

Smithers, B. C.
Dec. 31st. 1940

Dear Sir:-

I beg to present the following annual report of the Fisheries in Upper Skeena Area of District No. 2 British Columbia.

A There was no commercial fishing in the District during the past year.

Sport fishing has been very good this season except during a short period of heavy rains that carried too much feed and the trout were not biting. There were quite a few fishing parties at Babine Lake during the season, local and tourist parties that arrived at both Donald's and Topley Idles, an increase over past years and it appears as though this area will continue to increase its popularity. Moricetown and Hagwilget also continued to attract the tourists. The small lakes adjoining the Can. Nat. Railway in the district also had their enthusiasts.

The escapement of the different species of Salmon to the different areas on the whole was quite satisfactory and as natural conditions of a good stage of water for spawning and the lateness of any frosts good results should be obtained in the different cycle years. Sockeye had a heavy escapement with females notably in majority and compared very favorably with the cycle year. The run of Springs was fairly satisfactory not as large as the cycle year on the Babine areas while on the Morice it was as good. The Morice had a heavier escapement this year owing to high water at Moricetown on the Bulkley hindering the Indian fishing of this species and there was not the mortality at that point. The run of Pinks was lighter than 1938 the cycle year but not alarmingly so. The run of Cohoes was a medium run and would compare fairly favorable with the cycle year of 1937.

The food supply catch of the Indians was heavy in Sockeye although at Moricetown the catch of Cohoe was nearly double the catch of Sockeye due to high water.

B As there was no commercial fishing, there was no fishing fleet in use this season.

C There was no change of gear kind in the fishing except at Babine Lake where we had Indians putting up their supply at Donald's Landing so that they could be at this point to be available to tourists with their boats and engines.

D Abuses were at a minimum this season and no trouble was experienced this season.

E Close seasons in the area were very well kept.

F For Fishery Protection there is kept in the area one Inspector for the year round, two Fishery Guardians, one at Hazelton and the other at Moricetown for the fishing season and two Patrolmen at Babine Lake. In addition the Department has two boats at Babine Lake motored with outboard engines at the disposal of the Patrolmen. These employees, in addition to protecting from illegal fishing, cruise creeks and inspect spawning areas.

G Where there is any possibility of Pollution creeks are cruised and premises are inspected. The attitude of the Public, both Whites and Indians, is on the whole towards co-operation with the Department, so that any new obstruction is reported and is then examined.

H In this area there is only one fishway that has been built and it is located at Moricetown on the Bulkley River. This fishway is in good condition.

Spawn area inspection was carried out in the Babine by your Inspector and the Patrolmen, on the Morice Area by your Inspector and an Indian packer, on the Mc Donnell Lake and Copper or Zymetz River area by Guardian Jas. A. Macdonald, on the Kitwanoocool by Guardian Allen and on the Kispiox River area by your Inspector and Guardian Allen.

Horses were used on all areas except Babine Inlets & outlet

GRIZZLY CR- flowing into Beaver or Sutherland River 8 miles from head of Babine Lake

Sockeye arriving Aug. 15th, medium run, 3000, 75% large, 25% med. 60% female, 25% less than 1936: Indian food supply catch greater which would account for the fewer numbers on the spawn area

Cohoos arriving Oct. 1st a light run about the same as 1937
FIFTEEN MILE or ANDERSON CR:- flowing into Babine Lake from the South about 12 miles from the head of the lake:

Sockeye arriving July 31st, 750: Aug. 8th 500: Aug. 15th 3000: Sept 4th-7th 10000: Sept. 11th 2000: Aug fish 75% large, 25% medium, 60% female: Sept fish 25% large :50% medium, 25% small, sexes 50/50, about as 1935, slightly better than 1936

Cohoos arriving Oct. 1st. light about the same as 1937

TWIN CR: flowing into Babine Lake about 36 miles from the head, on the the South side:

Sockeye arriving July 28th- 20th Aug. about 8000, 90% large, 10% medium: 50% females: medium heavy run: double 1935, from 30 to 50% less than 1935

Cohoos arriving about Oct. 1st, a light run, sexes 50/50, About the same as 1937

PIERRE CR: flowing into Babine Lake from the South about 38 miles from the head:

Sockeye: arriving July 28th-Aug. 15th 2750, 75% large, 25% medium 60% females: Sept. 4th-Sept 18th 6000, 10% large, 70% medium, 20% small. 60% females, total of between 17 & 18 thousand, a heavy run, compares favorably with 1935 & 1936

Cohoos arriving Oct. 1st a light run, about the same as 1937

TACHEK CR: flowing into Babine Lake from the South about 53 miles from the head and about 2 miles West of Topley Ldg:

