1903 1 Department of Mining and Fisheries 1903 report

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THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES

1903

FISHERIES

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1904

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Petrel was never speedy enough, and of late years fast fishing tugs have been built, which has rendered her very inefficient for the service.

You will see by the above that 1,007 nets were seized, and three tugs. Some of the nets were returned—those on the gasoline tug—and those belonging to the *Star* are still with her. The rest have been sold and—with the exception of a small balance yet to collect—the money placed to the credit of the receiver general of Canada.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,

E. DUNN,
Commanding D. G. S. Petrel.

EXTRACT OF WORK DONE BY THE D. G. F. C. "KESTREL" FOR THE SEASON OF 1903.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 26, 1903.

June 29, started on patrol duty as far north as Lowe Inlet.

On this cruise I notified several cannerymen and cautioned them that they would have to find other means of disposing of their offal besides dumping it on the fishing grounds. This they did at once.

I also notified the proprietor of the saw mill at the head of Rivers Inlet, that he must stop throwing slabs, rubbish and saw dust in the river, under penalty of one hundred dollars fine. They at once closed down and set about to make arrangements for burning the refuse. We also visited other fishing stations but found the law complied with.

July 5, coaled at Nanaimo and proceeded north to Port Simpson, Nass River, Hecate Straits, Queen Charlotte Islands, etc.

On this cruise we located several halibut banks in Hecate Straits and north end of Queen Charlotte Islands, also took a line of soundings around Rose Spit, and located a reef off Redfern Island, now known as Cecil Rock, also rounded up several fishermen for not carrying their licenses with them when fishing, also fined the Oceanic Cannery $10.00, for same offence remitting fine to Mr. Sword, Fishery Inspector. Our presence in these waters also had the effect of the stopping illegal Sunday fishing in Chatham Sound.

From August 3 to 26, on patrol duty between Fraser River and Carmanagh Point. Our presence in these waters at once had the effect of stopping poaching with seining nets along our coast, although we were unable to catch any of the poachers in the act of taking fish. Returning we cruised as far north as Seaforth Channel, locating halibut bank at the north end of Vancouver Island, this bank extends from Quatseno Sound to 51°5′N and eastward to Browning passage, we named this King Fisher Bank after the American steamer of that name operating out of Vancouver which took over 900 tons of fish off this bank alone in four months time.

We also warned several fishermen that if they where caught within the 3 miles limit that they would be seized, and that cleaning their fish and throwing the offal overboard in our harbours must cease at once under penalty of confiscation.

On September 11, took out Chamber of Commerce delegates excursion.

From 13 to 19 cruising in Howe Sound, Malaspina Straits. On this cruise made small survey of coast from Powell River around Grief Point to the small harbour of Froke, also located rock of north end of Texada Island giving correct position of same, also visited all the streams of note where fishing is carried on.