

THE CONCRETE HERALD

Formerly the Hamilton Herald Established Nov. 23, 1901. Oldest Paper in the Upper Skagit.

January 23, 1947

FISH HATCHERY AT BIRDSVIEW WILL BE CLOSED

PIONEER HATCHERY PROVES TOO EXPENSIVE UNDER EROSION CONDITIONS

The government fish hatchery at Birdsview will be abandoned this spring. This word was received recently from head officials of the federal fish and wildlife department under which the hatchery has been operating for the past few years after the reorganization of the old Bureau of Fisheries.

The hatchery is one of the oldest in the state and had been the headquarters for fish propagation in this section for many years. The closing was made necessary by the condition of Grandy Creek. Erosion has been increasing on this stream for the past few years until so much silt and debris has been washed from its upper reaches that the water is no longer usable for the hatching troughs and rearing ponds.

The siltation of the ponds has greatly increased the cost of raising fish due to maintenance of the hatchery through continual cleaning of the water system.

Costs have now risen above the maximum for economical operation and far above most other hatcheries in the state.

The hatchery was primarily interested in the salmon run on the Skagit and Baker rivers.