

March 3, 1930

Institute for Fisheries Research

Report No. 3

Creel Census

We have given considerable thought to the Creel Census data and to its utilization. It is our opinion that for our purposes the cards should be summarized on a separate card for each lake or stream in each county. Then the data can be filed with our field data cards. Our interest in the creel data will ordinarily be connected with suggesting development policies for each body of water, and it would be a great help to us to have such information as to the species of game fish present and some idea as to their relative abundance. We have in mind the printing of 6" x 9" cards for the copying of the data in this way.

Of course the general summaries are useful and interesting too, and we would like to have these. We would probably draw up a summary for each species under each county, and from the county summaries, one for the whole state. This of course means a lot of work, and we may be too much handicapped for lack of funds to do the job the first year. But this keeping of a record of the catch is a vital need in the development of the game fisheries as well as of the commercial fisheries. We are strongly convinced of the need for making the creel census permanent and extensive. The need for filling out a card for every fisherman inspected should be drilled into each Conservation Officer. The card should always be filled out, whether or not any fish have been caught. It should be made clear on the fishing licenses that this inspection will be made, and why it is made.

We believe we could obtain the data we wish best from the original cards. It would be most efficient to copy the cards and make the tabulations on one

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time, about March, after all the cards for the previous year are certainly in. Would it be convenient to let us have these inspection cards? They might be sent down at intervals or sent in one batch, and we could keep them, or return them at the Department's pleasure. Or possibly they could be mailed directly to the Institute for Fisheries Research.

Possibly a conference on the whole subject would be worth while. Titus, Lovejoy, Green, yourself and I should be considered I suppose, along with others you may suggest.

Carl L. Hubbs.

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Director.

Creel census

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

University of Michigan

County: **OTTAWA**

Lake or stream: **FINNIE LAKE**

Date	Township name	Town	Range	Section	No. lines	No. hours	Bait	Av. size, inches	Small fish returned	Small-mouth bass	Large-mouth bass	Bluegill	Common sunfish	Rock bass	Calico bass	Perch	Wall-eye	Grass pike	Bullhead	Channel cat	Carp	Common sucker	Red-side sucker	Mullet and redbreast	Cisco	Use separate row for each species
																										Other species
1929																										
6-23						8	worm	8	10							12										
6-23						5	"	8	12			6														
6-23						8	"	8	10	1						12										
<p>SAMPLE: To show how data for lake fish will be tabulated by each lake, from the large sheets furnished by the Department. Note that "small fish returned" applies to all species caught by one man on one day. This difficulty is cared for now by the new provision on the 1930 cards for listed small fish returned under each species.</p>																										
<p>NOTE FOR DEPARTMENT: Carbon copies like this are possible to make, and could be furnished the Department for its files if these would prove useful enough in the Lansing office to warrant the extra clerical labor being employed in the Institute office. We do not believe that the extra labor would be great, and see much value and interest in the tabulations by individual waters. If original copies rather than carbons are wanted, some special arrangement regarding the clerical work might have to be made.</p>																										

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INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH
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ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

July 12, 1930

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 3
[CREEL CENSUS]

In pursuance of the ideas expressed in our Report 3, dated March 3, we have had printed several thousand cards for the summarizing by lake or stream of the creel census data. Examples of these cards are furnished herewith, made out from available data. Some are made out from the large sheets furnished for this purpose by the Department. On these sheets the failure to make entry of the Township will cause some confusion, for those lakes or streams the names of which are duplicated within the county. Furthermore, this lack of data will make it impossible to utilize the first three year's cards for studies of the different productivity of different sections of the streams. The "number of lines in party when fishing together" is also lost for the first three years. The significance of this item is, however, open to debate. In still fishing, the number of lines used by each fisherman ^{perhaps} should/be recorded, as more significant than the total number of lines in the party. As we understand it, two lines were formerly allowed to be used, but only one line is now legal except in ice fishing. Is this correct?

Our own staff in the field has been gathering in some creel census data, and has been passing out supplies of the salmon cards to interested sportsmen. We propose to continue to urge the filling out of the cards, but we shall now make out the 6x9 cards in the field ourselves. We do not recommend the use of the large cards in the field by others than those in our own field parties.

Carl L. Hubbs

Carl L. Hubbs,

Director

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