

New Hatchery At Petersburg

PETERSBURG — The new Department of Fish and Game fish hatchery at Petersburg has been completed and is now operational, a department official announced.

Alex McRea, chief of the hatchery section, said that some of the king and coho fry from eggs now incubating at the hatchery will be released in Alaskan streams this spring.

The hatchery, located on Blind Slough below Crystal Lake, uses heated water to accelerate hatching and rearing so that some of the fish may be released in one year instead of two or more years normally required for rearing in Alaska.

Built at a cost of about \$2 million, the hatchery can produce up to four million fish of various sizes each year. About 2.75 million king and coho salmon eggs and fry are now being reared at the hatchery.