



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

Office Memorandum
1/6/53

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1953

FWS ISSUES FISHERY OUTLOOK REPORT FOR FIRST QUARTER OF 1953

Unsettled markets for fishery products during the first quarter of 1953 are predicted in the quarterly outlook report issued today by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Heavy supplies of frozen fishery products are forecast for the January-March period but catches of fish and shellfish will reach their low point for the year during this quarter. These heavy supplies of edible fishery products are expected to create an unsettled market despite the favorable demand situation.

Cold-storage stocks are at record levels this year, exceeding the previous record by nearly one-fifth. These stocks will be heavily drawn upon during the quarter, about half of which is in Lent.

Among fishery by-products, a steady market for fish meal is anticipated, a dull market for fish oils, and a weak market for fish liver oils.

In comparison with the same quarter of 1952, a lower level of exports of fishery products is foreseen in 1953 while imports of fishery products are expected to continue at a very high rate.

The report predicts a strong market for croaker and mackerel; an active market for shad; and a firm or fairly firm market for smelt, red snapper, sea trout, salted and canned herring, canned mackerel, and mild-cured salmon. A steady or fairly steady market is anticipated for fresh and frozen salmon and canned salmon, canned tuna, and sardines.

Firm or fairly firm markets are forecast for lobsters, oysters, and canned oysters, and steady or fairly steady markets for clams, scallops, crabs, canned crab meat, spiny lobster tails, shrimp, and canned shrimp.

Prepared in the Branch of Commercial Fisheries this forecast, sixteenth in the quarterly outlook report series, discusses more than 50 different fishery commodities and is illustrated with some 50 charts.

Copies of "Quarterly Outlook for Marketing Fishery Products, January-March 1953," Fishery Leaflet 336-o, may be obtained from the Division of Information, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D. C.

X X X