

## Job Progress Report

State of Texas

Project No. F-2-R-16

Name: Region 2-B Fisheries Studies

Job No. E-9

Title: Evaluation of Catchable Trout Fishery

Period Covered: February 1, 1968 to January 31, 1969

### Background:

In April 1966, rainbow trout, Salmo gairdneri, were purchased by the Lone Star Brewing Company, San Antonio, Texas, and stocked with the assistance of project personnel in the tailrace waters below Canyon Dam, Comal County, Texas. This action was instigated by the private concern after they had learned that the Canyon Reservoir Project Report (February 1960 prepared by the Branch of River Basin Studies) indicated the possibility of the trout fishery in the cold tailrace waters below the dam. A 3-year stocking program including approximately 32,000 catchable trout donated by Lone Star Brewing Company ended with the May 1968 stocking of 7,000 fish. Evaluation through creel census of the 1967 stocking indicated a 59 per cent harvest of the trout. The initiation of this trout fishery provided better than 10,000 man hours of fishing in a 7-month period in an area where heretofore it would have been less than 500 man hours for the same period of time. The increased fishing pressure also provided an economic boost of over \$10,000 per year for the immediate area in terms of fishing tackle, bait, food, etc., purchased.

Water quality studies, bottom fauna studies, and monthly sampling of the trout indicated that the tailrace continued to provide suitable trout habitat.

Further background on this project may be found in Job Progress Report E-9, Project No. F-2-R-15, Evaluation of Catchable Rainbow Trout Fishery, 1968.

### Objectives:

1. To determine the per cent of return of stocked fish.
2. To determine the length of time a plant of trout contributes to the fishery.
3. To determine the average catch per man hour of fishing.
4. To determine the average catch per fishing trip.
5. To determine the average length of time per fishing trip.
6. To determine the economic factors involved, namely, the value of the returns.
7. To determine through water quality studies the continuance of Canyon Dam Tailwaters to provide suitable trout habitat.