

The Rogue River Fisheries

Regulations Formulated to Manage Fishing

Harvest Control
Of Resource Is
Sought in Laws

(Editor's note: This is the 11th in a series of articles on the Rogue river fishery and its management. Today's article discusses regulations which are established by the game commission for the Rogue system with emphasis placed on their needs and what they are designed to accomplish.)

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Angling regulations are formulated each January by the game commission to manage the sports fishing through the year. The purpose of regulations is to control the harvest of one of the state's most valuable renewable resources. Another purpose is to distribute a safe harvest among as many anglers as is possible.

Because of the many runs and kinds of fish, both resident and migratory, that are found in the same water, angling rules established for the Rogue river are varied and complex. Each group of fish is managed on an individual basis or as nearly so as possible. All are harvested at a maximum rate without endangering their numbers for future expansion and use.

A few people have difficulty understanding the angling charts for the Rogue river. Fortunately, most of the angling public take the time to read and study the material. With the aid of the maps to show where the deadlines are located in case the reader is not familiar with them, the answers to where and when they can go fishing are obvious.

Largest Population
The largest population of "trout" in the middle and lower sections of the basin in the spring consists of downstream migrant steelhead. The late opening of the trout season protects this concentration of steelhead until it is well down in the lower canyon and below, these same fish are protected with an 8-inch minimum size limit.

Many of the Rogue's adult steelhead are under 20 inches in length. In parts of the basin they are found in the same

waters occupied by resident trout. The general state regulations do not recognize fish under 20 inches in length as steelhead so all Rogue steelhead are regulated as trout. The manipulation of seasons and areas for "trout" controls the catch of steelhead but still allows the pursuit of resident trout in much of the same water.

The trout bag limit (10 fish but not more than 5 of which may be over 12 inches in length and not more than 2 over 20 inches) serves many purposes for various waters over the state. In the Rogue system, it is designed to (1) limit the catch of steelhead migrants in summer months, (2) allow full pursuit of resident and planted trout in streams, and (3) distribute trout taken from lakes among a greater number of anglers.

Early Switch
The early switch in the fall to a bag limit of two fish over 12 inches in length with appropriate deadline changes takes fishing pressure off the spring-run steelhead, controls excessive catch of the fall-run steelhead, and protects the juvenile steelhead in areas where they are in rearing concentrations.

Each of the changes in deadlines at various dates throughout the fall and winter seasons has a purpose. The fall run of steelhead receives extremely heavy fishing pressure, and it becomes necessary to remove that pressure to prevent an overcatch.

Following behind the fall run is the large run of winter steelhead that generally needs no protection from anglers' catch because adverse water and weather conditions usually permit an adequate number to escape for spawning. The date and deadline changes allow as many of the winter run to be caught in the limited time that water and weather are right and at the same time relieve the fall run from additional catch.

Closed To Protect Fish
In February when many bright, winter fish are still coming up the Rogue, the spent fish of the earlier spring and fall steelhead runs are backing down into the same waters. Actually, fishermen could continue their harvest of this winter run, but the season is closed to protect the spent fish of these valuable early runs.

Spawners from the spring and fall runs are given protection to allow their return as larger fish on their second or third spawning run. Every effort is made to increase the numbers of larger steelhead in spring and fall run.

The steelhead season on the Applegate is allowed to offer people from the heavily populated sections of the basin

some place to go for their winter steelheading without having to drive long distances. Only the first fish in the Applegate run are taken since most of the run does not arrive in the river until March, after the season is closed.

Annual Take
According to the data from salmon and steelhead punch cards, the annual take of Applegate steelhead is less than 500 fish. Counts of reds

(spawning beds) indicate that sufficient numbers of fish running in March and April escape to the spawning grounds.

The Illinois steelhead is a true winter-run fish similar to those present in the coastal streams. A full season is allowed from the time the first fish appears until the occurrence of the first spent fish. The same regulation principles that apply to steelhead are applied to salmon. An excessive catch is prevented on

some of the runs while others are protected in their summer resting areas. All are protected through their respective spawning seasons.

Create Aggravations
Dates and deadlines which are changed from year to year create aggravations and misunderstandings. Regulations would not be considered as complex if a firm set of seasons and deadlines could be maintained. However, the resource is changing from cycle to cycle; anglers change

their methods and shift their pressure to various sections of the watershed; and development causes changes in fishery habitat. Because of these changes, many fish, or runs, are put in vulnerable positions. Each change is recognized and called to the attention of the commission. Regulations are altered to modify the effects of the varying patterns of pressure and catch.

We are approaching an era of management that may require the regulation of resident and migratory fisheries separately. To realize this objective, the basin would have to be divided into three sections, upper, middle and lower. Each area would be regulated with a simple set of seasons and bag limits.

In principle, the upper section would allow full pursuit of resident trout, but no salmon and steelhead could be taken. The middle section would have limited pursuit of salmon and steelhead but no trout fishery. The lower section would be used for liberal pursuit of salmon and steelhead only.

Either the fishery resource or the pursuit of the sports fishery would have to be sacrificed to realize a simple set of regulations. Scientific management is not possible with a general arrangement of seasons, bag limits, and open areas. In an attempt to find a happy medium, Oregon's angling synopsis outlines a fair program of good, tight management.

