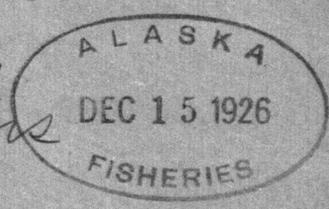


Alaska Div

Report of Operations



Southeast Alaska

1926

Dennis Finn

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF FISHERIES

Subject: Fishery Activities
Season of 1926..

Seattle, Washington,
December 6, 1926. A S K 4

The Commissioner of Fisheries,
Washington, D. C.

DEC 15 1926

FISHERIES

Sir:

I have the honor of submitting hereinafter a report of Bureau activities in Southeast Alaska District during the season of 1926.

This report consists of activities relative to enforcement of fishery laws and regulations, organization of patrol, policing streams and areas closed to commercial fishing, tagging of salmon for scientific purposes and the collection of data pertaining thereto, collection of statistics relative to salmon, halibut and other fish and shell fish, together with other activities as designated from time to time by the Commissioner of Fisheries.

After outlining and arranging for the early spring operations in Southeast Alaska, it was necessary for the writer, as in previous years, to proceed to Bristol Bay District for the purpose of establishing the Bureau forces throughout that area. Transportation was secured on the North King, of the Alaska-Portland Packers Association, from Portland to Bristol Bay, leaving Portland May 5 and arriving at Bristol Bay on May 15. After the various crews were established and work outlined for the season in that district, the writer returned to Southeast Alaska via Iliamna - Cook Inlet route to Anchorage, thence, Alaska Railroad to Seward and regular transportation to Juneau, arriving at the latter point June 22.

Soon after July 1, all the stream guards and chartered boats, that were possible to engage in accordance with the status of our finances, were established throughout the district and were on duty in the various districts while commercial activities were in order.

VISIT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF FISHERIES

Commissioner Henry O'Malley made a tour of inspection, as has been his annual practice, covering the territory as far West as Cook Inlet. More time and personal attention was given by him to this field than was possible in previous years. Inspection was made by Mr.O'Malley to all parts of the Southeast Alaska District.

Accompanying the Commissioner on the U.S.F.S. Brant, the new addition to the Bureau's patrol fleet, were Congressman Milton W.Shreve of Pennsylvania and Lyman C.Shreve, Esq., who made careful investigations of all fishery matters as did also Mr.Lawrence Richey, Secretary to Honorable Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce. Mr.Richey not only investigated the commercial phases of the fisheries as far to the Westward as Cook Inlet, but visited many of the spawning grounds in this latter district, all of which we feel will prove extremely beneficial to the Bureau interests and future welfare of Alaska.

FUR SEAL PATROL

Assistant Agent, M.J.O'Connor, with Bureau patrol boat Auklet was placed in charge of fur seal patrol work in the vicinity of Sitka and reported there for duty April 26.

Warden Suomela, who was on Bureau detail at Sitka was in close touch with the sealers and kept Captain O'Connor and the Bureau advised as to intended sealing activities so that no boat was needed before the above date. It was the intention, providing operations warranted, to detail the Widgeon and Murre in addition to the Auklet, under Captain O'Connor's direction, but operations were so limited that these boats were not necessary.

The season's catch represented:

38	Males
3	Females
1	Unborn Pup

The weather was especially severe and hazardous for the hunters and coupled with the non-encouraging prospect of immediate sale was the cause of the extremely small catch. Great herds were reported by halibut fishermen from Ketchikan, Prince Rupert and Sitka, representing more than has ever been seen by them in previous seasons. Native sealing was discontinued June 9.

NEW REGULATIONS

Spacing the traps, south of 58 degrees North Latitude, one mile apart laterally this year instead of 1800 feet as formerly was expected to cause considerable litigation and confusion, but all such matters were settled by the operators themselves before the opening of the season. Several traps were reported to us as being too close, but upon investigation found nearly all were well within the required distance.

Our wardens endeavored to visit all of the traps before the season opened and noted five traps being installed where distance was too close and not in accordance with law. The different operators affected were notified that if such traps were fished they would be confiscated and the operators then got together and either moved, eliminated or agreed upon a per-centage plan of dividing the fish where elimination was necessary. This rearrangement was accomplished before fishing was possible, so no court action was necessary.

No antagonism to Bureau activities by canners or fishermen was in evidence throughout the season; in fact, the feeling displayed indicated their willingness to cooperate.

CLOSED AREAS

During the season of 1926 there were 56 bays, inlets, coves and canals wholly or partially closed to commercial fishing, together with 12 areas around stream mouths closed in addition to the 500 yards prescribed by law.

Three modifications in regulations were made from those of the previous year in certain areas where it was felt that the possible additional fishing would not materially affect the conservation policy of the Department.

Some additional closures are deemed necessary and are being recommended in a separate letter.

VESSEL PATROL

The work of law enforcement was conducted in an efficient manner, in accordance with the extent of our possibilities, and the consensus of opinion of both fishermen and canners was to the effect that the work was conducted in all fairness.

Three of the Bureau boats: Widgeon, Murre and Auklet were engaged in patrol together with six chartered launches suitable for cruising these waters. The Bureau boat Petrel could not be used during the season, due to defective engine. This boat was to be assigned to the West Coast of Prince of Wales District and its elimination lessened our patrol activities along that coast. Mr. Hynes with the Murre directed activities here during the early run and Captain O'Connor with the Auklet was assigned there after activities ceased in Icy Straits during the late run and until the close of commercial activities of the season.

The entire Southeastern Alaska district was sub-divided into eight patrolling areas with either a Bureau or chartered cruising boat detailed to each area. This was necessary in order to prevent duplication of travel. There follows herewith a list of the boats so detailed and their respective assignments:

U.S.F.S. Widgeon

Dennis Winn, Agent, in charge.

Supervising work, circulating through entire district.

U.S.F.S. Auklet

M. J. O'Connor, Asst. Agent, in Charge.

Icy Strait, Cross Sound, Lisianski Inlet to Miner Island, Lynn Canal, Waters of Chatham Strait, North of Basket Bay on Chichagof shore and Killisnoo on the Admiralty shore; Taku Inlet and Stephens Passage, North of Grave Point on the main shore and all waters adjacent.

U.S.F.S. Murre

Frank W Hynes, Warden, In charge.

Sumner Strait, waters adjacent, North end of Clarence Straits from Lemisurier Point on Cleveland Peninsula Ernest Sound and waters adjacent; Zimovia Strait, Northern end of District, line drawn from Prolewy Point to head of Threemile Arm, Kuiu Island, thence south to head of Port Beauclerc, thence to Cape Ommaney; Southern end of district - line drawn from Lemisurier Point to Tuxecan, Prince of Wales Island, thence to Cape Lynch Heceta Island including all of Sea Otter Sound.

