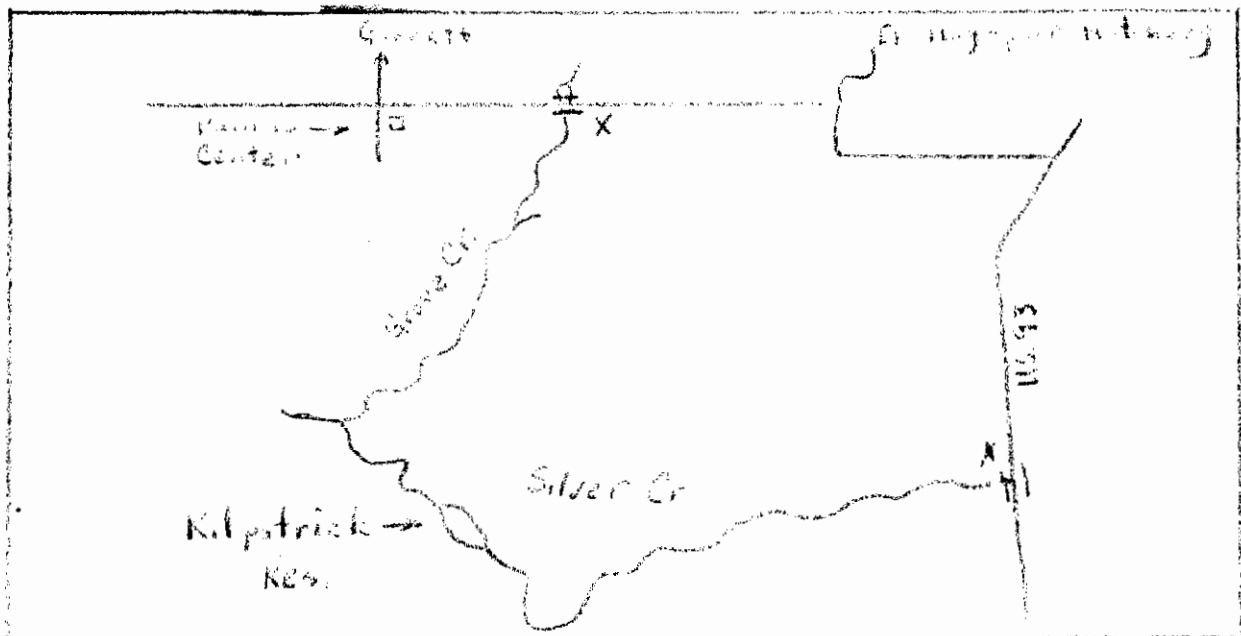


May 13, 1953

Mr. James C. Simpson
518 Front Street
Boise, Idaho

Dear Jim:

Yesterday, Glen McRoberts, Pat Gaver and I completed a survey of condition of aquatic vegetation (chare, water milfoil, aquatic grass, watercress and pond-weed) in Silver Creek. ~~We made our survey by boat and covered that portion of Grove and Silver Creek.~~ We made our survey by boat and covered that portion of Grove and Silver Creeks shown in the following sketch:



The vegetation in the upper surveyed portion of Grove Creek was approximately 50 percent of normal with current growth short. The lower surveyed portion of Grove Creek was approximately 90 percent devoid of vegetation.

The vegetation in the surveyed portion of Silver Creek was almost totally absent. Vegetation present was in a few scattered patches along the shore.

The water level is abnormally low, but is expected to rise now that irrigation from the base-line canal has begun.

C O P Y

The lower portion of Grove Creek and upper portion of Silver Creek is quite turbid as the stream current is eroding the unprotected beds of sediment. Silver Creek, below Kilpatrick Reservoir is clear for approximately one-half mile, but then this creek also becomes turbid.

Numerous spawning beds, recently dug, were observed in the upper surveyed portion of Grove Creek and in Silver Creek below Kilpatrick Reservoir.

The rainbow trout population is high in both creeks and is concentrated in the deep pools.

It is suggested that an emergency closure be declared on Silver Creek and tributaries to extend to at least July, 1. An additional survey should be made on June 15, and if vegetation conditions have not improved, the closure should continue throughout the 1953 season.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert B. Irving
Asst. Fisheries Biologist

cc: Hawley Hill

COPY

June 28, 1959
Box 254
Gooding, Idaho

Times-News, Twin Falls
North Side News, Jerome
Lincoln County Journal, Shoshone
Hailey Times, Hailey
Gooding Leader, Gooding
Salt Lake Tribune, Ernie Stites, Pocatello
The Buhl Herald, Buhl
The Burley Bulletin, Burley

A recent survey of Silver Creek, Blaine County, Idaho, by Idaho Fish and Game Department personnel revealed the following stream conditions:

- 1- Silver Creek tributaries, including Grove, Stocker and Loving creeks, were clear and with near normal growths of aquatic vegetation. These tributary streams have an abundance of 6 to 16 inch trout and will be the better location for fly fishing.
- 2- Silver Creek proper, below the mouth of Stocker Creek, is almost completely void of aquatic vegetation and due to erosion of unprotected silt beds is roily and relatively shallow though the volume of water flow is normal. Bait fishing will be best in deeper pools of this area where trout from 6 to 20 inches are concentrated.

Though Silver Creek will not be in top physical condition this year due to a reduced growth of aquatic vegetation, a partial harvest of the trout population is desirable for two reasons:

- 1- The lack of aquatic vegetation has caused a condition of reduced food supply for the fish; therefore, in order to maintain a healthy brood stock of fish for future years, some of the natural trout population must be harvested.
- 2- In late April and early May, prior to the reduction of aquatic vegetation, 9,821 legal size rainbow trout weighing 1,586 pounds were planted in Silver Creek and tributaries from the Hayspur Hatchery. Some of these trout should also be harvested.

and its tributaries

The reduction in the bag and possession limit from 20 trout to 5 trout for Silver Creek is deemed necessary since the lack of cover has made the trout highly vulnerable to the fisherman.

Sincerely yours,

cc- James C. Simpson
Hawley Hill

Robert B. Irving
Asst. Fisheries Biologist