

803 Continental Bank Building,
Salt Lake City, Utah
November 3, 1938

"Memorandum for Superintendent Leavitt"

I have given careful consideration to the Preliminary Report of Dr. Arthur D. Hasler on his research activities at Crater Lake for the seasons of 1937 and 1938.

The conclusion I have reached from this study confirms the ideas which I have maintained since my first visit to the lake with reference to a fish stocking program. There is much new and unusually interesting information contained in this report, but it in nowise changes my original opinion.

The report indicates that while both Rainbow and Silver Salmon have made excellent growth in the lake the food supply is limited to the point where excessive stocking would do great damage. The report further indicates that there is a very low utilization of the fish supply now present in the lake when considered in connection with the number of fish planted during recent years. It further indicates that boats are not available under present regulations during those hours of the day when fishing is at its best. Also, that a great portion of the lake is not visited by fishermen which is due in part to the hours during which boats are available and the excessive costs.

While the report indicates that most fish are taken in the vicinity of Wizard Island it is a known fact, which I have personally proved, that there is excellent fishing along the shore of the lake at many points and that fish may be taken almost anywhere along the shore. The fact is that while fishing is generally better in the shallow water around Wizard Island the concentration of fishermen there results from the present boat regulations to a considerable degree.

Until the fishing is made more accessible by an increased number of boats, more satisfactory hours, less cost and perhaps by a trail which would lead the fishermen to the vicinity of Wizard Island, where fish may be taken readily from the shore without the use of boats, I strongly recommend that the number of fish planted be not materially increased.

The report further suggests that we consider the introduction of lake trout (*Cristivomer*) in addition to the two accented species, Rainbow and Silver Salmon. To this suggestion I wish to offer

a very definite disapproval. As indicated by Dr. Hasler these fish would likely reproduce naturally in the lake. This would mean that we would lose complete control of the fish population as a result. Since Dr. Hasler agrees with me that there is likely no natural reproduction from Rainbow and positively none from Silver Salmon we remain in the very good position of being able to control the fish supply at all times. We must not sacrifice this distinct advantage.

Furthermore, lake trout would be difficult to take in this deep water and could not be taken at all except by the use of copper lines and deep trolling. If the fishermen could have access to the lake between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M. they would find as fine a fly fishing as can be found in any water and after all this is the type of fishing which we should wish to encourage.

It is my definite recommendation that our present fish stocking policy be not changed materially until further studies have been made. Also, until more fishermen find a way of gaining access to the fishing which would result in an increased harvest of adult fish.

/s/ David H. Madsen.
David H. Madsen,
Supervisor of Fish Resources

DHM/GC
CC: The Director
Regional Director, Region IV