

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
5TH COUNCIL, 32ND SESSION**

**SESSIONAL PAPER
NO. 2-32**

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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

SESSIONAL PAPER NO. 2
(First Session, 1966)

GREAT SLAVE LAKE COMMERCIAL FISHERY
COLD STORAGE PLANT

DISPOSITION

Accepted as Read
Amended See Text
Rejected See Text
Deferred See Text
Not Considered.

GREAT SLAVE LAKE COMMERCIAL FISHERY
COLD STORAGE PLANT

In June, 1965, Council asked that "a study be carried out as to the feasibility of establishing a refrigeration plant on Great Slave Lake, perhaps at Hay River, for the purpose of looking after the fish industry".

The Administration informs the Commissioner that they have been working on this matter for over a year in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries.

In 1964, the Economic Service of the Department of Fisheries retained two consultants, Professors Sinclair and Trachtenberg, both Economists at the University of Manitoba, to carry out a study of the problems involved in establishing a regional marketing board, embracing all fish products produced commercially in the N.W.T. This study stemmed from the setting up of the Inter-Governmental Committee to study marketing organization for fresh-water fisheries.

At the request of Northern Administration, Professors Sinclair and Trachtenberg broadened the scope of their investigations to cover the examination of the existing organization and alternate methods of organizing the primary commercial fishery in the Mackenzie District. The study was to include an evaluation of the financing needs of fishermen and the number and types of equipment used or needed in both summer and winter fisheries. As the maintenance of quality is of prime importance to this industry, an analysis of cold storage and freezing requirements was to be included in the study.

The first phase of this study has now been completed, and it is hoped that a preliminary report will be available by the end of the summer of 1965. This will be followed by a detailed study of the summer and winter fisheries in which direct contact will be made with individual fishermen. Because of the consultants' other commitments and the difficulties the Department of Fisheries is experiencing in obtaining staff to assist them, it will not be possible to carry out the summer fishery study this year. Arrangements are now being made to use the services of one of the Branch's area survey officers to assist the consultants on the winter fishery study which will begin about December 1, and to supply the services of another survey officer for assistance on the summer fishery study next year. While this will severely tax the facilities of the area economic survey team in attempting to follow the schedule of the five-year plan of surveys, the Director feels the fishery study is of such importance as to warrant this contribution of services from that staff.

It is hoped that the consultants will have finished their task and that a complete report on this study will be available by the fall of 1966. The Commissioner recommends that Council reserve decision on this matter until the report has been received and studied.