



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### INFORMATION SERVICE

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TO CONTINUE SALMON TAGGING WORK IN PACIFIC

Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton announced today that the Fish and Wildlife Service has renewed its contract with the University of Washington to tag salmon in the waters of the north Pacific.

The new contract covers the period July 1, 1957, to June 30, 1958, and is in the amount of \$258,000.

Donald L. McKernan, Director of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, who signed the contract for the Government, said the work is being done on behalf of the United States section of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission created by the treaty of June 12, 1953, among the United States, Canada and Japan.

The University has been working since 1955 on this project to develop basic information on the distribution and migratory pattern of north Pacific salmon.

Facets of the program, in addition to extensive ocean tagging of salmon, include study of the scientific literature as to tags, tag methods and analysis of results; improvement of tags, methods and of fish handling; further development of techniques of distinguishing sex in live tagged fish; studying the distribution of both mature and immature salmon; development of methods of catching fish for tagging and analyzing results and preparing reports.

The contract covers staff, equipment, supplies, and the chartering of three vessels to handle the operation at sea. It also provides that inventions or discoveries of processes, devices and methods conceived and developed as a result of the contract shall become the property of the Government.

Work under the contract will be handled through the regional office of the Fish and Wildlife Service at Portland, Oregon.

The award of 17 other contracts by the Service for special research, biological investigations and economic studies in the commercial fisheries field was announced recently. The 18 contracts involve a total of \$840,600.

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