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FISH DIVISION

Report 154

June 13, 1932

PERCH TAGGING EXPERIMENT IN BIRCH LAKE, ANTRIM COUNTY

In 1931 it was agreed advisable to initiate an experiment to determine certain facts regarding the stocking of lakes with perch fingerlings. Points of prime interest on which it was hoped to obtain data are:

- (1) The question of migration or spread through the lake.
- (2) The question of the possible racial differences between different stocks of perch, especially those of the Great Lakes and of inland lakes.
- (3) The growth rate of the planted perch.
- (4) The survival ratio of the planted fish and the number of perch in the lake (good results on point 4 least likely).

The tagging and planting was done on October 29 to November 1, 1931. The fish were mostly of the usual fingerling run size, though a few larger, perhaps yearlings were included. The perch were seined at Elk Rapids. One thousand were planted on the sand beach on the southwestern shore, where the lake is accessible from Keewadin, and, one thousand in the northwest bay.

An effort to net and mine as many as possible of these tagged fish will be made in the summer of 1932. Conservation Officer Henry Fike, who helpfully assisted in the field work, said he would make and post signs in conspicuous places around the lake. These signs would ask fishermen to be sure to send in tags with detailed information. He also promised to keep a lookout for tags on his patrol work about the lake. Two resort owners were contacted at the time of the tagging work. Good

returns on this experiment should lead to valuable conclusions on important and debated problems.

Data on the perch tagged are appended.

*(not with report 6-18-41)
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INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

Carl L. Hubbs

Carl L. Hubbs,
Director.

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