

STUDY PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Michigan

Project No.: F-80-R-1

Study No.: 669

Title: Prey selection and predation rate of piscivorous fish

Period Covered: October 1, 1999 to September 30, 2000

Study Objective: To estimate survival of juvenile bluegills in ponds as a function of bluegill size and density and predator size and density, and to concurrently measure predator survival and growth.

Summary: No pond experiment was completed. Temporary assignment to other duties again reduced work on this project in this reporting period. We are holding reproducing populations of largemouth bass and bluegill in ponds. With the additional reproduction that will take place next spring, there should be adequate numbers of fish to conduct predator-prey experiments during the 2001 growing season. This study was previously amended to extend the study to allow completion of the intended experiments and analysis.

Job 1. Title: Stock ponds with bluegills and predators.

Findings: We are holding reproducing populations of largemouth bass and bluegill at the Saline Fisheries Research Station.

Job 3. Title: Drain ponds.

Findings: No pond experiments were completed this reporting period. These holding ponds were not drained.

Job 7. Title: Prepare appropriate sizes of predators and prey for next experiments.

Findings: We are holding reproducing populations of largemouth bass and bluegill at the Saline Fisheries Research Station. With the additional reproduction that will take place next spring, there should be adequate numbers of fish to conduct experiments during the 2001 growing season.

Prepared by: James E. Breck

Date: September 30, 2000