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REPORT ON KISPIOX RIVER

There was not a great deal of fishing done on the Kispiox this season until the coho run through the fact that most of the Indians were on the coast.

This gave the run of Springs, sockeye and humps a good opportunity so that the spawning grounds were reached by a large number of fish and were well seeded down. Many dead fish were noted and these all gave evidence of having spawned.

The run of springs was greater than it had been in some years while the sockeye were about as numerous as last season but were on the whole much larger. The run of humps appeared to be about the same as last year as did also the coho.

The different creeks visited were as last year.

Kitwnagulf Canyon was visited just after a very wet period so that high water was in order and the fish were negotiating the falls in good shape.

The greatest menace to spawning areas above Ammonook appears to be the log jam below Stephens. This covers a considerable area and at one period obstructed the fish from getting to spawning areas for a number of years. The fish are going through at present but this is more than possible that they may be prevented at any season in the near future.

The jam consists of a series of jams and these so interfere with the water that in high water the river floods all the surrounding country. The silt is being washed from about the roots of the green timber and these trees keep falling and adding to the jam. The gravel keeps washing against the logs and forming a regular dam.

Were the banks higher in the vicinity it would be more than possible that the current might clear out the jam but under the conditions it will be impossible for it to do so without the aid of powder.

It will take considerable powder and a lot of work and some length of time to clear out the jams but it will have to be done sooner or later.

Yours obediently,

(Sgd) A. R. McDonell.

A. Mackie, Esq.,
Inspector of Fisheries,
Prince Rupert, B. C.

Handwritten notes in the left margin:
 - A vertical line with a bracket on the left side.
 - The word "Ammonook" written vertically along the line.
 - The word "Mackie" written vertically below "Ammonook".
 - The word "Kitwnagulf" written vertically below "Mackie".
 - A small sketch of a dam or log jam structure at the bottom of the notes.

REPORT ON SKEENA RIVER SPAWNING GROUNDS

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The past season on the Skeena was very successful for the welfare of the salmon. There were not a great many Indians fishing until the coho run so that the Springs, sockeye and humps were not much molested.

This season there were more families fishing at Kistigas on the springs and sockeye than last year. They were not blocking the river in any manner as the fish were plentiful and they could get their food supply easily.

The run of springs was very large while the sockeye was about the same as last year in numbers but much larger in size. The runs of humps and coho were also good.

The different creeks were in good shape and fish were plentiful in them.

The fish were reaching their spawning areas, the beds were well seeded down and the dead fish showed that they had spawned.

The Indians were friendly doing what they were asked to do and co-operating without any friction.

The Kitsuegla River was visited but was handicapped through having the wrong outfit, the trail being blocked to saddle horse. Two timber cruisers reported springs and sockeye as being plentiful and reaching the spawning areas. The coho also frequent these waters. I was intending to return and visit these waters personally but the weather was so unfavorable and as the cruisers were reliable I did not deem it necessary.

Stoney Creek flowing in from the north side of the Skeena across from Old Kitseugla was visited twice but showed no signs of fish. Humps are said to frequent this stream.

Sealey Creek carried the usual amount of humps. Sealey Lake trout fishing was much better this year the fishing being much larger through the fact that it was not opened last spring.

Sike Daku or Blue Bowell Creek showed humps fairly numerous as well as large trout.

Salmon or Shegurda river flowing from the south opposite Kispiox was also in good shape.

Babine River had five families fishing on it at Kistigas. They reported a big run and were fishing with gaffs.

Kuldo river had humps spawning on the first mile. Coho frequent this stream also.

Canyon creek below Fourth cabin was well bedded down. Springs sockeye and coho frequent this stream to the falls about half a mile from the river.

Slangeese River had three families on it. The springs and sockeye were mostly over. The beds were well seeded down.

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Black Water lake had the best run-of springs and sockeye it had in years. Owing to the Indians cutting the beaver dams on Little Creek the fish were allowed to go to the headwaters the first time in four or five years.

There was just one woman fishing up to that time. The beds were well deeded down and the fish showed that they had spawned.

Yours obediently,

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