CONCRETE FERRY WILL GO DOWN RIVER TO FIR ISLAND

The Concrete ferry, which has been closed down with the opening of the Dalles bridge, has another job ahead of it before complete retirement. The county commissioners have given the ferry to the state game department for use on the lower Skagit between the mainland and Fir Island.

Continual widening and changing of the South Fork of the river below Conway has made it impractical to put in a bridge to the state game farm on the island. To provide a more reliable method of transportation the department will move the ferry to that point and operate it with winch and cable.

When the Faber ferry is discontinued in about 60 to 90 days, the present plan is to beach it and hold it as an emergency replacement for either the Rockport or Pressentin ferry until such time as these can also be retired.

Retirement of the ferries will start paying dividends to the county in funds saved. Operating costs and salaries run close to $1,000 a month for each ferry.