

# Memorandum

To : James A. Hinze, Fisheries Manager III

Date: January 25, 1967

From : Department of Fish and Game

Subject: Taylor Creek - Kokanee Egg-Taking Operation - 1966.

The Fallen Leaf Lake Dam water control valve was opened on October 1, 1966, to flush Taylor Creek and open the sand bar at the mouth of Taylor Creek and permit the waiting schools of kokanee salmon to enter the stream on their spawning run.

The vertical bar fish barrier was installed in Taylor Creek on October 5, 1966, about 75 yards downstream from the Highway 89 Bridge.

The first kokanee salmon appeared at the racks on October 5, 1966; approximately 50 fish were counted. Large schools of fish were seen in the estuary pools of Taylor Creek and in Lake Tahoe off the mouth of Taylor Creek.

Spawning operations started on October 27, 1966, and continued through 11 spawnings terminating on December 1, 1966.

A total of 3,768,900 green eggs were taken from 2,156 females and 804 males.

It was interesting to note the average size of both males and females was 16 inches with many males at 22 inches and females up to 20 inches measured.

Five hundred fifty five (555) green pairs of kokanee from Taylor Creek were planted in various tributaries of Lake Tahoe.

The run in Taylor Creek appeared to peak on November 28, 1966 with approximately 40 - 50,000 fish in the stream. It was exceedingly difficult to arrive at this figure as the stream, during spawning and trapping operations, was always full of fish. However, on November 28 little water could be seen in the stream because of the density of the fish; 2 - 3,000 fish were allowed to pass through the racks upstream in order to have room to spawn and wash eggs.

Kokanee carcasses were utilized by Indians in Alpine County, California, Douglas County, Nevada, and the State Forestry Honor Camp, Spooner Pass, Nevada.

Water temperatures during the period October 1 to December 5, 1966, ranged from a low of 35° to a high of 50° F.

Air temperatures during the same period ranged from a low of 13° to a high of 64° F.

Seven days of rain and seven days of snow storms finally washed out racks on December 5, 1966, and all fish contained below the racks were released upstream to spawn.

STATISTICS

Egg shipments:	Mt. Whitney Hatchery	602,300
	San Joaquin Hatchery	1,181,500
	Mt. Shasta Hatchery	1,805,700
	Tahoe Hatchery	<u>179,400</u>

Total = 3,768,900

Total fish:	Trapped	1,359	males	and	2,711	females
	Planted	555	"		555	"
	Spawmed	804	"		2,156	"

Streams planted:	Truckee River, Upper	500	fish
	Trout Creek	300	fish
	Incline Creek	160	fish
	Third Creek	<u>150</u>	fish

1,110

Brown trout put over racks to spawn naturally - 15 males and 39 females.

The fish trapped figure only indicates the number of fish handled and is not an indication of the total number of fish in the run.

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