GLORIA (Chartered Boat)

J.G.Morrison in Charge.

Assigned to Peril Straits, Salisbury Sound, Olga and Neva Straits, Sitka Sound, part of Chatham Strait and part of Frederick Sound, a line drawn from Killisnoo to South Point of Basket Bay, then to head of Hoonah Sound, thence to Point Leo, Vitskary Rocks, Cape Burunof, Cascade Bay, Yasha Island, Frederick Sound, Round Rock, Frederick Sound, thence to Killisnoo.

MURRELET (Chartered Boat)

P.C.Dalgard in Charge.

Stephens Passage south of Grave Point, Frederick Sound, southern part of Clarence Strait, Keku Strait, and waters adjacent, Seymour Canal; a line drawn from Grave Point, to head of Seymour Canal, thence to Round Rock, Frederick Sound, Yasha Island, Cascade Bay on Baranoff, thence to Cape Ommaney, to Port Malmesbury, Kuiu Island, thence to head of Threemile Arm, through Prolewy Point to main shore.

DIANA (Chartered Boat)

John Mc Laughlin in Charge.

West Coast Chichagoff and Baranoff District.

From Cape Bingham to Cape Ommaney, Lisianski Strait to Miner Island.

IGLOO (Chartered Boat)

R.E.Hardcastle in Charge.

South end Clarence Strait District.

Clarence Strait from Lemisurier Point to Cape Chacon and adjacent waters, Revillagegado Channel, Thorne Arm, Carroll Inlet, George Inlet, Nicholas Passage, Tongass Narrows.

VALKYRIE (Chartered Boat)

Henry E.Thorpe, in Charge.

Behm Canal District. Behm Canal, Boca de Quadra, Very Inlet, Nakat Inlet, Filmore Inlet, Hidden Inlet, Portland Canal and all waters adjacent.

AMERICA FIRST (Chartered Boat)

Arnie J.Suomela in Charge.

Tagging salmon. Circulating over entire Southeast Alaska District, assisting in patrol when possible.

Vessel Patrol - Continued

The general routing of the work was conducted along the plan of last year. Both the Widgeon and America First patrolled through closed season in whichever area they should happen to be at the time.

It was the duty of the different wardens in charge of a cruising boat to visit the various stream guards within his particular area at reasonable intervals and give special attention to their wants and complaints. This plan has worked to splendid advantage to both the Bureau and its employees.

STREAM GUARDS

Our plan of last year of assigning watchmen to various streams, bays, inlets, coves, etc. where salmon inhabit, was again effectively adopted this year. Eighty-four stream guards, who furnished their own camp equipment and supplies were established over the district; thirty-one of these guards furnished their own launch on which were comfortable living quarters. The latter number were assigned to patrol a large body of water or several streams and were allowed a slight addition over the ordinary stream guard wage in payment for their boat. The Bureau supplied their gas for official travel. More of our guards are supplying themselves with suitable launches each year, which policy we encourage. This, we find, is the most effective way to handle the stream protection situation, as one guard with a suitable launch is more effective than two or more stream guards established on an individual stream. The remaining guards supplied themselves with rowboats and camp equipment, many having an outboard motor for travel. These were assigned to a single stream or a location easily watched.

A complete list of these guards, showing their assignments, is attached hereto.

The services of all stream guards and cruising boats, with the exception of the Valkyrie, which was detailed to Ketchikan area, were dispensed with throughout the close season from August 27 to September 14 and 18 guards were reestablished for the late open season to guard the late fall run. These late guards, with two exceptions, all had launches on which living was possible, which made their cruising radius much greater and consequently their services more valuable. All were discontinued September 30 with the exception of two guards in Lynn Canal, who were discharged October 12.

We are pleased to report that no complaints have been registered against the loyalty or reliability of those stream guards in our service. Each performed his individual share in a most satisfactory manner.

STREAM GUARDS CONTINUED

List of stream guards employed in the various districts throughout Southeastern Alaska, together with their locations - 1926.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Harry A. Pryde	Special Warden in Charge Yakutat District.
J. A. Snow	Stream Guard Setuck River " "
James Daley	" " Lost River " "
x Walter J. Larson	" " Anan Creek Weir and district.
William T. Parker	" " " " " "
Latham S. Davis	" " " " " "
W. D. Mac Millan	Assisting on salmon tagging boat
George M. Rice	" " " "
x Martin Madsen	Stream Guard Lynn Canal Chilkat River
John Campbell	" " " " Chilkoot River
Ben Bullard	" " Taku River
x J. A. Kelley	Stream Guards Salmon Bay <u>Wrangell District</u>
x Matt Pellenin	" " Stikine River
Harry Swift	Sarkar Cove
George Card	Thoms Place
x John H. Mantle	Barrie Creek
x S. M. Wyatt	Anita Bay
x E. A. Hinshilwood	Wrangell Narrows
x J. H. Hall	Staney Creek
x William Taylor	Lake Bay
George Heald	Red Bay
Fred Gray	Olive Cove
George T. Graham	Rocky Bay
George M. Stanley	To assist on chartered boat IGLOO <u>Ketchikan Area</u> .
x F. A. Cloudy July 1 - Aug. 24	Stream Gd Hetta and Eak Creeks.
x Geo. M. Bryan	Carroll Inlet
x E. C. Austin July 1 - Aug. 28	Moira Sound
G. K. Steel Sept. 14--30	Moira Sound
Harry Shaw Sept. 14--30	Hetta Inlet
x C. H. Harrison	Chomly Sound
x Chas. Rudin	Thorne Bay
x R. Nuckolls	Shrimp Bay
H. J. Hanson	North Arm Moira Sound
H. M. Parker	Hollis & Harris Rivers
Paul Jordan	Karta Bay
R. H. Bland	Traitors Cove
James Ross	Skowl Arm
J. S. Scott	Very Inlet
Tom Richardson	Naha and Mosier Bays
Sam Gowan Resigned July 20	Smeaton Bay
Thomas Ryan Employed July 29	" "

