EXAMINATION OF STREAMS IN GLADWIN COUNTY

By P. G. Zalsman.

Submitted to the Fish Division, Department of Conservation on April 21, 22, & 23, 1930.

I arrived in Gladwin at noon on April 21st, and soon got in touch with Conservation Officer Herbert. Booth, who I found to be a fine fellow, and was ready to assist me in every way he could,

We visited a few of the local sports, those who knew the County and streams very well, and also some at Beaverton and State Representative Mr. Budge, and we held a meeting in the evening in the Graham Hotel at Gladwin.

I wish to say first, if you will look on the map of Gladwin County you will notice some very large streams, and large tributaries leading to them, a few years ago we planted all these streams, but at the present time we do not plant them for the reason several Electric Light Dams have been put in this river, and they have backed the water from the south line of Gladwin County, three-fourths the way north across the County, leaving only the upper row of townships for trout,

We talked over the fishing in each stream, and those present were unamimous in planting the streams as follows,

The Cedar river which was once a fine Brook Trout stream, was changed some time ago by Metzelaar and Langlois to a Rainbow stream on account of having so much feed, and as the Rainbow and some Brown Troutare now in the stream we decided to leave the stream to Rainbow in Gladwin County, this stream extends into Clare County, and what they are planting in this stream in Clare Co I do not know

The Sugar and the Tittabawassee Rivers an all their Branches and Tributeries in the north range of townships in Gladwin County they would like to have planted to brook trout, these streams extend north in Roscommon and Ogemaw Counties and should also be planted to Brook Trout,

The Molasses River is not a very good stream for any kind of trout, they can not fish it very well, the land is low and marshy, and over flows its banks, and we decided to leave it alone,

GLADWIN COUNTY

On April 22nd Conservation Officer Mr. Booth. and myself traveled all over the County to see if we could make any improvement for trout fishing, but could not see where only as aforesaid.

But I would suggest that we try some Rainbow fingerling in the Little Sugar and Little Tobacco Rivers which are tributaries to the Tittabawassee, between the upper Dam in Secord township and the Dam below in Hay township, and see if they would stay in this part of the stream, if they did it would improve the fishing in that vicinity. At present there are Grass Pike, and a few Large and Small mouth Bass in this part of the Tittabawassee river so they tell me.

ROSCOMMON COUNTY

On April 23rd on my return home I stopped at Prudenville to see how Denton and Knappen creeks were comeing, these creeks were condemned for Brook Trout by Metzelaar and Langlois, and no brook trout have been planted in these streams for the past two years, Brown trout were recommended and they were planted,

But the people in Prudenville would like some brook trout planted in these streams, they catch a few brown trout in the lower part of the stream, and there are only a few brook trout left in the upper part, and I told them I would plant some brook trout in these streams this season,

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STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
LANSING

GEORGE R. HOGARTH
DIRECTOR

May 3, 1930.

Mr. P. G. Zalsman, Overseer,
State Fish Hatchery,
Grayling, Mich.

Dear Sir:-

Referring to your report on examination of streams in Gladwin and Roscommon Counties, received at this office a few days ago.

We realize that the building of series of hydro power dams on the Tittabawassee River in Gladwin County has quite materially changed the situation with respect to the principal rivers of that County. Rainbow trout may prove suitable for some of the upper ponds of these series, at least, it seems worth while making an attempt at establishing them there. Perhaps brown trout would also do well, as you know they have established themselves in a similar location on the main AuSable.

The survey cards for the Cedar River in Clare County. of which there are only a few in our files, indicate this stream is considered suitable for brook trout and we shall continue to plant these streams principally with brook trout.

I agree with you that the headwaters of the Sugar and the Tittabawassee in Gladwin and Roscommon Counties are probably suitable for brook trout and should be planted accordingly.

Note your reference to Denton and Knappen Creeks at Prudenville. We seem to have no survey cards from Metzelaar and Langlois covering these streams. Assuming they are spring fed as they appear to be, brook trout should be suitable for the streams themselves and you may arrange to plant them unless otherwise instructed.

Very truly yours,
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

F.A.Westerman

F.A.Westerman
FISH DIVISION

FAW/L

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
LANSING

GEORGE R. HOGARTH
DIRECTOR

Gladwin, Mich. 5-13-1930.

Mr. P. G. Zaalsman, Sup't., of State Fish Hatchery,

Grayling, Mich.

My Dear Mr. Zaalsman:

In again looking over your letter of recent date I find that you wish me to express my opinion in regard to Rainbow Trout in the Little Tobacco and the Little Molasses rivers in Gladwin county. I beg to advise that I will rely on your judgment and will plant what you say and where you suggest because why should I with the little experience I have try to suggest to you, a man with nearly forty years with trout. Remember it is all well with me and I will assist the boys to the very best of my ability when the truck comes with the fish.

We have been very busy lately doing some work in Clare county as the Conservation Officer has not been appointed for the northern part of the county to date.

Yesterday I went to the Record Office and mailed you a copy of the paper that had the article in that was written after your visit to this county.

I am glad your tire did not give y u troubl e before you reached home. As I remember you had a very fine day for the trip.

Remember, Phil, if there is any-thing I can ever do to assist you in the way of mapping, naming of streams, or anything else that you might need, don't be afraid to ask and I will do all in my power to assist you.

I enjoyed your visit here, very much, and will never forget you.

Your Friend,

W. H. G. Booth,

Conservation Officer.

Grayling. Mich. May 21, 1930.

Mr. H. G. Booth, Con Officer
Gladwin. Mich.

Dear Mr. Booth.

Your kind letter of the 13th received, and I also received the paper, and the write up was fine, not only for myself, but the Department as well. Thanks,

I received the Okay to my report, but I did not go far enough, where I recommended Rainbow in the Little Tobacco and [redacted] to help out the Tittabawassee they also told me to try Brown Trout which I also think is fine, and they also advise to put some Brook Trout in the Cedar river which want do any harm,

If we plant brown trout in these two streams they want be able to get up where the brook trout are on account of the Dam, and if the Rainbow and Brown do well it will make better fishing between the Dams,

I have more Brown Trout then I can handle to large fingerlings, and I may send you some brown trout for the Tobacco and Sugar some time next week, perhaps next Tuesday or Wednesday, will call you on the phone, you can meet the Truck at Oberlin,

With best wishes to you and Mrs Booth, I am

Sincerely Yours

R. G. Coleman,