Regional Operational Plan No. ROP.SF.4A.2023.02

Integrating Local and Traditional Ecological Knowledge into Anadromous Waters Cataloging and Fish Inventories of select drainages of the Tanana and Yukon rivers 2021-2023

by

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and

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May 2023

Alaska Department of Fish and Game **Divisions of Sport Fish and Commercial Fisheries**

Symbols and Abbreviations

The following symbols and abbreviations, and others approved for the Système International d'Unités (SI), are used without definition in the following reports by the Divisions of Sport Fish and of Commercial Fisheries: Fishery Manuscripts, Fishery Data Series Reports, Fishery Management Reports, and Special Publications. All others, including deviations from definitions listed below, are noted in the text at first mention, as well as in the titles or footnotes of tables, and in figure or figure captions.

Weights and measures (metric)

centimeter	cm
deciliter	dL
gram	g
hectare	ha
kilogram	kg
kilometer	km
liter	L
meter	m
milliliter	mL
millimeter	mm

Weights and measures (English)

cubic feet per second	ft^3/s
foot	ft
gallon	gal
inch	in
mile	mi
nautical mile	nmi
ounce	oz
pound	lb
quart	qt
yard	yd

Time and temperature

day	d
degrees Celsius	°C
degrees Fahrenheit	°F
degrees kelvin	K
hour	h
minute	min
second	s

Physics and chemistry

all atomic symbols	
alternating current	AC
ampere	A
calorie	cal
direct current	DC
hertz	Hz
horsepower	hp
hydrogen ion activity (negative log of)	pH
parts per million	ppm
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰
volts	V
watts	W

General

Alaska Administrative Code	AAC
all commonly accepted abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs., AM, PM, etc.
all commonly accepted professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.
at	@
compass directions:	
east	E
north	N
south	S
west	W
copyright	©
corporate suffixes:	
Company	Co.
Corporation	Corp.
Incorporated	Inc.
Limited	Ltd.
District of Columbia	D.C.
et alii (and others)	et al.
et cetera (and so forth)	etc.
exempli gratia (for example)	e.g.
Federal Information Code	FIC
id est (that is)	i.e.
latitude or longitude	lat or long
monetary symbols (U.S.)	$, ¢
months (tables and figures): first three letters	Jan,...,Dec
registered trademark	®
trademark	™
United States (adjective)	U.S.
United States of America (noun)	USA
U.S.C.	United States Code
U.S. state	use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, WA)

Mathematics, statistics

all standard mathematical signs, symbols and abbreviations	
alternate hypothesis	H_A
base of natural logarithm	*e*
catch per unit effort	CPUE
coefficient of variation	CV
common test statistics	(F, t, χ^2, etc.)
confidence interval	CI
correlation coefficient (multiple)	R
correlation coefficient (simple)	r
covariance	cov
degree (angular)	°
degrees of freedom	df
expected value	*E*
greater than	>
greater than or equal to	≥
harvest per unit effort	HPUE
less than	<
less than or equal to	≤
logarithm (natural)	ln
logarithm (base 10)	log
logarithm (specify base)	log_2, etc.
minute (angular)	′
not significant	NS
null hypothesis	H_O
percent	%
probability	P
probability of a type I error (rejection of the null hypothesis when true)	α
probability of a type II error (acceptance of the null hypothesis when false)	β
second (angular)	″
standard deviation	SD
standard error	SE
variance	
population	Var
sample	var

REGIONAL OPERATIONAL PLAN NO. ROP.SF.4A.2023.02

INTEGRATING LOCAL AND TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE INTO ANADROMOUS WATERS CATALOGING AND FISH INVENTORIES OF SELECT DRAINAGES OF THE TANANA AND YUKON RIVERS 2021-2023

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Signature Page

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Plan Type:	Category I

Approval

Title	Name	Signature	Date
Project leader	Nate Cathcart		5/3/23
Research Coordinator	Kevin Keith		5/15/23

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ABSTRACT

In June, July, August, and September 2022 and July 2023, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Division of Sport Fish, will inventory stream fish assemblages and associated habitats in a 112,122 km^2 study area selected around the lower Tanana River and parts of the Yukon River near the mouth of the Tanana River. Staff identified 796 potential sample sites on small and intermediate sized streams of which we anticipate sampling at least 80 headwater streams and 12 intermediate un-wadeable streams. At each site, prior to electrofishing, crews will collect data describing location, water quality, stream characteristics, aquatic habitat, and riparian vegetation. Fish will be collected primarily using backpack, raft- and jetboat mounted electrofishing equipment, and hook-and-line, minnow traps, and aerial observations will be used as supplemental sampling methods. Anadromous fish assemblage data collected will be used to nominate waters to the State of Alaska's Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes (Anadromous Waters Catalog, AWC), or to update fish life stage information for waters already listed in the AWC. All sampling data will be available via the ADF&G Alaska Freshwater Fish Inventory (AFFI) online mapping application.