STREAM GUARDS (CONTINUED)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
M.J.Lovold Wm.J.Morgan	Stream Guard Rudyerd Bay Sockeye Creek
C.A.Bevans	Game Creek
x John R. Brown	Port Frederick
W.K.Keller	Excursion Inlet
x James Russell	Glacier Bay
Andrew Mitchell	Dundas Bay
x Peder A. Anderson	Hoc-ta-heen Bay
H.S.Sokoloff	Freshwater Bay
James Mahoney	Eva Lake
x Raymond Combs	Hawk Inlet
x James Brightman	Redoubt Bay
x Swan Swanson Aasen	Whale Bay
Karl O. Johnston	Sitkoh Bay
x William Ireland	Tenakee Inlet
Harry Peehan	Kootznahoo Inlet
Thos. Dodson	Howard Bay
x W.R. Singleton	Idaho Inlet
x Phillip Gallagher	Surg Bay
George Stevens	Basket Bay
x Herbert Lee	Kelp Bay
John E. Nelson	Hood Bay
Chas. Wold	Wilson Cove
Andrew Dalgard	Chiak Bay
x C.F. Anderson	Slocum Arm
x Chas. Anderson	Tebenkof Bay
Wm. N. Dean	Red Fish Bay
x W.H. Hart	Bay of Pillars
x Wm. Scott	Saginaw Bay
x James J. Lewis	Pybus Bay
Edward Colburn	Crab Bay
Frank Bach	Limestone Inlet
Jack Daily	Ketchikan Creek
Will Marsha	Chickamin River & Burroughs Bay
x Sidney Charles	West Coast Pr. of W. Is. Spec. patrol duty
Harry Whiting	Trocadera Bay
A.B. Anderson	Assisting in clearing obstructions
John Murphy	Employed to watch seized traps for violating fishery laws until court procedure taken. (One trap owned by Booth Fisheries, the other by P.E. Harris).
Frank Reed)	Special wardens employed to assist
George M. Simpkins)	in the seizure of two seine boats EMPRESS and MILDRED and arrest of crews.
John Mc Laughlin	Spec. Warden assigned to Chartered boat DIANA
P. C. Dalgard	" " " " " Murrelett
J. G. Morrison	" " " " " Gloria.

x - Furnished own launch.

VIOLATIONS

Relative to violations, we feel as a general rule, the cannery people and most of the fishermen were sincere in observing the Sunday and other close periods. Some Sunday violations have been rumored, but in the absence of any definite evidence **no action** could be taken. The rumors originated with some independent trap owners, but they could only furnish us hearsay evidence.

The worst offenders of the fishing laws are a few trollers, who persist when not closely supervised in fishing on Sundays, and seiners who will rob the streams where watchmen are not stationed.

Violations Throughout the Season:

Four trolling boats were intercepted fishing on Sunday June 6, 1926, in Sitka Sound near Biorka Island. The boats were taken to Sitka and complaint filed in Commissioner's Court. 8 men representing the various boat operators were fined \$20.00 and cost totalling \$21.45 each.

June 27, 1926 Booth Fisheries floating trap No.4 T.L.-26-165, was seized for fishing in closed season. The watchman pleaded guilty and was fined \$100.00 and costs, totalling \$113.00. Trap was sold by the Court at public auction July 9, 1926 for \$1,375 - Booth Fisheries Company, being the highest bidder.

July 11, 1926 - P.E.Harris and Company's floating trap No.1 T.L.26-138 was seized for fishing in closed season.

July 11, 1926, Alaska Pacific Fisheries floating trap No.4 T.L.26-164 was seized for fishing during closed season.

The watchmen of both traps seized July 11 were tried before a jury and were liberated, although each acknowledged that traps were fishing. The final disposition of the traps has not as yet been decided by the Court.

July 12, 1926 - Gas Boat Mary V of Tenakee was seized for fishing in closed waters in the mouth of a creek in Hawk Inlet. This boat was sold by the Court at public auction for \$575.00.

September 20, 1926 - Seine boats Rainier and Kotor were apprehended fishing in closed area at the head of Keeta Inlet and less than 100 yards apart. Boats and crews were towed to Craig and complaints filed in the Commissioner's Court. Each of the crew of both boats were fined \$10.46.

Violations (Continued)

September 27, 1926, Silver Wave and Gas Boat 902-T, with seine skiff were apprehended fishing in closed area and less than 1000 yards apart at Hydaburg. Boats and crews were towed to Craig and complaint filed in Commissioner's Court and the crew of the Silver Wave was fined \$15.92 each.

All of the crews involved were Indians who were finishing an extremely poor season. This situation coupled with the fact that the streams in question were not marked and on advice from the U.S. District Attorney the boats and gear were released on payment of fines.

TRAPS

Throughout the season 669 trap licenses were issued in Alaska, against 580 licenses issued the previous year, representing an increase of 15 per cent. Of these licenses 513 locations were in Southeast Alaska, which included 127 independent locations and the remaining number issued to cannery companies. Many of the locations for which licenses were issued were not used, as the mile limit between traps compelled some abandonment or transfer of locations to comply with the law.

Nearly all companies are eliminating the pile driven trap, wherever possible, in favor of the floating trap, which has the advantage of cheaper installation and adaptation of nearly any location; whereas the pile trap must have suitable driving bottom for its location, thereby limiting the possible number.

With the floating type there is no limit to the number that can be installed, hence the increase each year. If the number shows a corresponding gain another year over previous records it may be necessary to increase the distances between traps to one and one-half mile South of 58 degrees.

Extra special activity with this style of gear is anticipated another year and many applications are being received for licenses applicable next year, at the close of commercial operations of the current year.

A list of licenses issued is not included in this report as a complete list has previously been reported to the Washington Office of the Bureau.

TAGGING OF SALMON

Verification work to determine the migratory routes of salmon were carried on, under the direction of Arnie J. Suomela, during the commercial fishing season by tagging salmon taken from the traps in the same manner as last year with the exception that the order of tagging was reversed, i.e. last year the tagging began in the Northern section and ended in the Southern portion of the district; whereas, this year tagging began in the South and continued to the Northern portion in the vicinity of Icy Straits and ended on the West Coast of Prince of Wales Island.

The following points were selected for tagging in the order named:

Tree Point District
Kanaganut Island District
Gravina Island District
Point Colpoys District
Cape Bendle
Marble Bluffs
Inian Island
Stevens Passage
Cape Chacon
West Coast Prince of Wales District.

Throughout the season 13,082 tags were placed on various species, taken from traps, as follows:

2,297	Tags placed on	Red Salmon
820		Chums
9,351		Humpbacks
614		Cohoos

The return reported to date from this output totals 3,634, including 4 tags of 1924 series and 9 tags of 1925 series, reported as taken the current year. It is expected that only a slightly larger return will be the final report.

A suitable boat of purse seine type was chartered under Mr. Suomela's direction for this work. This boat was also used in closed seasons for patrol work in whichever district it would happen to be at that time.

Tagging of troll fish was also part of this experiment. A professional troller, Mr. Hugo W. Frederickson, with his own power trolling boat was engaged for the season. Mr. Frederickson worked in the usual manner of commercial trollers and tagged all fish caught, that were not too badly injured, according to his judgment to withstand the operation. Those considered too far gone for the tagging purposes

Salmon Tagging (Continued)

were butchered by him and sold to regular buyers at market price. The amount thus received (\$260.03) was forwarded to the Treasurer of the United States through the Washington Office of the Bureau.

