

Copy to: Fortney

MAR 9 1933

FISH DIVISION

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

March 7, 1933

Report 195

RESULTS OF TAGGING EXPERIMENTS ON MUSKOGON RIVER, 1932

Early in 1932 the Institute supplied tags, pliers and advice on the fish tagging arranged for that spring. The field work was done by the Consumers Power Company and the Department of Conservation cooperating. Hubbs and Greeley spent part of one day at Newago getting the experiment underway.

This report is prepared now at the request of the Department, received February 25.

250 fish were tagged, as listed below. The returns have been disappointingly low. The much higher percentage of returns from the similar Cheboygan Experiment would seem to indicate either that poor cooperation in reporting tags was given, or that the tags were not satisfactorily clinched. Possibly additional returns may be obtained by correspondence with Department officials concerned. A notice in the local papers requesting returns would likely add a few reports.

Table I. Summary of Recoveries

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number of fish tagged</u>	<u>Number of recaptures</u>	<u>Percentage of returns</u>
Rainbow Trout	64	2	2.1 %
Grass Pike	13	-	0 %
Walleye	173	3	1.7 %

The record of the five recoveries is given in Table II.

All that can be concluded is (1) that the rainbow trout tend to move upstream above the dams where released, and that they may be caught during May in the tributaries; (2) that some of the walleyes stay in the ponds where placed; but that at least a few go down over the dams (or through the turbines), and that of these at least some are caught below the dam above which the fish were liberated.

In view of the scanty returns in this experiment we would suggest the advisability of repeating it this year. Some additional tags are being ordered, as

the supply of No. 3 tags is exhausted. The last 200 were just sent to Mr. John Delavan at Alma to continue the pike tagging experiment there.

Table II. Record of Captures of Tagged Fish. Muskegon River
Experiment of 1932.

All fish caught below dam at Newaygo

Tag No.		Date tagged 1932	Date caught 1932	Interval, days	Where released	Where caught	Remarks
- ? -	Rainbow	-?-	May 8	- ? -	- ? -	Hersey R., Hersey	Tag lost in mail?
14313	Walleye	Apr. 3	July 8	96	Pond above Rogers Dam	Muskegon River below Rogers Dam, Sec. 14, Mecosta Township	Must have gone down over dam
14360	Walleye	Apr. 6	Aug. 15 (date of letter)	131	Pond above Hardy Dam	Pond above Hardy Dam	Staid above dam
14447	Walleye	Apr. 14	July 10	87	Just above Croton Dam	Just above Croton Dam	Staid above dam
14464	Rainbow	Apr. 14	May 30	46	Just above Croton Dam	Little Muskegon R., near Howard City	Staid above dam

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

Carl L. Hubbs

Carl L. Hubbs
Director.