FOREST SERVICE TO SURVEY ROAD FROM HERE TO BAKER LAKE

DISTRICT FORESTER SAYS THAT ROAD WILL BE SURVEYED THIS YEAR AND BUILT NEXT YEAR TO THE LAKE

According to an announcement made this week by George H. Cecil, district forester of the Portland office of the forestry service, the government will survey a route for a wagon road from this city to the Baker Lake fish hatchery this summer, and that the road will be built next year. It is reported that the money for the construction of the road is available, as $100,000 of the funds appropriated for road building within forest reserves has been set aside for this project.

There are two routes to the Baker Lake hatchery from this city, one on each side of the Baker River, and so far there has been no information given out as to which route will be used by the forestry service, but it is the general opinion that the road will be on the west side of the river. There is already a passable wagon road to the Whatcom county line from this city, and it is said that this will be improved as soon as the work starts on the government road through the reserve. The distance from here to Baker Lake is about 17 miles, of which approximately 12 miles is in Whatcom county.

The opening up of this road will prove of great benefit to this city and to this end of the county. Baker Lake is one of the finest scenic resorts in the state, but so far has not been generally accessible to the public, as the only way to reach the lake is by foot or pack train. If a road that can be used by automobiles is opened to the lake it is certain that hundreds of campers and fisherman will visit the lake each season. A road is now being built around Mt. Baker from Glacier, and it is practically certain that this road will be extended to connect with the Concrete-Baker Lake road, this forming a loop from Bellingham to this city and making a highway that traverses a region that is noted throughout the country for its scenic beauty. Residents of the upper Skagit valley have been boosting for a road to Baker Lake for many years, and are pleased to learn that it will soon be an actual fact.

Re-typed verbatim from the original microfiche obtained from the Washington State Archives.