The season for troll fishermen was very light, but our operator succeeded in tagging 448 salmon, comprising 88 Kings and 360 Cohoes. The returns to date from troll tagged fish are: 2 Kings and 11 Cohoes, or a total of 13 salmon taken. One of these tags - No.6046 - was placed on a king salmon July 2, 1926 at Sandy Point, Baranof Island and reported as being received late in September by the Columbia River Packers Association at Astoria, Oregon, taken entering the Columbia River. The distance of travel was approximately 859 miles. The operator's services were discontinued September 1, after which he fished commercially for the market. He will, however, continue to secure certain data desired by the Bureau as to measurements, scales, samples of eggs, etc. from fish taken through his late commercial activities without cost to the Bureau.

In summarizing the season's work, Mr. Frederickson comments as follows:

"I commenced active tagging operations June 21. This was at least one week too late as the first heavy run of salmon set in around Cape Ommaney on June 14. After June 26 the run decreased and from that date throughout the remainder of the season the fish were running only one or two days at a time at any one place, thus making it very uncertain where to look for or to find the fish.

The failure of any run of king salmon in the Sitka section is attributed by most fishermen to the total absence of the summer herring. During the first week of April the herring spawned in Sitka Sound apparently in as large numbers as usual, but went out to sea in a very few days, even before the herring seiners had time to put up any considerable amount of fish for bait. After April 15, only small schools of herring have been seen around Biorka Island and Crawfish Inlet. After June 1 not a single school of mature herring above Whale Bay had been noticed and only occasionally has herring been found in the stomachs of the fish caught.

While the run of King salmon in this locality has been the poorest on record, there has been a steady and continuous run of Cohoes from the 15th of July until the 31st of August. Not only were the numbers of fish caught far greater than usual, but the size of the individual fish were far above the average for Cohoes.

Salmon Tagging (Continued)

(Mr. Frederickson's report of Troll Tagged Fish - Continued)

".....The few King salmon caught have been large here as well as in the Cape Ommaney section and while the number of fish taken undoubtedly is the smallest in years, the pack in the aggregate, on account of the size of the fish may not fall short of the normal pack and I believe the quality of the pack will prove to be the best ever handled.

I have not noticed any abusive practices during the season. The general light runs of fish have prevented the deplorable practice of some former years - shaking the cohoes and the blue-backs. The blame in most cases can be placed on the packers, as in the early part of each season they have consistently refused to pack cohoes at any price and again during a good run of king salmon have usually encouraged the fishermen to shake the cohoes and any fish but king salmon. In many cases the fishermen have been equally culpable, unwilling to dress this fish for less than a certain price. At no time to my knowledge since the individual fisherman discontinued mild curing their own fish has the shaking of small king salmon been practiced, as most of the time the packers have paid a fair price for even the smallest fish and in many cases they have paid a straight price. In very few cases, where a king salmon has weighed less than 4 to 5 pounds, they have usually been counted as coho and paid for by the piece or fish.

In my work I have learned from experience that the small king salmon can in most instances be released without material injury, but the cohoes will in practically all cases be destroyed by shaking. It would be well if every packer were obliged to handle this fish for at least some price and the fishermen should, under no consideration, be permitted to resort to shaking of the fish.

I believe that very few fish, either king salmon or cohoes, lost off of the gear before landing are injured enough to die from their wounds. In all cases where a troller loses a strike or a fish tears loose before reaching the **surface** of the water I believe the wounds to be only superficial and that most of the fish will recover.

Salmon Tagging Continued

(Mr. Frederickson's Report of Troll Tagged Fish - Continued)

".....In regard to the gear used by the boats trolling, there is only one thing I can object to, and that is, the use or unlimited use of 'Dogs'. A 'Dog' is some kind of a float, usually a sheet iron cylinder large enough to carry 15 to 30 pounds of lead and is towed by the boats at some distance behind so as not to tangle or foul the other lines. Most of the boats are using only one 'dog' but many use two, some three and an occasional boat may use four or five. Each dog is generally equipped with three leaders and that many spoons, and as it is almost impossible to know when a fish may be hooked on the dogs, some fish are towed along until drowned. The dog is not, as a rule, pulled in until one or more fish have been caught on the other lines. Towing a drowned or nearly played out fish behind thusly, sharks and sea lions are attracted and will take and destroy many fish. For this very reason, the fishermen have to discontinue the use of dogs whenever the waters at any one place become infested with sharks, sealions and seals. This season the sharks have not bothered us much, not nearly so much as the sealions, but should the sharks ever get at all numerous it would almost seem advisable to interdict the use of dogs in trolling.

The Sunday closing law has been generally observed during the season.

The number of boats engaged in trolling, at least part of the season, has perhaps exceeded that of last year by ten to fifteen per cent, and the number of boats may be estimated at 1000. Of this number - 100 boats - have come up from Cape Flattery and Columbia River and engaged in trolling for perhaps 60 to 75 days, most of them returning about the first of July. Another ten per cent, or 100 boats, were seine boats, trolling only until the seining season opened and very few have returned to trolling after the closing of the fishing or seining season. Five per cent, or 50 boats, fishing for the sport, are engaged in some other line of fishing, some of them being small halibut boats that tried trolling a month or so. This would reduce the number of boats actually engaged in trolling exclusively to approximately 750.

(Salmon Tagging - Continued)

(Mr. Frederickson's Report of Troll Tagged Fish - continued)

".....The approximate value of this fleet should be:

375	Boats	.....	\$1,000.	or less
225	"	.....	1,000	to \$1,850.
75	"	.....	1,800	to 2,500.
40	"	.....	2,500	to 3,500.
35	"	.....	3,500	or more.

750

The money invested in gear may be estimated at an average of so much per boat, as the difference will not be over 50 per cent, as between the largest and the smallest boats.

400	Pounds of Lead	@ .12 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$50.00
6	Boxes Spoons	9.00	54.00
3	Boxes Hooks	6.00	18.00
8	Spools Cubby Pank	3.00	24.00
5	Skeins Cotton Line	3.50	17.50
1	Gross Swivels		9.00
	Brass wire, files, brilliant shine, etc.		10.00
	Piano wire, rubber springs, etc.		<u>15.00</u>
			197.50

or approximately \$200 per boat. This will make the value of the gear for the 750 boats nearly \$150,000. Of this gear perhaps 75 per cent is lost or worn out during the season and has to be replaced. The value of the fishing gear purchased for replacement by the entire trolling fleet may be placed at approximately \$115,000.

I believe this is a conservative estimate as I have not taken into account any of the boats engaged in trolling only part of the season. The value of the gear used by these boats must be considerable and will far exceed any apparent exaggerations I may have made in regard to the regular trolling fleet.

The number of power boats carrying two men is constantly increasing and I believe that the number of men manning the trolling fleet will exceed 1,000. As far as I have been

".....able to learn, most of the men have made wages or better during the season. Some boats have had the most successful of seasons by being fortunate enough to strike the fish at the right time and the right place.

