2,131       | 161      | 190        | 366        | 11      | 82       | 2,941       | 20  | 15 |
| Glen Vowell                  | 1,055       | 110      | 30         | 63         | -       | 13       | 1,271       | 12  | 6  |
| Kispiox                      | 2,581       | 62       | 254        | 503        | 5       | 61       | 3,466       | 9   | 9  |
| Totals: 1962                 | 11,046 Pcs. | 969 Pcs. | 1,333 Pcs. | 2,050 Pcs. | 27 Pcs. | 447 Pcs. | 15,872 Pcs. | 112 | 77 |
| 5 Year Average<br>1957- 1961 | 22,948      | 2,692    | 5,942      | 6,888      | 533     | 714      | 39,717      | 170 | NR |

November 17, 1962.

  
 Fishery Officer:  
 Terrace-Lakeelse Area:

The Indian Fishery was controlled by application of a weekly closed period of 48 hours from Saturday 6 p.m. to Monday 6 p.m. during 1962 season. In previous years the closed period of 48 hours was from Friday 6 p.m. to Sunday 6 p.m. Change was made to the Saturday close time with approval, to meet the conservation controls weekly and allow fishing at a time during the weeks when the working men would be able to attend to the nets on Saturday when not employed normally at work. I was aware of the danger to women and children who would have to do most of the overhauling and pulling out of the nets if the closure time had remained in effect from Friday. This arrangement of Saturday close time was well accepted, and with very few exceptions at the commencement of the new time change, all operators complied with the control measure.

The comparison catch figures; 1962 and the past 5 year average indicate a trend towards lesser utilization of fish for food purposes. This also is indicated in the drop in actual permits operated. 112 permits were issued in 1962 as compared to an average of 170 for the past 5 years,

The total catch reported for 1962 was landed by only 77 nets of the 122 permits issued. Many nets operated for more than one family, some did not fish in the area after obtaining a permit, some went to the coastal commercial fishery and did not operate after return to their residential locations, noticeably at Kitwancool 15 permits were issued and only six were known to have operated.

All villages excepting Hagwilget reported a good catch, ample food fish preserved for winter use. Hagwilget permittees reported that all their catch was consumed fresh during season, as light catches were made when the people who operated the nets were not very successful in the location on the Skeena that they chose to fish at. We must take in to account the physical capabilities of the operators in this particular year effort at Hagwilget before we can conclude that there was a less than normal abundance of available fish. The 4 nets operated were operated by men in their 60 and 70 years ages, other permittees much younger and more able to compete did not put a net in the water either in the Bulkley or alternate sites on the Skeena, most perhaps were gainfully employed and provided their families with other than fish food, however, it is my contention that those that report no effort and no fish were waiting for further assistance from Government by either direct relief or our supply of fish in lieu of the loss of their so called historical grounds at the canyon, that they claim is the result of the removal of the obstruction from the canyon.

In contrast the villagers of Kitwancool, when faced with a light run of Sockeye at the village, they set up a smoke house and canning arrangement with a family of the village that moved out to the Skeena approx 25 miles west of Kitwanga near Ritchie that is west of Cedarvale. They landed the reported catch from there, and only six nets were operated for the intire village where 15 permits had been issued. Many of the Kitwancools were engaged in the commercial fishery which may account for the few nets operated at the village and west on Skeena. There were no complaints from that reservation regarding the poor catch indicated, by the stastietic provided.

In conclusion I would report that the observations of this office field staff and the writer during past seasons 1962 effort indicate that those who made an effort to obtain sufficient fish for food both in the fresh condition and preserved for winter use obtained their requirements. The few individuals who reported no supply put away for winter, in my opinion do not depend on permit fish for their main diet, and made no effort along those lines.

Late season contacts indicated the disposition of the total catch as follows.

|                | Sockeye | Springs | Coho  | Pink  | Chums | Steelhead. |
|----------------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
| season caught  | 11,046  | 969     | 1,333 | 2,050 | 27    | 447        |
| consumed fresh | 5,202   | 362     | 453   | 1,592 | -     | 125        |
| preserved      | 5,844   | 587     | 880   | 458   | 27    | 322        |

Fishery Officer

Loc: Term: Comm: Lic: Cech: Lic: Lic: K-: Hag: Haze: Cler: Fish: Tot: 5 Yr 1951

More