Sockeye arriving July 22nd-Aug. 17th 5000, 50% large, 40% medium 1% Runts, 60% females, better than 1935, 50% less than 1936

Cohoos arriving Oct. 1st. light run, about the same as 1937

FULTON RIVER: flowing into Babine Lake from the South near Topley Ldg. about the middle of Babine Lake or 57 miles from the head and 50 miles from the foot:

Sockeye arriving Aug. 19th Sept. 1st a light run large fish 60% female: Sept. 1st-22nd. arriving freely until fairly heavy, 30% large, 30% medium, 30% small, 10% Runts, females 60%, considerable wastage of eggs owing to predominance of females, better than 1936 in numbers & etc. a better seeding than 1935 when the sexes were opposite with 60% males

Cohoos arriving Oct. 1st between 305 hundred, sexes even about as 1937

HATCHERY or MORRISON CR entering Hatchery arm of Babine Lake about 30 miles from Topley Ldg:

Sockeye arriving between Sept 1st -21st about 14000, 30% large. 30% medium, 30% small, 10% Runts, females in majority, from 20% to 30% better than 1936, also better than 1935

Cohoos arriving Oct. 1st between 283 hundred, sexes even, light run about as 1937

NINE MILE CR flowing into Babine Lake from the South about 9 miles east of Babine village

Sockeye arriving July 21st. 4000 large fish, 60% females, much better than 1936 which was heavy also, this was the greatest in 18 yrs experience of the Patrolman

UPPER BABINE RIVER:

AREA NO 1 or BRIDGE SECTION the first half mile out of Babine Lake

Sockeye arriving Sept. 10th "L" very heavy, large fish, 66% females better than either 1935 or 1936

Cohoos arriving Sept. 15th "C" light run, about the same 1937

Springs arriving Sept. 15th. "A" light run

PINKS arriving Aug. 15th. "D" a light run lighter than 1935

Steelhead, May heavy according to the Indians

6. UPPER BABINE RIVER

AREA #2 or HATCHERY SECTION that part of Babine River below the first half mile for about 1/3 mile where it joins onto No. 3 Section
Sockeye began arriving Sept. 10th but few stayed until after 19th
 From that time on in Oct a very heavy run 65% large, 39% medium, 5% Runts with females 60%, better than either 1935 or 1936

Cohoos Sept. 15th light run compare favorably with 1937

Springs very few on the area this season

Pinks arriving Aug. 14th a light run, lighter than 1938

AREA NO. 3 or ISLAND SECTION

Sockeye arriving Sept 10th-Oct 20th "L" heavy run 65% large, 35% medium, 60% females, better than either 1935 or 1936, about best seen

Cohoos arriving Oct. 1st light run, lighter than 1937

Springs Sept. 19th. light run, lighter than 1936

Pinks Aug. 14th, a light run, lighter than 1938

Steelhead according to Indians, heavy, compare with any year
 LOWER BABINE RIVER: that part below Wilkitlwa Lake

Sockeye Sept. 20th "K" a heavy run mostly large fish with 5% runts, 60% females better than either 1935 or 1936

Cohoos Sept. 11th "G" medium run, favorable with 1937

Springs Aug. 4th a medium run, 60% females, better than 1935 less than 1936

Pinks Aug. 14th, medium run, 60% females, less than 1938

MC DONALD CR: flowing into Babine River from the North just below Wilkitlwa Lake

Cohoos Sept. 11th a medium run, compares favorably with 1937

Pinks Aug. 14th a medium run, not as good as 1938

SALMON CR: flowing into Harrison or Hatchery Lake at the head and draining Salmon Lake

Sockeye Sept. 1st. 2800 a heavy run 30% large, 30% medium, 30% small & 10% Runts with sexes about 50/50 or females slightly in majority
 1936 had between 800 & 900

Cohoos Oct. 1st a light run about the same as 1937

KISPIOX SPAWN AREA

MONGESH Mongese Cr. from the North into Kispiox River about 55 miles North of Hazelton

Sockeye about Sept. 1st. a heavy run, 60% females, favorable with 1936

Cohoos Oct. a medium run, not as heavy as 1937

Springs about June 1st. medium run, not as heavy as 1936

Pinks Aug. 15th a light run less than 1938

Steelhead May & Oct. heavy according to Indians

ANNONNOOK flowing into Kispiox River from the North about 65 miles North of Hazelton;

Sockeye Sept. 1st. heavy run, favorable with 1936

Cohoos Oct. a medium run, not as heavy as 1937

Steelhead May & Oct. heavy according to the Indians

STEVENS CR. comprising part of the Lac Da Pah area of the Kispiox draining Stevens Lake into the Kispiox River from the South about 70 miles North of Hazelton

Sockeye about Sept. 1st, heavy run of large & average fish, 60% females favorable with 1936

