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WORK BEGINS ON STATE FISH HATCHERY

BELLINGHAM CONTRACTOR NOW ON JOB AT MARBLEMOUNT BUILDING PROJECT

Work on the new state fish hatchery at Marblemount was under way Tuesday of this week as Roy N. Gaasland of Bellingham, contractor who built the Marblemount school, began construction of the large project on the Cascade river.

No announcement had been made of the amount of the bid or who had been awarded the contract until the contractor began preparations for the job.

Construction plans call for a main fish hatchery building 46 feet by 172 feet of rustic stone and timber construction, 20 cement rearing ponds, a large home for the caretaker and other small buildings.

Also to be constructed are a low dam, a complete water system and pumping plant, a sewage system and other utility items.

Four small bridges are to be built over the streams to be used in the hatchery's water supply.

Complete in Six Months

The contract calls for all work to be completed and ready for use within six months, so that the new hatchery should be in operation shortly after the first of the year.

The hatchery will be used to raise trout and salmon for a program of restocking the hundreds of lakes and streams in the upper valley in addition to trying to bring the fish population of the Skagit River back to normal.