Although the general run of fish has been light, the local run of fish in some places, as in restricted sections, i.e. Noyes Island and immediate vicinity of Puffin Bay and Baranof Island has been the best for many years. The run of fish in the straits has been light, but in no place was absolute failure experienced.

The regular fall run of fish around Cape Ommaney usually commences about September 10 and lasts until the latter part of October. Some years when the weather has been favorable we have had fish as late as November 15. Many of the seiners are now contemplating going trolling and should any great number of boats do so, under favorable weather conditions, there is every prospect that the pack for the season may equal that of last year.

Due to the difference in the price of fish as between Cape Ommaney and Sitka, the trollers are reluctant to leave the Cape. About 40 boats that have fished off the banks of Necker Islands and Crawfish Inlet for the past four or five years will probably complete the season around Larch Bay and Cape Ommaney.

It should be noted that most of the king salmon tagged are young and growing fish and in expanding the skin may in some cases grow or cover the tag; therefore, a larger and more conspicuous tag would be of great advantage and by the use of heavier tags, the work of tagging, I believe, would be considerably facilitated as in practically all cases the tag would clinch properly, thus obviating repetitions of the operations.

I believe a salmon weighing over 20 pounds should not be tagged, as the very weight and strength of the fish will naturally inflict more wounds and the losses after releasing would probably greatly exceed the number that may recover.

In most cases a person can proceed with absolute certainty with small fish, because if the fish is not hooked through the eye or in the gills the hooks may be extracted very easily and without causing the fish to bleed. This bleeding is the uncertain element in the case of larger fish; therefore, the larger fish might more profitably be butchered and sold, thus defraying in some measure the expenses incurred by the work.

(Signed) Hugo W. Frederickson. "

ANAN CREEK WEIR

The Anan Creek counting weir was again established for the season of 1926.

Mr. Walter J. Larson was in direct charge of establishing the weir and finished the installation May 12. A few steelheads made their appearance about that time, but no salmon passed through the weir until June 12. The run at the weir increased gradually to the 23rd, when it dropped off to very small numbers, during a stormy period, to the 30th, after which fair numbers again passed up each day.

The run reached its peak on July 4 when 7,454 pink salmon were counted. The run held steady, but small, until the 23rd when it dropped to negligible numbers and but a few passed the weir each day to the end of the season.

The season's count represents:

121,780	Humpbacks,
106	Kings
58	Reds
75	Chums
835	Cohoes
647	Steelhead Trout

This shows about a 53 per cent loss of humpbacks, which is the only run of importance into this stream, compared to that of last year.

STREAM MARKING

While the greater portion of our streams are marked to define the closed area, we have yet a considerable number to mark, which we feel can be accomplished the coming spring.

The shortage of funds for vessel operations hindered fall work, on this phase of operations, as it became necessary to lay up all our boats at the end of October, with caretakers only aboard; however, if boat operations are possible about next April or early in May, we can complete this work. Many streams marked last year had to be re-marked the current year owing to the disappearance of our previous markers.

VESSELS

(Calendar Year --- 1926)

Three Bureau boats operated throughout the year as follows:

<u>Name of Boat</u>	<u>Months Operated</u>	<u>Hours Cruising</u>	<u>Mileage</u>
Widgeon	8	871	7471
Murre	7	842	6789
Auklet	7	<u>1062</u>	<u>8576</u>
		2775	22,836

Due to engine trouble on the Petrel and readjustments being made by the Cummins Engine Company who furnished the engine, this boat was not in commission during the year.

On account of the shortage of vessel funds, all boats were laid up with Master only aboard, together with one cook (on the Murre) after October 31. They will be again in commission about May 1, 1927.

The Brant, a new boat was added to the Alaska fleet in July. This boat is 100 feet long by 21 foot beam, with excellent quarters for five or more people in addition to the regular crew. It is equipped with wireless, all modern conveniences and powered with a 225 H.P. Union Diesel Engine. It is suitable for sea voyages and was engaged this past season in inspection work along the Alaska coast, as far West as Seward. It is now engaged in fisheries patrol along the Mexican border. Shipbuilders and boat men have conceded that this boat is the best and most suitable for the purpose intended that ever entered Alaskan waters. It makes a valuable addition to our Alaska fleet.

ALASKA FISHERY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

As in former years, the Bureau, in cooperation with the Alaska Cable Service, has telegraphed information as to quotations on halibut, sable fish, etc. from Ketchikan, which is the most important center of this industry, to the various centers of operation for the information of fishermen and others for marketing their product.

FISH PIRACY

As in former years many of the larger canners combined and established a patrol to eliminate this form of law violation. There were seventeen launches detailed on this work. A few packers established their own patrol to protect their individual company traps only. Many cases of piracy were reported but few arrests were made.

It is felt that the decision made by the Court in the case of Val Klemm, et al tried in Ketchikan September 16 and 17, 1926, whereby it was declared that ".....fish impounded and caught in a trap are a subject of larceny as much as any other personal property, because of the special property of such person in the fish....." will go far in eliminating piracy. This decision reverses a former one whereby it was decided that fish were not the property of any specific individual while yet in the waters of the ocean.

HALIBUT FISHERY

Reports received relative to the frozen halibut pack for the season indicate a reduction of about 20 per cent from the deliveries of last year.

The opening prices at Sitka were	9¢ and 5¢	in February
Increasing to	10¢ and 5¢	in March
Price continued to advance to	12¢ and 6¢	in April
	13¢ and 6¢	in May
	14¢ and 7¢	in June

On August 1 a reduction went into effect, after which date the prices of 13¢ and 7¢ were paid to the end of the season.

Prices opened at Wrangell	16¢ and 12¢	in February
Dropped to	11¢ and 6¢	in March (2)
Gradually raised to the 26th to	17¢ and 9¢	
Prices then decreased to	15¢ and 9¢	, which prevailed

throughout the remainder of the season. These prices also prevailed at Ketchikan.

While the catch is reported below normal the price prevailing offset the shortage and as a whole the halibut fleet are well satisfied with their season's work.

A complete return on this phase of the fisheries will be forthcoming soon.

RUNS OF SALMON

The run of salmon in the Icy Straits district commenced about June 25, increasing substantially until July 18 when the peak was reached. The run held strong and steady until the commercial season closed August 6 and for some time later.

The Central District was late, beginning about July 13, reached its peak about July 26 and held steady to the season's close - August 11, and a good period after. The percentage of reds held on par with previous years through the commercial season and reports show a higher percentage of reds in late run and escapements.

While salmon were plentiful, the seine boats did not make good catches due to the fact that the numbers were scattered and did not school to any extent. The traps however made excellent catches. The reports of escapements would indicate one of the best runs for a number of years covering all species especially reds, throughout the Icy Straits and Central District.

