Above is the artist’s view of the state salmon hatchery to be built at Marblemount starting next spring. The building will be 172x46 feet and will be constructed of architectural concrete with a high pitch shake roof.

New Skagit Hatchery Is a Product of Experiments and Scientific Knowledge

Additional details of the construction of the new fish hatchery at Marblemount, have been released by Milo Moore, Director of Fisheries for the State of Washington in a special letter to the Courier-Times.

The hatchery which is intended as a rearing station, from which the Skagit, Nooksack, Stillaguamish Rivers and their tributaries will be stocked, will operate 40 concrete rearing ponds 80 feet long and 20 feet wide. The hatchery building will be 172x46 feet, and will be constructed of architectural concrete with a high pitch shake roof. The water supply, the sources of which will be Clark and Jordan Creeks, will furnish approximately 8,000 gallons of water per minute. Jordan Creek, a cool mountain stream, will furnish the main water supply which will be supplemented by the almost constant temperature spring water of Clark Creek. It will be possible to control the range of temperatures at the rearing ponds by the use of these two sources of water. By means of this control, effects of critical temperatures can be avoided.

Each rearing pond will begin the season with the introduction of 150,000 young salmon. After three months this figure will be gradually reduced to 40,000 fish per pond by planting. The remainder of the fish in the ponds will be kept for a rearing period of one year. The overall capacity of the station will include more than four million fish reared for a period of three months or more, and in addition, approximately a million and a half will be raised and released as yearlings. These fish will be distributed to all Northwest Washington streams where the natural stocks are in need of augmentation.

The Skagit hatchery has evolved as a product of the experiments and scientific knowledge gained by the State Department of Fisheries through years of experience. Actual construction is slated to begin in the spring of 1946, and the entire project will cost approximately $165,000.