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Large Fish Hatchery Will Be Situated Near Marblemount

Announcement was made last week that land had been purchased near Marblemount for the site of the Skagit Fish Hatchery, for which \$150,000 in funds was appropriated at the last legislature.

The state fisheries, department hopes to have the new Skagit county salmon hatchery in operation within the next year, staff chiefs and members of the state legislature's joint interim committee on fisheries announced.

To cost around \$150,000, the hatchery will be located on a 70-odd acre site across the Skagit River from Marblemount, where Jordan creek, the Cascade and Clark creek enter the main stream. Tentative plans call for an exceptionally attractive main building 40 by 173 feet in size capacity of 150,000 fish and miscellaneous buildings for residence of superintendent and assistant, cold storage, etc.

The Marblemount site offers an ideal water supply such as fisheries experts have long sought and seldom found one that makes possible maintenance of near even temperatures the year around. Chief Engineer J. C. Clausen and C. L. Anderson, assistant director of fisheries said. Clark creek, newly-named stream supplied from springs, will provide water warm enough for winter, when Jordan creek is too cold. The springs never freeze. In the summer when the Clark creek supply will be inadequate, the waters of Jordan creek will warm to approximately the temperature of the spring water.

Plans and estimates for the hatchery are to be ready within three months and it is

hoped to advertise for beds by January.