In general the escapement throughout the Wrangell District during the season was less than in 1925. This was especially true in certain sections, notably, along Cleveland Peninsula shore from Lemesurier Point through Union Bay, Ernest Sound, Bradford Canal, Eastern Passage, Zimovia Strait and along the Etolin Island shore from Abraham Island to Chichagof Pass. Poor catches were made in these areas and the spawning streams examined from time to time showed a light escapement.

Other areas showed a marked improvement over 1925 namely: Kah Sheets Bay, where an excellent sockeye escapement occurred. Fishermen reported this the heaviest run for the last twelve seasons. Sarkar Cove had an exceptionally large run of both reds and cohoes. Barrie Creek was good and all species were on par with 1925. Petersburg creek had a tremendous escapement of humpbacks and a more than normal run of chums although Mr. Hynes, Warden, reported that there was no surplus of salmon on the spawning beds.

The early run of pinks and chums in the Northern waters of the West Coast of Prince of Wales District and from Cape Decision to Wrangell Narrows in Sumner Straits was good, enabling canners operating in these waters to equal or exceed their 1925 pack. From Point Baker to Point Colpoys and through Snow Pass, Kashavarof Strait and along the East Coast of Prince of Wales Island in Clarence Strait, the escapement was good, with few exceptions especially of the late fish. Salmon Bay was light on all species. Red Bay was light until late in August when a fair run of pinks and chums arrived. Mr. Hynes, who observed conditions at this point states that there was practically no escapement of reds which was probably due to the work of beaver colonies in the stream at the head of the lake four years ago.

All species ran more uneven than last year, showing good escapements in some streams and other streams in the immediate vicinity being far below normal.

Along the Central and Southern shore of the West Coast of Prince of Wales area the escapement was excellent, but extreme low water prevailing, due to lack of rain, proved a serious hindrance to their ascent up stream and losses by death resulted at the entrance to some streams. This is also true to some extent of nearly all streams, especially small streams, including the Wrangell District and South. This condition was relieved by rains August 23, 24 and 25, after which improved conditions prevailed through the season.

Our wardens and stream guards report excellent runs and escapement covering the Sitka District.

In the Southern portion of Southeast Alaska, comprising Ketchikan and South, very few fish showed before the middle of July, when they appeared in the vicinity of Cape Fox, lower Behm Canal and worked their way Northward along the Eastern shore of Clarence Strait and various inlets. Some early fish came Southward through Clarence Strait and were taken along Cleveland Peninsula shore. This run gradually increased until about August 1 when it dwindled to small numbers. The run was mainly humpbacks and there was a noticeable shortage of chums. A substantial increase in reds were observed over the last few years, and there was a satisfactory escapement of this specie reported.

During the latter part of July the Southern part of the District was visited, during which time severe southeast gales were encountered, which did considerable damage and detriment to fishing operations mainly to floating traps. In several locations operations were suspended for several days due to traps being wrecked and it being impossible for cannery tenders to get to the traps to brail the fish. This undoubtedly had some influence in reducing the size of the salmon pack at various canneries and tended to increase the July escapement of fish into the streams.

With few exceptions the seiners reported an unprofitable season.

The August run of all species of salmon in general was a disappointment with the exception of a limited number of traps that always make good catches.

The general run by species in the vicinity of Ketchikan and south we feel can be reported as follows:

Pinks slightly below normal
Cohoos - Normal.
Reds - Increase over previous year
Chums - A considerable shortage.

SALMON INDUSTRY

The season's operations as a whole were most successful. Icy Straits region shows an exceptional pack as did also Taku, Sitka and Petersburg. In the Wrangell District the run was spotted i.e., good in certain locations and a failure at other points, which materially lessened the pack possibility in that district.

At the close of July the packers of Ketchikan and vicinity reported normal packs with the exception of a few small canneries who relied mainly on seines for their supply of fish. These smaller canneries complained of small packs. The larger concerns who reported normal packs, as a rule, had more traps operated than in former seasons, while the packs of the entire lower district appeared to measure up favorable with previous years. We believe this result was due to the increase of gear.

yes in plants
The Skinner and Eddy interests, owners of the Sunny Point Packing Co. purchased the Thlinket Packing Company at Funter Bay and the cannery of Sanborn Cutting Company at Kake, which they operated under the name of Sunny Point Packing Company.

The Haines Packing Company who were closed last year operated during the current year.

The Tongass Trading Company of Ketchikan operated this year at Nakat Inlet.

The plant of the Beauclaire Packing Company at Port Beauclerc was burned June 2, 1926. Arrangements were made immediately for rebuilding; however no operations were possible during the past season.

Libby, Mc Neil and Libby have arrangements completed to build a new cannery near Ketchikan. They hope to have it operated next year.

The Gambier Bay cannery of the Pacific American Fisheries was not operated during the current year.

The Alaska Herring & Sardine Company did not operate for salmon the past season.

The Alaska Packers Association and the Alaska Sanitary Packing Company had the same cooperative arrangements as last year whereby the latter company delivered their salmon catch to the former company.

Reports are current that several more canneries may be in operation next year in addition to the list herein mentioned.

We are advised that the Auk Bay Canning Company at Auk Bay, near Juneau, was sold at public auction for \$8,500. and was bought in by the Seattle National Bank who held judgment for over \$32,000. It is our information that local Juneau parties are endeavoring to take over this property with a view of operating another season.

It is also reported that the cannery property formerly owned by the American Packing Company at Juneau, and later taken over by the Seattle Hardware Company and other creditors has been purchased by Juneau interests who intend operating next year.

Advices indicate that William Paul and J.L.Smiley will build a salmon cannery in the immediate future at Hydaburg on the West Coast of Prince of Wales.