Cohoos Oct. medium run average fish, sexes even less than 1937

Steelhead May & Oct heavy according to Indians

CLUBB CR: joining Clubb Lake and Stevens Lake about 70 miles North of Hazelton

Sockeye Sept. 1st, heavy run of lge and Average fish, 60% females about as 1936

Cohoos Oct a medium run, not as good as 1937

NARROWS joining Swan or Arcoy Lake to Clubb Lake about 78 miles North of Hazelton

Sockeye Sept. 1st. heavy run of large and average fish 60% females compares favorably with 1936

Cohoos Oct. medium run, average size, sexes even, less than 1937

ALLEN or FALLS CR: flowing into Swan or Arcoy Lake from the North about 2 miles West of the Narrows

Sockeye 1st week in Sept. a heavy run of large & average fish 60% females compares favorably with 1936

Cohoos Oct. Medium run average size, sexes even less than 1937

MC DONELL CR: draining Dennis Lake into Mc Donell Lake a part of the Copper River or Zymoetz River Spawm area about 30 miles from Smithers
Sockeye Aug. "G" heavy run of large fish, 60% females, about as 1936
Cohoos Oct. "C." fairly heavy, heavier than 1937
Steelhead May & Oct. heavy according to the Indians, favorable
 UPPER BULKLEY RIVER: that portion of the Bulkley above the junction with Morice River

Sockeye Aug. 20th fairly heavy, not quite as heavy as 1936
Cohoos Oct. a medium run about as 1937
Springs last of Aug. medium run not as heavy as 1936
Steelhead May & Oct. heavy run favorable with any year

NANIKA RIVER draining Kid Price or Little Nanika Lake into Morice Lake about 3 miles from the head of

Sockeye about Sept. 1st heavy favorable with 1936
Cohoos Oct. a medium run about as 1937
Steelhead May & Oct. heavy according to the Indians

MORICE RIVER draining Morice Lake into the Bulkley River from 3-4 miles west of Houston

Sockeye Aug. 20th fairly heavy, about as 1936
Cohoos Oct. a medium run about as 1937
Springs Aug. 20th heavy run about as 1936
Steelhead May & Oct. heavy according to Indians

MISSION CR : draining into Bulkley River about 1 mile above junction with Skeena and near Hazelton

Pinks Aug. 7th medium run "C" lighter than 1938

STONEY CR: flowing into the Skeena from the North about 9 miles West of Hazelton

Cohoos Aug. 5th "B" a light run lighter than 1937
Pinks Aug. 3rd. "G" a light run lighter than 1938

DEAN:HEAVY CR: or DANIEL CR: flowing into Kispiox River from the North about 7 miles North of Kispiox Village

Cohoos Aug. 10th "D" a medium run lighter than 1937
Pinks Aug. 8th "E" medium run lighter than 1938

CEDAR CR: flowing into the Skeena from the North about 2 miles North of Hazelton

Cohoos Aug. 5th "D" a medium run lighter than 1937
Pinks Aug. 7th "C" medium run lighter than 1938

KISPIOX RIVER: flowing into the Skeena from the North at Kispiox Village

Sockeye July 19th heavy, heavier than 1936
Cohoos Aug. 10th a medium run about the same as 1937
Springs July 1st light run lighter than 1936
Pinks Aug. 5th a medium run lighter than 1938
Chums Sept. 19th a light run
Steelhead May & Oct. heavy, favorable with any year

DATE CR: flowing into the Kispiox from the North about 4 miles North of Kispiox Village "E"

Cohoos Aug. 15th a medium run lighter than 1937
Pinks Aug. 7th "F" a medium run lighter than 1938

KITSEUGLA RIVER: flowing into the Skeena River near Skeena Crossing

Cohoos Medium run about the same as 1937
Steelhead May & Oct. a medium run about the same

BU:KLEY RIVER: entering the Skeena near Hazelton 1936

Sockeye July 1st. a heavy run. lge fish 60% females favorable with
Cohoos July 24th a medium run compares favorably with 1937
Springs a medium run compares favorably with 1936
Pinks July 26th medium run lighter than 1938
Chums July 30th light about the same
Steelhead July 12th a medium run about the same

KITWANCOOL RIVER: draining Kitwancool Lake and entering the Skeena from the North about 2 miles west of Kitwancool

Sockeye Aug. 4th "L" a heavy run lge fish, 60% females heavier than 1936

Cohoos Sept. 10th. "L" a medium run about the same
Pinks Aug. 15th. a medium run, lighter than 1938
Steelhead May & Oct. heavy according to the Indians

James Boyd, Esq.
 Supervisor of Fisheries
 Prince Rupert, B. C.

Sir:
 truly
 Mc Donnell

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Mc Donnell