

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH
DIVISION OF FISHERIES
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
COOPERATING WITH THE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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THE PROPOSED WINTER MAPPING PROGRAM
ON THE LAKES OF THE HURON RIVER DRAINAGE

It has been proposed that a WPA project be set up to aid in the completion of contour maps for the lakes of the Huron River system.

In this proposal the items of expense are approximately as follows:

Supervision	\$1200.00
Equipment	795.00
Miscellaneous supplies including maps.	425.00
Rental of space for draftsmen	200.00
Transportation	1300.00
	<u>\$3920.00</u>

While these estimates are probably maximum figures, it appears that a WPA project would hardly be justified in that we are convinced as much could be accomplished with a smaller cash outlay and a selected personnel. In either case about 150 lakes could be surveyed.

The actual cost to the Institute for a project with a limited personnel would be approximately as follows, providing that 4 men could be furnished from the hatchery staff.

Salary for additional man	\$ 225.00
Field expenses for two supervisors, including transportation	600.00
Equipment, including ice drills and their maintenance	250.00
Maps	150.00
	<u>\$1225.00</u>

According to present estimates, about 150 of the 501 lakes in the drainage could be mapped during the period of ice cover.

The procedure would be approximately as follows:

Outline maps would be prepared in advance of the survey.

Two parties would be organized. Each would consist of 3 men--a leader furnished by the Institute and two men furnished by the hatcheries. One party would be stationed at the Drayton Plains hatchery. The other in Ann Arbor.

With a prepared outline map, it would be possible to survey one lake each day on the average.

Some objections to the use of WPA labor for lake mapping work:

1. Difficulties in transportation. The expense and time involved in getting a crew of men to the place of work would be much greater than the movement of a small crew which could be taken in an Institute truck with equipment and leader.

2. The irregularity of hours and allotted time differences would result in much delay, e.g. it might be advisable to work overtime in order to complete a lake. This is not possible under most WPA arrangements.

3. With WPA crews it would take all of the time of supervisors to keep things moving and train new men; under the second arrangement these men would have time to keep their own records and aid in the identification of soil types. This latter item would have to be omitted under WPA labor.

4. Because the period of ice cover is of uncertain duration, it would be much more possible to make rapid change of plans for Institute employees than for WPA and its unavoidable red tape. In some winters there are 2-3 months of continuous suitable ice in this section; other years

this is intermittent and uncertain. Our program would naturally have to be governed by ice conditions.

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