During the past season 63 canneries operated throughout Southeast Alaska District as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Alaska Consolidated Canneries	Pybus Bay Chomly Boca de Quadra Rose Inlet Yes Bay Tenakee
Alaska Packers Association	Loring Wrangell
Annette Island Packing Company	Metlakatla
Astoria & Puget Sound Canning Co.	Excursion Inlet
F. C. Barnes Co.	Lake Bay
Bayview Packing Co.	Bayview
Beegle Packing Company	Ketchikan
Burnett Inlet Packing Co.	Burnett Inlet
Deep Sea Salmon Company	Port Althorp
Chas.W.Demmert Packing Company	Bayview
Douglas Island Packing Company	Douglas
Fidalgo Island Packing Company	Ketchikan Bay of Pillars
George Inlet Packing Co.	George Inlet.
Harris & Company, P.E.	Hawk Inlet
Haines Packing Company	Haines
Hetta Packing Company	Coppermount
Hidden Inlet Canning Co.	Hood Bay

Karheen Packing Company Libby Mc Neill & Libby	Karheen Taku Harbor Yakutat Ketchikan
Mountain Point Packing Company	Wrangell Narrows
Geo.T.Myers & Co.	Chatham
Nakat Packing Corporation	Heceta Island Hidden Inlet Union Bay Waterfall <u>Warmchuck</u> <i>This is the Heceta I. plant.</i>
New England Fish Company	Ketchikan Noyes Island
Northland Packing Company	Ketchikan — <i>the Stuart Corporation</i>
North Pacific Trading & Packing Co.	Klawak
Northwestern Fisheries Company	Dundas Bay Shakan Kasaan Boca de Quadra Hunter Bay
Pacific American Fisheries	Excursion Inlet
Petersburg Packing Company	Petersburg
Point Warde Fisheries Company	Point Warde
Pure Food Fish Company	Ketchikan
Pyramid Packing Company	Sitka
Red Salmon Packers Association	Dry Bay and Situk River. <i>Alaska</i>
Sunny Point Packing Company	Ketchikan, Kake and Funter Bay.
Sea - Coast Packing Company	Craig
Sebastian Stuart Company	Tyee
J. L. Smiley & Company	Ketchikan
Starr Collinson Packing Co.	Moirs Sound
Straits Packing Company	Skowl Arm

CANNERIES OPERATED IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA DURING THE SEASON of 1926 - Continued.

The Stuart Corporation	Ketchikan
Superior Fisheries Company	Tenakee
Tongass Packing Company	Nakat Inlet
Wards Cove Packing Company	Wards Cove.

FRESH and MILD CURED SALMON

As the trolling operations for kings were so near a failure the fresh and mild cured pack was necessarily light as practically all their supply of salmon for this purpose is secured from the trollers.

While the catches were poor, the prices held strong owing to the shortage and keen competition. Operations began in the Sitka District April 15 and the opening prices paid the fishermen were:

Red Kings, weighing 16 lbs ...	12¢ per lb.
" " " under 16 lbs ..	6¢ " "
White Kings	.... 3¢ " "

Prices advanced during the month of May when 15¢, 7¢ and 3¢ were paid. In August prices again advanced to 16¢, 10¢ and 3¢ and in September prices paid to fishermen were 22¢, 10¢ and 3¢.

A strong market developed this year for mild cured cohoes, which stimulated the fishing for this specie and a much larger pack than formerly is the result. Fishing for cohoes began in June and continued into the second week in October. The prices paid the fishermen were 10¢ each in June with gradual and continuous rising until October when 40¢ and 42¢ was the price.

Due to the shortage of the early run of kings and the discouraging prospects of a good late run together with the strong market for cohoes, the curers bought a large number of discolored cohoes which would not be considered in more favorable salmon years.

The average prices paid at Wrangell were:

Red kings	15¢ and 9¢ per lb.
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See Hugo Fredrickson's letter quoted earlier in this report for statistical data on boats, men, gear, etc., engaged in salmon trolling.

FRESH and MILD CURED SALMON (Continued)

The average prices paid at Wrangell -- Continued:

Wrangell ..	White Kings	3¢	per lb.	
	Coho	42¢	" "	
	Hard Salt Kings	13¢,	10¢ and 4¢	per pound
	Hard Salt Coho	42¢	each.	
Juneau ..	Prices of Kings	ranged from 15¢	to 24¢	
and vicinity	Coho prices ..	30¢ to 35¢	each at Taku	
		30¢	each Haines	
		50¢	each Juneau	
		40¢	each Hoonah	

The run was considered average. This, together with the high prices prevailing throughout the season, offset any loss in numbers of troll kings.

Prices paid at Ketchikan were high throughout the season and ranged as follows:

Large Red Kings dressed	(Heads on)	16	to	30¢	per lb.
Small Red Kings dressed	" "	8	to	14¢	"
White " "	" "	4	to	8¢	"

List of Fresh Fish Dealers:

<u>List of Fresh Fish Dealers:</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Address</u>
E.M.Basse	Juneau Wrangell	Juneau
Booth Fisheries Company	Sitka	Seattle
Atlantic and Pacific Packing Co.	Ketchikan	Seattle
C. P. Bell	Wrangell	Wrangell
Jack Bailey	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
L. E. Berg	Ketchikan Petersburg	Ketchikan
Juneau Cold Storage Company	Juneau	Juneau
Karl Hansen	Baker Island Port Alexander	Seattle
Marlyn Fish Brokerage Company	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
Ness Fish Company	Petersburg	Petersburg
Edwin Ripley & Son	Ketchikan	Seattle

List of Fresh Fish Dealers

	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Ripley Fish Company	Ketchikan	Seattle
San Juan Fishing & Packing Co.	"	"
Sebastian Stuart Fish Company	Wrangell	"
H. R. Thompson	Ketchikan Wrangell Juneau	Ketchikan
Wrangell Ice & Cold Storage Co.	Wrangell	Wrangell
Washington Fish & Oyster Co.	Wrangell	Seattle
Ketchikan Cold Storage Co.	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
O. D. Leet	Wrangell	Wrangell

List of Mild Cured Operators

Alaska Fish Brokerage Co.	Wrangell	Wrangell
Golden Stage Fish Company	Klawak	Klawak
Karl Hansen	Baker Island and Point Alexander	Seattle
Johnson and Chapin	Deweyville	Deweyville
H.F.W. Kurth	Waterfall	Seattle
L. E. Retsloff	Wrangell	Wrangell
C. H. Tozier	Floater	Seattle
## Malford Soles & Olaf Lystad	Sitka	Sitka
New England Fish Co.	Noyes Island	Ketchikan
Storfold and Grondahl	Washington Bay	Seattle
Dobbins Packing Company	Hoonah	Hoonah
Alaska Reduction Co.	Ketchikan	Tacoma
C. P. Bell	Wrangell	Wrangell
## Successors to Tovsen & Coggins.		

List of Mild Cured Operators (Continued)

	<u>Operating Point</u>	<u>Home Address</u>
Chas. W. Johnson	Dry Bay	Juneau
H. R. Thompson	Ketchikan Wrangell Juneau	Ketchikan
Union Trading & Packing Co.	Baranof Island (Floater)	Ketchikan
Fred Schrey	Sitka	Seattle

The cold storage plant at Petersburg was under construction during the season and therefore no cold storage business was possible. This plant was completed in November 1926.

CAVIAR

The Mutual Traders, Inc. established at Ketchikan during the past season, for the purpose of manufacturing caviar from salmon eggs. Their methods and extent of operations are not known but understand their activities were along the lines of survey rather than for commercial purposes.

