

56-15

MEMORANDUM / NOTE DE SERVICE

TR-D

TO: G. J. Jaltema, District Supervisor  
Prince Rupert, B.C.

1-5-5

FROM: Morris E. Bogart, Fisheries Officer  
DE: Terrace, B.C.

SUBJECT: Re: Indian Food Fishery, Terrace - Lakelse, Sub-District  
SUJET:

Fishing was restricted mainly to the Main Stem Skeena, with some fishing in the Lower End of the Bulkley River by Members of the Hagwilget Band, and in the Lower Babine River by Members of the Hazelton Band who formerly belonged to the Kisegas Band.

Fishing method was restricted to gill nets and set nets.

Band permits were issued to the 8 bands on the Skeena River. These permits covered band members on their traditional fishing grounds.

Non-bands members were required to obtain individual permits. Applicants for permits were also required to get permission from the band council to use their fishing grounds. Permits issued to non-band members were issued on the basis of actual requirements as opposed to a set number of days per week, etc.

Restrictions

- (1) The Skeena River upstream from Cedarvale was closed to net fishing until May 15th. This restriction was necessary to protect a declining steel head trout population.
- (2) The Lower Skeena Area (Cedarvale downstream) net fishing was restricted to weekends (6:00 P.M. Friday till 6:00 P.M. Sunday) until the last week in June. This restriction was necessary to protect steelhead and the early spring run.
- (3) Effective August 14th the Skeena River downstream from Terrace was closed to net fishing until further notice. This closure was designed to protect salmon on their spawning beds, (mainly Pinks and Chums) and the Lakelse River Pink run. Starting September 15th permits were issued to individual numbers of the Kalum Band to use nets for Coho fishing in this area. Fishing was restricted to weekends and selected sites where it was unlikely spawning fish would be taken.
- (4) Effective August 14th until September 10th net fishing in the Skeena River from Terrace upstream to Legate Creek was restricted to weekends (6:00 P.M. Friday until 6:00 P.M. Sunday). This restriction was designed to protect migrating Pinks.

October 26th 1977

Non-Band Indians

As previously stated non-band Indians were issued individual permits. These permits were issued on an actual requirement basis for periods ranging from 6 to 12 hours. Most of these permits were issued for the portion of the Skeena River within one mile of the C.N.R. bridge at Terrace.

Estimated Catch in Indian Food Fishery

60-70,000 Sockeye  
2-3,000 Cohoe

4-5K,000 Springs  
1,000 Chums

The Pink catch is very difficult to estimate but was probably on the order of 10-20,000 fish.

New Trends

The only new trend noted was the increasing number of people from the Kitimat area coming to Terrace to fish.

Enforcement - Violations

There were few violations in the Food Fishery, only 3 charges were laid. Unmarked nets were seized that could probably be attributed to Indians