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SALMON ON INCREASE IN SKAGIT RIVER

The state department of fisheries recent survey of the Skagit and Stillaguamish rivers has revealed that pink salmon escapement has been greatly increased in both waters over the last cycle year of 1945. The survey party found 150,000 pink salmon and 11,000 king salmon spawning in the area between Newhalem dam and Faber ferry on the Skagit. These figures are based on actual counts taken as the survey party drifted down the river in a boat, recording the fish sighted.

The Skagit river count shows a 30 per cent greater escapement than in 1945. The Stillaguamish, in a similar survey, showed a 50 per cent improvement.

Despite the encouraging results of the surveys, the department will close northern Puget Sound to all commercial fishing from October 3rd to October 13th so that more fish may be permitted to escape to spawning grounds.