Governor Finds
Silk Top Hats

Salem — UPI — There are more silk top hats around than you think.

Gov. Mark Hatfield has announced that he will attend the inauguration of President-Elect John F. Kennedy next week but needed a top hat. He doesn't own one and they are a must for the affair.

A Hatfield aide said Wednesday afternoon that so far the governor has had 17 offers from people to loan him one. The offers came mostly from the Salem area, and a few from Portland. His office put out a plea late Wednesday for no more offers.

Several offers came from unnamed but high ranking Oregon Democrats. They said they couldn't go themselves but wanted their hats to be there, the aide said.



THREE DIE—Three persons burned to death early Wednesday when a truck loaded with turkeys crashed into the rear of another truck on the Kings River bridge on Highway 99 at Kingsbury, Calif. A third truck, a pickup and five cars piled up in a chain reaction on the fog shrouded bridge. —(UPI Telephoto)

Business of Keeping Americans
Alive Is Big, Bechtold Notes

By HENRY J. BECHTOLD
UPI Financial Editor

New York — Keeping Americans alive and well is a \$25 billion business.

That is the amount spent annually by the public in the form of fees or charges, health insurance premiums, voluntary contributions and tax money for health projects.

It breaks down to \$137 a year for every man, woman

and child in the United States, according to the first issue of Medicine At Work as a separate publication from the Journal of the American Medical Association.

From 1956 through 1959 it was published in the journal as a change of pace from clinical reading—an informal approach to describe how individuals, professions and organizations join to tackle important health matters.

Last year the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association recognized the need to revise this feature in the form of a district publication which would continue to interpret the partners in progress theme.

Keeping America Healthy
Unemployment is not a problem in the health field, according to statistics in the booklet. Four million people devote either all or part of their earning hours to the health of individuals in this country. That is one out of every 16 persons who work and does not include volunteers.

The key individual in the multi-billion operation is the physician who is needed with such other weighty pressures as his own continuing post-graduate education during a period of rapid medical progress, his patient's varying responses to treatment, and his antagonists' persistent efforts to demolish the art of medical practice in order to transform it into a trade, the publication stated.

It added that as the level of wellness rises, demands upon the physician as leader of the health forces grow and become increasingly complex.

The physician, of course, is not alone in this field of health. There are fewer than 250,000 physicians in the United States, and little more than half of them are in full-time private practice.

There are also nurses and writers, pharmacists and research workers, dentists and suppliers, sanitation engineers and social workers, therapists and medicine makers.

And their numbers are growing by leaps and bounds. Since the turn of the century, the publication noted, the number of those employed in some phase of health has increased at a rate five times faster than the population growth as a whole.

Key Man Is Doctor
As in years past, however, the doctor of medicine, although far outnumbered by others in the health field, still plays the dominant role. It is he who:

Provides medical services for which Americans pay some \$5 billion annually. Physicians also give away another \$1 billion each year in the value of uncollected accounts and care for the indigent.

Prescribes medicines and influences the purchase of ad-

ditional drug and related products for which people now spend \$4 billion annually for wellness, comfort, sustenance, productivity and, sometimes, life itself.

Supervises the institutional care of patients who obtain services valued at about \$5 billion a year.

Plays an essential part in the purchase of health insurance, grown into a \$1.5 billion service.

Orders products and appliances to aid sight, hearing, speech and movement, for which consumers spend \$1 billion annually.

Takes part in government health programs and projects at local, state and federal levels, costing the public \$6.5 billion yearly.

Is called upon to serve or counsel voluntary health agencies whose annual contributions from Americans come to \$1 billion.

And, the publication said, this total of \$24 billion does not include the public's paying of an additional \$1 in the social welfare, job vocational, missionary and related areas which have a direct bearing on human health and well-being.

Parking Meters Are
Doing Big Business

Chicago — UPI — Parking meters are doing a thriving business, the American Municipal Association reported.

A survey by the association showed that about two million meters collect \$125 million a year at curbs and in parking lots of 3,850 cities and towns in the nation.

The survey, reported in Traffic Quarterly, showed that nearly two-thirds of the meters are set at 5 cents an hour and most of these sell 12 minutes' parking for a penny.

However, a 10-cent-an-hour rate is becoming more common, the association found, with about 14 per cent of all meters collecting at that pace in 1960.

About half of the cities reporting their plans said they were considering parking meter rate increases.

2 Million Bearings
Won't Fill Bottle

Rolla, N.D. — UPI — Lack of warehouse space for inventory is no problem for an instrument jewel bearing plant here.

A year's production of some two million bearings, destined for precision defense items and the government's strategic stockpile, would not fill a milk bottle. The plant is operated for the government by Bulova Watch Co. on a \$1 per year contract.



STEALS RIDE—Stealing a march on the field, student Herbert Schlobohm, 18, rides his bicycle across the about-to-be-opened Throgs Neck bridge in The Bronx, N.Y. Wednesday as construction workers cheer him on. Herbert rode his bike across the new \$92 million bridge ahead of any of the

—(UPI Telephoto)

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