

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

Report No. 125

PROGRESS REPORT ON LAKE IMPROVEMENT WORK IN KALKASKA COUNTY

The letter from Mr. Tomkins, President of the Kalkaska County Chamber of Commerce, indicates what work has been done on the lakes of the county and gives the number of fish which have been planted in the lakes and streams. A copy of this letter is enclosed. The work listed has been done by the Chamber of Commerce and the Kalkaska Chapter of the Izaak Walton League.

The Conservation Department has placed about 15 brush heaps in Log Lake. It has also placed 35 heaps in Bear Lake. Heaps of several types have been constructed and have been placed at various depths. Gravel for Bear Lake has been obtained and will be placed on the shoal in the near future. A channel has been blasted at the southwest end of the lake connecting the lake with a fertile pond which lies near it and which once connected with it. The sides of this channel have been well reinforced. The work on it is quite satisfactory.

In December all work was checked by a member of the Institute. It will be checked again in the spring especially to determine the effect of the ice on the brush heaps.

The fish called for in our budget have been received and placed in the lakes.

An excellent map of the county has been made available for the tourists.

Public fishing rights on several of the most important lakes, including Manistee and Log have been assured. The lakes referred to in the letter are Big Twin and Little Twin. The Registrar of Deeds in Kalkaska had no information in December on the buying of property along these lakes by Coldsprings Township and we cannot state definitely whether or not frontage on these two lakes has been purchased.

Kalkaska County has made a fine start in this work and there is every reason to believe that it will continue to carry out the recommendations which have been made.

The Conservation Department has been active in improving those lakes which have state-owned frontage.

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

R. W. Eschmeyer

COPY

Kalkaska, Michigan

2/3/32.

Mr. R. W. Eschmeyer

Institute for Fisheries Research

Ann Arbor, Mich.

My Dear Mr. Eschmeyer;

I wish to apologize for not having answered your letter of Jan. 8. This came in while I was in Chicago and somehow got mislaid and was just brought to my attention today.

In Blue Lake, Kalkaska Twp. we put in 121 gravel beds on west side, in Log Lake, 50 brush heaps on north east, east and south shores, also 133 gravel beds on west shore, in Wheeler Lake, 153 gravel beds on north shore.

The trail to north end of North Selkirk was fixed up so that it's easy to drive in there; Trails to the Guernsey lakes were improved. Brush heaps and gravel beds were placed in Kettle Lake but I have not the figures of the number.

The greater part of the signs were placed last fall and the balance will be placed early this spring.

The supervisor of Goldsprings told me in the fall that they were buying some land that would give frontage on both of these lakes but I have no more definite information.

The total of trout plantings in the rivers of Kalkaska Co. this season was 192,400, total of lake plantings, 17,200. The lake plantings were large and small mouth bass, rainbow and speckled trout, blue gills and golden shiners.

If there is any other information that I can give you, do not hesitate to call on me.

Just wondering if it would be possible to have some representatives from Institute for Fisheries Research, attend a meeting of Chamber of Commerce this spring to sort of stir up the enthusiasm again.

Sincerely,

Signed: Fred H. Tomkins

Pres. Kalkaska Co.  
Chamber of Commerce

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FEB 8 1932

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February 5, 1932

Mr. Fred H. Tomkins  
Pres. Kalkaska Co. Chamber of Commerce  
Kalkaska, Michigan

Dear Mr. Tomkins:

Your letter of February 3rd containing the information asked for is at hand.

We will undoubtedly be in Kalkaska a time or two this spring to look things over and especially to see what affect the ice has had on the brush heaps and on the gravel. We believe, however, that it would be advisable to get in touch with Tom McClure, Secretary of the Isaac Walton League, and have him talk things over with the Chamber of Commerce. He is well acquainted with what is going on in Kalkaska County, has a good background in matters of this kind, and can go a long way toward providing any needed stimulus.

At this time, several important points come to mind which might be given consideration:

1. The matter of providing boats on those lakes which now lack them has already been discussed a time or two. It would be fine if a boat could be provided by this next season on each of the lakes which has fairly good fishing. The rent on these boats should at least pay for their construction and upkeep.

2. Although it is still too early to expect returns from the work that has been done it would be well to watch fishing from time to time on those lakes where improvements have been made.

3. We should continue to make every effort to encourage tourist trade by giving the county all possible publicity in the "outdoor" pages of our newspapers.

You may be assured that we will cooperate to the fullest extent in this work. You have made an excellent start in spite of the depression and we are anxious to do what we can to help keep things going.

Should you receive definite information on the buying of lake frontage by Goldsprings Twp. or any other township we will be glad to get the news.

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Department of Fish and Game

Sincerely,

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

R. W. Eschmeyer

C O P Y

February 6, 1932

Mr. Mert McClure  
District Conservation Officer  
Roscommon, Michigan

Dear Mr. McClure:

Enclosed please find charts of Bear Lake and of Log Lake, which show approximately where the gravel is desired. It will be necessary to cut a few holes in the ice and measure the depth so as to make sure that none of the gravel is placed over deep water beyond the drop-off. A layer about an inch thick should be spread on the ice in areas about 5x5 ft., without particular regard as to the size or exact location so long as it is placed on the shelf. Gravel placed over water from 2 to 6 feet deep is most desirable.

Sincerely,

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

R. W. Eschmeyer

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