

Prince Rupert, B.C.

March 17, 1975

R.N. Palmer
Chief, North Coastal Division
Environment - Fisheries
1090 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C.

N.O.B. Annual Report - 1974
District 8

Herring Statistics: This section is to be completed by Region.

The industry employed approximately 1000 persons in the processing of roe herring in 1974. Native Indians again collected roe from spawning for food purposes.

Halibut: The 1974 total catch landed at Prince Rupert was just over 5,000,000 lbs. This was some 2,000,000 lbs. less than in 1973. The top price in 1974 was 79.3¢/lb. as compared to 86.6¢ in 1973.

Shellfish: The 1974 landings of shellfish at Prince Rupert is as follows:
Shrimp: 464,000 lbs; Prawns: 8,000 lbs; Clams 661,000 lbs; Abalone: 25,000 lbs.

Clams harvested under special permits from Areas 3, 4, and 5 were processed by B.C. Packers and Babcock Fisheries during late 1974. This operation carried over in 1975.

The processing of these clams from closed areas was carefully controlled and the processed product would appear to be commercially acceptable.

Sport Fishery:

(a) Tidal Waters:

Area 3: Chinooks: 168, Coho: 169, Pinks: 10. Total boat days - 355 for a catch of .7 salmon 1 boat day. Species other than salmon. 57 ling cod, 135 rock fish, 83 halibut, 59 dozen crabs, 100 lbs of herring and 1500 lbs. of oulachons (Whites only) from the Nass River.

Area 4: Chinook: 775, Coho: 155, Total number of boat days was 1758. Average 1 boat day was .5 fish. Species other than salmon: 285 ling cod, 1615 rock fish, 110 halibut, 147 dozen crabs, and 50 lbs. each of herring and smelts.

Area 5: Chinook: 98, Coho: 20, No totals for effort is available for this area. Species other than salmon: 126 ling cod, 865 rock fish, 92 halibut and 132 dozen crabs. In addition 50 lbs. of clams were taken for personal use - in violation of the closure in this area.

(b) Non-Tidal Waters:

Chinooks - 1500, Coho: no firm figures are available at this date but it is estimated that approximately 4500 coho salmon were taken by anglers in the non-tidal fishery.

Indian Food Fishery:

(a) Nass:

LOCATION:	Sockeye:	Coho:	Pinks:	Chums:	Springs:	Steelheads:
Port Simpson	4375	265	221	235	42	10
Kincolith	1850	375	354	195	78	20
Greenville	4000	300	300	200	125	
Canyon City	800	100	25	100	25	
Aiyansh	3000	400	25	50	25	
Kitwancool	400	150			10	
TOTAL	14425	1590	925	7680	305	30

Number of families 55 Number of Persons 2 Number of Permits _____
Band Permits _____

(b) Skeena:

LOCATION	Sockeye	Coho	Pinks	Chums	Chinooks	Steelhead
Chatham Sound						
Edye Pass						
Inverness Pass						
Shuwaltons	160	100				
TOTAL	<u>160</u>	<u>100</u>				

Plus 20,000 sockeye taken in the one day fishery in July 1974 from the Skeena River.

Number of Families _____ Number of Persons _____ Number of Permits _____

(c) Grenville Principe (AREAS)

LOCATION	Sockeye	Coho	Pinks	Chums	Chinooks	Steelhead
Principe Channel	1572	95		15		
Kitkatla	100	20				
Petrel Channel		50	100	150	25	
TOTAL	<u>1672</u>	<u>165</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>165</u>	<u>25</u>	

Number of Families 70 Number of Persons 365 Number of Permits 5
Plus 2 Band Permits

(d) Terrace:

LOCATION	Sockeye	Coho	Pinks	Chums	Chinooks	Steelhead
Terrace	12000	300	500	50	500	300
Cedarvale						
Kitwanga	4000	200	400	25	100	100
Kitsequecla	8000	300	400	50	300	200
Hazelton	9000	400	500	100	300	200
Glen Vowel	2000	100	200	25	50	50
Kispiox	5000	200	50	250	250	250
Kitwancool						
TOTAL	<u>40000</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>2050</u> <u>2500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>1000</u>

Number of Families: 150 Number of Persons 900 Number of Permits _____
Band Permits

(e) Smithers:

LOCATION	Sockeye	Coho	Pinks	Chums	Chinooks	Steelhead
Morice town	322	181	39		581	101
Fort Babine	10819	50	10		10	
Sutherland R.	500					
Pendleton Bay	2300					
TOTAL	<u>*22640</u>	<u>231</u>	<u>49</u> ⁷⁴ <u>123</u>		<u>591</u>	<u>101</u>

Number of Families 177 Number of Persons 1461 Number of Permits _____
Band Permit

Totals include 6306 adult sockeye, 2393 jacks and 74 pinks taken during the special fishery at Babine Fence.

