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LARGE FISH PLANT SET FOR SKAGIT AREA THIS YEAR

Upper Puget Sound hatcheries provided more than a million young salmon for streams in Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom counties for the first quarter plantings in 1954, the Department of Fisheries announced today.

Additional plantings are to be made in the next few weeks to make room for several hundred thousand recently hatched salmon which are ready to transfer to the rearing ponds.

Skagit County streams were given a transfusion of 435,300 yearling silvers and 285,600 pink salmon fingerlings with 1954 plantings from the Samish hatchery north of Burlington and the Skagit hatchery near Marblemount.

Skagit hatchery crews under the direction of Superintendent E. G. Fieher, planted 270,900 yearling silvers and 285,600 pinks from the 1953 brood in the Stillaguamish river and Bacon, Goodell, Illabot, Grandy, Squire, Boulder, French, Day, Jones, Finney and Diobsud creeks. In the rearing ponds awaiting planting are 266,300 yearling silvers with 485,400 spring chinook scheduled for additional rearing while 667,100 1953 silver fry remaining in the hatchery will be transferred soon to the ponds.