

THE COURIER-TIMES

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BIDS ON NEW FISH HATCHERY TO OPEN IN APRIL; BUILDING TO BE COMPLETED END OF NEXT YEAR

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Bids will be open the first of April for the construction of the new state game department fish hatchery to be located above Marblemount. Milo Moore, state director of fisheries stated at a meeting of the Sedro-Woolley Wildcat Steelhead club at the American Legion hall here last Friday evening, which was attended by state director of game Don Clarke and other officials. The new, modern hatchery for which land has already been purchased and money appropriated, will be completed by the end of next year, Moore said.

An appropriation of \$129,000, plus an additional grant of \$118,000 recently approved by Governor Wallgren, will assure Skagit county and the northwest one of the

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finest salmon hatcheries possible, it was pointed out. The new plant will have forty 20x80 ft. rearing ponds capable of holding 25,000 salmon fry at the start of operation. When completed the hatchery will be capable of liberating 75,000 fish a year of an average length of five inches.

Land already purchased for the site by the game department includes 76 acres above Marblemount between Jordan and Clark creeks. Another feature of the location is a small landing field for planes near there which has already been used by the state game department.

Included in the fisheries department's new hatchery program is a plant to be constructed at Dungeness, Moore stated. \$110,000 has been appropriated and construction

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is expected to get under way at the same time as the Skagit hatchery.

Marine Biological Station

A salt water biological marine station to be located at Bowman's Bay near Deception Pass is also on the state fisheries construction program, the director of fisheries said. \$165,000 has been appropriated for this work. The proposed salt water biological station is in accord with the fisheries new and energetic program of building up the salt water resources, including plans to increase oyster, lobster, and crab propagation as well as salmon. All types of marine life will be studied with a view to increasing propagation as well as an extensive program of fish culture,