SHELL FISH

Commercial activities for shell fish comprising shrimp, crabs and clams are confined to Petersburg, Wrangell and Hoonah. A list of operators follow:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Variety</u>	<u>Address</u>
Alaska Glacier Sea Food Co.	Petersburg	Shrimps & Crabs	Seattle
Northern Fishing Company	Hoonah	Crabs	Juneau
Northern Sea Food Company	Petersburg	Crabs	Petersburg
Reliance Shrimp Company	Wrangell	Shrimp	Wrangell
Wrangell Shellfish Company	Wrangell	Shrimp	Wrangell
Mountain Point Packing Co.	Wrangell Narrows	Clams	Seattle

SHRIMP FISHERY - WRANGELL DISTRICT

Three plants were engaged in packing shrimp meat in Southeast Alaska in 1926; two in Wrangell and one in Petersburg. Both of the Wrangell plants are small and together produce less than half as much as the Petersburg cannery. It is estimated from information available at this time that the year's output of meat will be slightly less than in 1925 - approximately 500,000 pounds compared with 509,625 pounds last year. This decrease in production is due to the fact that for the first six months of the year only one plant, that of the Alaskan Glacier Sea Food Company at Petersburg, was in active operation.

A new plant of small capacity, Reliance Shrimp Company, was established at Wrangell by J. Sumption early in June. Only one small trawler is employed. Two-thirds of the stock and equipment of the Wrangell Shell Fish Company was purchased by the Alaskan Glacier Sea Food Company leaving the former chief stockholder, F.E. Gingrass, in charge as Manager. Two trawlers are operated by this plant. The Alaskan Glacier Sea Food Company of Petersburg operates eight trawlers, some of which are equipped with sixty foot trawls.

The process used by all of the plants in packing the product is essentially the same. The meat is cooked and packed in 5 lb. tins and kept in cold storage until consumed.

CRAB FISHERY

The Northern Sea Food Company of Petersburg was the only concern packing crab meat in this district in 1926. We are advised that the output of this plant for the year will be approximately 15,000 - 5 lb tins and 10,000 - 1 lb. tins. 500 Dozen Crabs were shipped fresh. The company owns two boats and charters another, each of which tends 120 traps. These traps are made of 1/2" common iron, 19 x 30 x 36" covered with wire netting and having web tunnels. They cost about five dollars each, including labor. Each boat catches in the neighborhood of one hundred dozen crabs a day, for which the company pays fifty-five cents per dozen.

The principal part of the catch is taken from Duncan Canal and Ideal Cove, although Kah Sheets Bay, Red Bay and Mosman Inlet and a number of other bays and inlets are frequently fished. The traps are baited with flounders, halibut heads or other food substances and set in depths ranging from sixty to eighty feet.

The crabs are kept in live boxes at the cannery dock until they are needed. As they are brought into the plant they are killed and the upper half of the shell is removed. The remaining part is split and boiled until the meat is free from the shell, after which the legs and claws are cracked on a cement table and the meat removed and washed in fresh water. It is then dipped into brine solution and the water pressed

CRAB FISHERY - Continued

out. The meat is packed in five pound tins lined with parchment paper and placed in storage or in ice. The picking is done by women who are paid four cents a pound; they often make a dollar an hour at this work. The product is of excellent quality and finds a ready market in the Pacific Coast cities.

CLAMS

Clams are not an important factor in Southeast Alaska Fisheries. There is but one company, the Mountain Point Packing Company, who put up a small pack each year.

HERRING and BY-PRODUCTS

Agitation and dissemination continues throughout Southeast Alaska against the wholesale manufacture of herring into fertilizer and oil. Claim is made by the troll fishermen that the shortage of troll salmon is directly traceable to the intensive herring fishing for this purpose.

They claim the herring is the natural food for salmon and the intensity of herring operations are eliminating the herring in waters heretofore acknowledged as suitable trolling areas and thereby eliminating the troll salmon from the same waters. The trend of this industry is toward meal and oil exclusively to the elimination of the salt pack.

From operations checked toward the season's end we would estimate an increase of about 30% in production over last year, which was considered a record season. Several new plants are reported to be constructed next season.

The National Fish Company who operated the plant, formerly owned by the Hamilton Fish Company, at Hood Bay, the past season, have arranged to build a reduction and salting plant at Port Banks, Whale Bay on the West Coast of Baranof Island which will be in operation next season. They intend to discontinue the Hood Bay plant.

The Deep Sea Salmon Company have the foundation in for a reduction and salting plant at Port Althorp, but are awaiting the issuance of Bureau regulations for 1927 before completing the plant.

HERRING and BY-PRODUCTS
Continued.

Many inquiries are being received from various parties, with reference to meal and oil possibilities which shows an exceptional interest in this phase of operations.

In recommending a closed season on herring to correspond with that on salmon we feel it will prove a substantial curtailment which is necessary for the future of the herring industry.

There follows herewith a list showing the parties operating for the past season, the location of their plants and home address:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Arnsten & Company	Port Walter	Seattle
## Marine Products Corporation	Ketchikan	Seattle
Alaska Consolidated Canneries	Saginaw Bay	Seattle
Alaska Herring & Sardine Co.	Port Walter	"
Bucken & Heinen	Port Armstrong	"
Baranof Packing Co.	Red Bluff Bay	"
Booth Fisheries Company	Sitka	"
Chatham Straits Fish Company	New Port Walter	"
Douglas Fish Company	Todd	Douglas
Gunderson & Company	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
Killisnoo Fisheries Inc.	Killisnoo	San Francisco
Marine Packing & Reduction Co	Washington Bay.	Los Angeles (Salmon)
National Fish Company	Killisnoo & Hood Bay)	Seattle
Ness Fish Company	Petersburg	Petersburg
Northwestern Herring Co.	Pt. Conclusion	Everett
Petersburg By-products Company	Scow Bay	Petersburg
Phillips, E.I.	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
Puget Sound Reduction Company	Pt. Armstrong	Seattle

HERRING and BY-PRODUCTS
Continued.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Address</u>
S. H. Songthagen	Douglas	Douglas
Wrangell Ice & Cold Storage Co.	Wrangell	Wrangell
Storfold & Grondahl Packing Co.	Washington Bay	Seattle.
Warm Spring Bay Packing Co.	Warm Spring Bay	"
## Successors to Alaska Reduction Co.		

HATCHERIES

The commercial hatcheries at Loring, of the Alaska Packers Association, and the one at Quadra of the Northwestern Fisheries, were inspected October 22 and 23 respectively.

A large run was reported at Quadra and the Superintendent reported that more than double the number of eggs taken could have been possible with greater facilities.

The eggs were checked and were in excellent condition as were also those at Loring; however, the egg collections at the latter station were yet underway.

The report of the territorial hatchery at Ketchikan has not been received to date, although it has been requested and same will be mailed to your office immediately upon receipt.

Respectfully submitted,


Agent.