



Oregon State Archives
800 Summer St. NE, Salem, OR 97310
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Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Records Scope and Content

By Gary D. Halvorson, 2008

The records of the Department of Fish and Wildlife consist of correspondence, minutes, publications, annual reports, hatchery operation reports, egg and pond reports, audits, game code violation case records, license sales registers, maps, blueprints, and photographs. This accession includes records dated from 1901 to 1987, however, the bulk of the records date between 1910 and 1930. The majority of records in the accession have their origin in the Fish Commission.

Many governmental agencies or offices related to fish and wildlife issues are represented within the following series: Administrative Correspondence (1912-1922), Hatchery Correspondence (1913-1922), and the Master Fish Warden Correspondence (1919-1931). These agencies and offices include the United States Bureau of Fisheries and the Bureau of Biological Survey and Oregon's Department of Agriculture, State Land Board, Attorney General, and Governor's office.

There is a rich source of information on the development, construction, and operation of many past and current state fish hatcheries, dams, and feeding ponds which can be found within the Administrative Correspondence (1912-1922), Hatchery Correspondence (1913-1922), and Master Fish Warden Correspondence (1919-1931).

Information can also be found on fish and wildlife management, conservation, and policy in the following records series: Game Laws Violation Case Records (1921-1931, 1936-1938); Predatory Animal Eradication Appropriations (1936-1940); and Sealion Hunting Records (1924-1930).

Statistical data on egg, fry, and fish counts can be closely examined in the Monthly Hatchery Pond Reports (1916-1924) and the Trout and Salmon Egg Reports (1914-1925).

Publications (1948-1982) include the following topics: Oregon commercial fishing laws, wildlife and game codes, Rogue Basin Commission investigation, environmental impact analysis, offshore oil drilling and its effect on fish populations, migratory fish movement, and hunter safety rules and regulations.

All maps, blueprints, drawings, and photographs that have been separated were part of the Master Fish Warden Correspondence series. Most of drawings and photographs are related to hatchery and dam construction or repair while some blueprints outline proposed fish traps or fishways. There are also a number of photographs that depict Oregon wildlife.

The records of the Department of Fish and Wildlife were originally accessioned into the State Archives under accession numbers: 55I-47; 57I-84; 62A-14; 71A-51; and 84A-5. Currently, the records of the Department of Fish and Wildlife consist of approximately forty-five cubic feet, dating from 1901-1987, and are identified by accession number 92A-19. Motion picture film showing observations at Oxbow Dam in 1958 was accessioned in 2001 with the number 2001B-029.

Illustration by Sharon Torvik from the 1981-1982
Department of Fish and Wildlife Biennial Report.
(Publications, pg. 58)

