

### The Rogue River Fisheries

# Salmon Runs in Basin Are Described

## Flesh of Chinook Considered Most Pleasing on Coast

(Editor's note: This is the third in a series of articles on the Rogue river fishery and its management. The articles are presented at this time as survey of the Rogue basin looking to a water control program are nearing completion. They may aid in understanding the Rogue, its fish life and proposed dams on the river and its tributaries.)

(The series was written by Cole M. Rivers, fisheries agent for the Oregon state game commission. Rivers has been a resident in the Rogue basin for 18 years, making biological investigations for the game commission, and is one of the few persons considered an authority on the fishery in the Rogue, its problems and management.)

(Today's article describes the three runs of salmon, their characteristics and use by sportsmen.)

By COLE M. RIVERS  
Fisheries Agent  
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Spring-run chinook enter the Rogue on the rise of water temperatures in February or early March.

The run continues at the mouth of the river into June. These fish migrate to preferred spawning areas in the main channel of the upper Rogue and establish a summer holdover. Early runners go high in the basin and later arriving fish choose areas progressively lower. Spawning does not occur until September and October.

The head of the run is found where and when the water first reaches 50 degrees Fahrenheit. This temperature is first found near the mouth of the river, and as the water warms upstream the leading fish can be found following that 50 degree Fahrenheit line of demarcation.

**Peaks in May**  
The run appears in the Grants Pass area between March 5 and 20 and peaks there in May. The first fish at the Gold Ray counting station arrive in mid-April with a peak formed in June. Some of the run is still being tallied in September. Only a few stragglers of the run fall to go above Gold Ray.

Preferred sections of the upper river used for summer holdover are located from points above McLeod down to below Bybee bridge with heaviest use in the Rogue Elk to Shady Cove section. A portion of the run moves into Big Butte creek which is the only tributary of the Rogue basin used by these salmon.

The flesh of the Rogue spring chinook is considered the most palatable on the Pacific coast. Highly preferred, these fish are sought after by thousands of spring fishermen.

At the mouth of the river



**CROSSING BOARD** — A spring chinook salmon is shown crossing the board at the Gold Ray counting station. Trained personnel count adults and jacks of both chinook and silver salmon, summer and winter steelhead and suckers at this station.



**CHINOOK CATCH** — A spring chinook salmon being beached by a sport angler at the lower Rogue river averages 4,900.

the peak of the fishery occurs in April and May. Since 1949, when the lower river catch was first measured, the annual take has averaged 4,900 fish. More of these spring fish are caught upstream. The annual catch from salmon boards ranges from 300 to 800 fish in the middle section of the river. Above Gold Ray surveys in 1958 disclosed that nearly 1,900 spring salmon were taken by anglers from this section of stream. The total annual spring chinook run entering the Rogue averages about 29,000 fish.

In addition to water temperatures previously mentioned, observations indicate that the pattern of seasonal runoff influences the rate of migration of spring chinook and steelhead. In other words the fish seem able to predict what the water flows will be two or three months later.

**Francis Rush**  
In the spring prior to a summer with below average water flows, these fish make a frantic rush to holding areas

in the headwaters. On good water seasons they take their own sweet time getting there, lingering in the holes and riffles along the way. A question frequently asked by upriver fishermen is how long will it take a spring salmon to arrive from Gold Beach. The height of the river, temperature of the water, and turbidity will shorten or lengthen that time. With average flows in the spring, at least three weeks is generally required between Gold Beach and Robertson bridge. The rate of migration, or progress the fish make in miles per day, is governed largely by climb in altitude. The faster the climb, the slower the rate of travel in miles per day. As an example, a spring salmon migrating up the Umpqua river appears at Winchester dam in much less time than it takes for a spring chinook moving up the Rogue to Savage Rapids.

The distance in river miles is the same, but in altitude the fish on the Rogue must climb twice as high. The 50 degree Fahrenheit line of water temperature is, of course, more or less associated with altitude too. The rate of travel is also reduced after the fish negotiate a ladder system at a dam.

**Fall Chinook Salmon**  
Fall-run chinook and silvers start to develop sexual maturity at sea, and they make a wild dash up the Rogue. They start entering river in early September with the bulk of fish coming in after the first showers in early October. Some chinook continue coming into the river as late as January.

These fall salmon prepare to spawn almost immediately upon reaching the gravel of their choice. The term "choice" is used loosely because there is evidence that they will spawn wherever maturity stops them or water conditions permit them to migrate. The bulk of the fall chinook spawn in the main channel of the Rogue from points overlapping those used by stragglers of the spring run down river to bars located close to tidewater. A segment of the fall chinook run migrates into the Applegate river, but during most years they must wait in the Rogue for a rise in water level before they can enter. These fish, over a period of years, have adapted themselves to this waiting period, and some of the latest spawning chinook in Oregon are found here. A few are still

spawning in January and early February. Another race of fall chinook uses the Illinois river. The delayed access to preferred spawning areas occurs here, too, at the Illinois Falls. A greater range to more suitable spawning areas will be possible for these fish with the completion of the new Illinois Falls fishway.

Nearly all of the fall chinook taken in the Rogue system are caught at the jaws of the river and at the mouth of the Illinois. The average annual catch is about 4,000 fish. Total numbers entering the river average about 52,000.

Silvers enter the Rogue with the fall chinook. Most of the catch is made in the lower 30 miles of the river. Some concentrated effort is spent for them on the Illinois river in the vicinity of the Illinois Falls. The total annual run of silvers entering the Rogue is estimated to be 9,000, with the annual catch about 800 fish.