Totals for District 8 are:

	Sockeye	Coho	Pinks	Chums	Chinooks	Steelhead
	*99000	2850	3700	1200	2450	1200
Families _____		Persons _____		Permits _____		

*Figures have been rounded out to the nearest 50 fish.

The Indian Food Fishery operated under a somewhat different format during 1974, as a result of directions issued by the Minister and meetings held with Indian Food Committee of the U.B.C.I.C.

Band permits were issued in most cases to Band Councils. These councils undertook to maintain records of catches for relay to Fisheries and Marine Services. To date catch data has been sparse and incomplete.

Oulachon Fishery:

The native fishery for oulachons was again active in 1974. It is estimated that between 300 - 400 tons of oulachons were taken by Indians in the Nass Valley.

The Skeena River fishery was again confined to mainly a personal use fishery by non-Indians.

Weather Conditions:

A heavier than normal snow pack occurred during the winter of 1974, combined with a cold spring snow was still around in many higher levels all summer. The summer was very wet with the exception of August and early September.

Heavy rains in October had an adverse effect on early spawn depositions, in the Nass River tributaries, Copper River and Telkwa River. Pink spawn was particularly hard hit.

Herring Spawn:

Total spawn deposition in North Coast Sub District was 27.8 miles this is some 2.5 mil less than the total deposition in 1973.

Multiple Water Use:

(a) Numerous water licence, gravel removal and diversion applications were handled by Sub District and District Staff.

(b) Logging: Log production in District 8 was down considerably in 1974 due to the slow down in pulp production and a general softening of world forest produce markets.

348 logging and other referrals from the B.C. Forest Service were handled by District 8 Staff during 1974. This is a marked increase over 1972, when only 80 logging and other referrals were processed by District 8.

(c) Pollution: Several instances of minor pollution were investigated in 1974, no charges arose out of any of these incidents.

One minor oil spill was investigated in Prince Rupert Harbour. This spill was of approximately 300 gallons of diesel.

A complaint was received on 27 January 1974, of a break in the effluent discharge line of Can Cels Mill on Watson Island - no fish kill resulted from this breakage.

Violations (Enforcement)

42 Persons and concerns were prosecuted in 1974. Of these, charges against 6 accused were either dismissed or withdrawn.

Fines in 1974 totaled - \$3,475.00 this is \$710.00 less than in 1972. Successful prosecution both years totalled 40.

Personnel:

Several staff changes occurred in District 8 during this year.

V.H.B. Giraud - Was seconded to act as the liaison officer between the Fisheries and Marine Services and the Indian Food Committee of the U.B.C.I.C. Fishery Officers Freeman and Duke acted as District Supervisors until 11 July 1974 when the position was filled by T.M. Moojalsky.

F/O L.S. Freeman: was promoted to District Supervisor and transferred to New Westminster.

F/O L.B. Duke: was transferred to Sooke in August.

F/O L.J. Gray: was promoted to GT-3 and assigned to a new Sub District headquartered at Nass Centre in the Nass Valley.

F/O W.H. McKenzie: was promoted to GT-3 in charge of the Nass Sub District late in 1974, filling the vacancy created by the transfer of F/O Duke to Sooke.

F/O P.C. Harvey: was promoted to GT-3 and transferred from Bella Coola to fill the vacancy as officer in charge of the Skeena Sub District. This vacancy resulted because of the promotion and transfer of L.S. Freeman.

In addition Miss Janice Thibeault was T.O.S. in April at a CRII.

General:

- (a) Several meetings were held in 1974, with Indian Band councils, Indian Association the fishing industry and sport groups. These were in addition to interagency meetings on multiple resource use and matters of mutual concern.
- (b) Treasury Board announced this fall that all staff in Prince Rupert, Terrace and Kitimat would have their Special Locations Allowance phased out over a 21 month period commencing on 1 February 1975.

T.M. Moojalsky
Supervisor, Skeena District