

Department of Indian Affairs
Canada

Office of Indian Agent

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.,
December 7th, 1932.

File No. 1-23.

Your File No. 18/27246.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your Circular dated the 2nd instant, in connection with the supply of fish from Coastal Waters to Interior Indians.

In this connection, I beg to inform you that the matter does not apply to Indians of the New Westminster Agency, as they obtain all the fish they can use under existing conditions, and to make any attempt to alter them would be disastrous.

The Indians up to Mission Bridge, not only fish commercially, but they are allowed to use set nets by the Department of Marine and Fisheries for the purposes of obtaining their domestic supply. Above Mission Bridge to Harrison Lake, while they do not fish commercially, they are still allowed the use of set nets, and many of these nets are supplied to me by the Fishery Department for use of destitute Indians. Along the Douglas Portage, the Indians take fish without any Permits from the Fishery Department and are not interfered with, as they are in an isolated locality. The Pemberton area is, of course, restricted during the Sockeye Season, but fish are issued from the traps direct to the Indians to the extent of 12,000 to 15,000 sockeye and a large number of cohoes annually. This also applies to the Vedder River Hatchery near Chilliwack, where large numbers of fish are distributed to the Indians every Fall.

Under the circumstances, therefore, I think that this Agency should not be included in any arrangements for the supply of fish, at any rate until the Department of Fisheries adopt a different attitude towards us to what they have done in the past.

Yours truly,

"A. O'E. Daunt"

Indian Agent.

C.C. Perry, Esq.,
Assistant Indian Commissioner for B.C.,
Victoria, B.C.

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