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FABER DAM IN NEWS AGAIN AS POSSIBILITY

GAME DEPARTMENT AGAINST BLOCKING SALMON RUN BY SKAGIT DAM HERE

Rumblings are again being heard from the federal government on more hydro-electric and flood control projects on the Skagit river. Army Engineers, who have been conducting surveys on the Skagit, Cascade, Sauk and Baker rivers for several years, are now nearing the final stages of their work and plan to have their report ready next year.

Under consideration by the Army Engineers are four dams: One on the Baker river; one on the main channel of the Skagit at Faber; one on the lower Sauk river and another on the lower Cascade river. They are now seeking information from the state game department as to possible effect on the river's system of fish runs.

The state game department is of the opinion that the Baker and Faber dams would be detrimental to the famous Skagit steelhead runs, the Faber project being by far the most destructive to future development of fishing.

The Game Commission has issued a statement that "Part of the Skagit river already is blocked by power developments, so we must be on our guard to protect the great fish runs on this stream. The Skagit is famed the breadth of our land for its fine fishing, being worth a tremendous amount to us as a tourist and recreation asset for this reason."

The proposed dam on the Baker river (above Lake Shannon) would back water into the canyon above Baker Lake, inundating much valuable recreational area around the present Baker Lake shore line.

Both the Faber and Baker river dams will find much opposition in the upper valley if the stage of actual contemplation of the dams is reached.

All projects are at present merely under survey as "possibilities".