Most silver salmon on the Pacific coast make short migrations into river systems. The runs using the Rogue are unique in that they migrate to the headwaters of the Applegate (130 miles) up Little Butte creek (147 miles), and a few go 165 miles into Big Butte creek and Elk creek. More characteristic of the typical silver migration are those fish using the Illinois system.

Even though many silvers depend upon the main Rogue channel for spawning they definitely prefer tributary streams. This preference for small tributaries is an important factor relating to the conditions of the stocks of silvers in the Rogue system. Tributaries have been abused and are rarely in good condition for spawning in December and January.

The subject of salmon will continue in the next article appearing in this series.

**Lodge, Wife Leave For Virgin Islands**  
New York (UPI)—Henry Cabot Lodge, former ambassador to the United Nations and defeated vice presidential candidate, left by plane Wednesday accompanied by Mrs. Lodge for a one week vacation in the Virgin Islands. Lodge refused to discuss his future plans. He said only that any possibility of a position in the Kennedy administration was "a new idea" to him.

## More Flexible Margin Controls Sought in Stock Market Buying

By HENRY J. BECHTOLD  
UPI Financial Editor  
New York (UPI)—Every so often we read about the stock market margin being cut or raised.

The effects of such a move on the stock market usually are apparent immediately, but what it means to the economy generally is never reported.

Two New York University professors decided to remedy this situation, and, under a grant from the New York Stock Exchange, made an objective investigation of the role of stock market margin in the economy. The results have been published in a 194-page book, "Security Credit—Its Economic Role and Regulation."

Margin is the amount paid by the customer when he uses credit to buy a security, the balance being advanced by the broker. Under Federal Reserve regulations, the initial margin required in the past 20 years has ranged from 40 per cent of the purchase price all the way to 100 per cent. It presently is at 70 per cent. Dr. Jules I. Bogen and Her-

## Dr. Wells Tells Of Africa Trip At Chamber Lunch

Ashland (UPI)—Dr. Wayne Wells spoke to the Ashland Chamber of Commerce on his travels in Africa at a Tuesday luncheon of the chamber in the Mark Antony hotel. Wells recently spent nine months traveling in all areas of the continent, including The Congo. Some of Wells' observations included the following:

"What is happening in The Congo is what should be expected. The people have no education, so they believe anything that is told to them."

**May Stay There**  
"Most of the English people I talked to in Africa seem to think they will remain there, in spite of the recent problems."

"English universities in Africa are generally very good. However, native schools aren't as good. Most of the students in native schools go two or three years and then drop out."

Wells described various African cities, and noted that most of them are quite modern. In cities where large English populations exist, segregation is rigidly enforced, he said. In describing The Congo, Wells noted that outside of large cities, the death rate is between 27 and 30 per cent. He said many of The Congo's problems are due to lack of communication between the various Congolese.

man E. Krooss, professors of finance and economics, respectively, at NYU's Graduate School of Business Administration, favor more flexible margin controls. They conclude in their study that a quarter-century's experience with federal margin controls suggests that margin changes in the future could well be held within a narrower range. They found that small margin increases have proved to be as effective as large increases in influencing the trend of customer borrowing.

Other key points among the authors' conclusions are: —Security credit has made a far greater contribution to economic growth than is indicated by the average volume of such loans—about 5 per cent of all bank loans during the 1950s. "Wholesale" securities credit finances new flotations and they are listed inventories by those who make markets in outstanding issues; "retail" security credit broadens the market for both new and old issues by expanding the number of individuals who can buy or carry securities.

The economic benefits of security credit have been provided by a volume of loans that has not been large enough to adversely affect either the stability of the economy or the effectiveness of general credit control. —The rapid expansion of consumer, business and mortgage loans has been responsible for the adoption of restrictive quantitative credit policies by the Federal Reserve in the past decade. Security loans have not been a factor in the adoption of such policies.

—Selective control of security loans was adopted, following the experience before and after 1929, to make general credit control more effective, and yet retain the benefits for the capital markets and the economy that security credit provides. —An income in security credit rates results in an expansion of funds available for business or consumer spending; a decrease produces much the opposite effect.

The Bogen and Krooss book also studies the evolution of security credit regulation, which was first proposed following the financial panics that occurred prior to the

## Hunt for Pendleton Aviator Called Off

Cheyenne, Wyo. (UPI)—Wyoming aeronautics officials have called off the search for a missing light plane following a flight Monday over the area south of Rawlins, Wyo. The plane, carrying James E. Green, 29, of Pendleton, Ore., disappeared Oct. 29 while en route from Oregon to Oklahoma City. Green made his last radio contact at Rawlins and was reported seen in the area south of Rawlins about an hour later.

## Elmer Biegel, Duff Get Honors

Salem (UPI)—The League of Oregon Cities, meeting in its annual convention here, has honored 10 veteran city officials.

James A. Gallagher, city councilman of Corvallis, was saluted as the veteran city official in the group. His municipal service dates to May, 1906, when he was appointed fire chief and city marshal at Yamhill.

Other veteran officials feted were Ed Boatwright, retired Portland fire chief, whose service began in 1914; Ivan Peterson, 45 years McMinnville fire chief; Robert Mills, Salem fire chief, 1917; Wayne Osterby, Astoria fire chief, 1920; Salem engineer

T. H. Davis, 1922; Alfred Mundt, Salem city recorder, 1923; Elmer Biegel, Ashland city administration, 1924; Walter Vanderveiden, Forest Grove fire chief, 1924, and Robert Duff, Medford city manager, 1925.

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