Keywords: fish inventory; fish distribution; stream survey; anadromous; Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing of Migration of Anadromous Fishes; Anadromous Waters Catalog; AWC; AFFI; salmon; whitefish; rearing; spawning; electrofishing; Yukon River; Tanana River.

PURPOSE

The State of Alaska is committed to conserving fish and their habitat. Alaska is the only state with a constitutional mandate to maintain sustained yields of fish stocks (ADCCED 2009), and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has a statutory responsibility to manage the use of wild fish stocks for sustained yield (AS 16.05.730(a)). Along with proper management of harvests, protection of fully functioning and connected aquatic habitats is necessary to sustain fish stocks supporting Alaska's commercial, subsistence, and recreational fishing economies.

The state has multiple administrative tools to protect fish habitat. Alaska Statute (AS) 16.05.871 (the Anadromous Fish Act), along with the Fishway Act (AS 16.05.841, which requires that fish passage be maintained in any stream "frequented by salmon or other fish"), constitute Alaska's strongest and most comprehensive instream fish habitat protection standards. Several other Alaska statutes specifically reference fish habitat, including multiple sections in AS 41.17 (Forest Resources and Practices Act) and AS 46.15 (Water Use Act), both administered by the Department of Natural Resources, and AS 46.03.758 (civil penalties for discharges of oil), administered by the Department of Environmental Conservation.

The Anadromous Fish Act requires ADF&G to "specify the various rivers, lakes and streams or parts of them" of the state that are important to the spawning, rearing or migration of anadromous fish. The Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes (AWC) and its associated atlas are the media used to accomplish this specification, and are adopted as regulation under 5 AAC 95.011. Activities and uses conducted in, or otherwise affecting, any AWC listed water bodies (under the Anadromous Fish Act), or fish passage in any fish-bearing waters (under the Fishway Act), require prior approval from the ADF&G Habitat Section (ADF&G Habitat). ADF&G Habitat is responsible for reviewing project plans and specifications submitted by permit applicants. Permitting biologists work closely with permit applicants to ensure that project plans provide for the proper protection of fish habitat. If so, a Fish Habitat Permit is issued to authorize the activity. Permit applications may be denied if impacts to fish or fish habitat cannot be adequately avoided, minimized, or mitigated.

Many other federal, state, and local government policies specify additional protections for anadromous fish habitat in Alaska. Like the Anadromous Fish Act, these only apply to those waters where anadromous fish use is explicitly documented, typically by reference to the AWC. For example, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) identifies Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for Alaska stocks of Pacific Salmon in freshwater by reference to the AWC. Three of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' regional conditions for nationwide permits in Alaska specify additional requirements and restrictions for proposed projects located in or near AWC listed water bodies. Other government policies that protect AWC listed water bodies are found in: state forest management plans; resource management plans for Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands; federal and state regulations specifying waters closed to fishing; and city or borough ordinances.

Comprehensive fish distribution information is required for effective land use, conservation, and restoration planning to identify sensitive and important habitats. State land management plans, such as the Susitna Area Plan, Bristol Bay Area Plan, and the Kenai Peninsula Brown Bear Conservation Strategy, identify management guidelines or specify geographic areas of concern based largely on the known distribution of fish. Watershed and conservation planning efforts also rely heavily on knowledge of fish distributions and aquatic habitat characteristics and their spatial and temporal relationship to other valuable resources (e.g. mineral, timber) and activities (e.g. construction, recreation). Planning for habitat restoration programs, such as fish passage enhancement, is also better informed with access to comprehensive fish distribution information.

Resource developments, such as transportation and utility corridors, are most effectively informed if complete fish distribution data is available at project onset. If comprehensive fish distribution information is provided during project scoping, projects can be designed to avoid habitat impacts; alternatively, the absence of comprehensive fish distribution information can lead to unintended fish habitat impacts.

All these fish habitat conservation authorities and planning processes are limited by the extent of current knowledge of fish habitats and their distribution. The Anadromous Fish Act, along with other federal, state, and local government policies that refer to the AWC, provides protection only to those waters identified in the AWC. Listing new water bodies in the AWC requires site specific, direct, and unambiguous observations of anadromous fish followed by a biological and public review process. Habitat modeling, speculation, or professional judgment is insufficient to add water bodies to the AWC. The state has limited authority to protect undocumented fish habitat.

Previous field inventories have demonstrated significant data gaps in the understanding of Alaskan freshwater fish distribution and habitat characteristics. To address these gaps, the ADF&G Alaska Freshwater Fish Inventory program (AFFI) began focused efforts to identify anadromous waters at a landscape scale in 2002. For example, anadromous cataloging work from 2003-2008 resulted in a 75% increase in the sum of the lengths of AWC listed streams, and a 72% increase in the number of cataloged water bodies in the Nushagak River basin.

To refine fish habitat management in specific waters, resource agencies also need knowledge of local aquatic and riparian habitat characteristics. Since aquatic and riparian habitats vary in their sensitivity to human activities as well as their utility to fishes, these habitats should be well understood when planning or permitting activities. Physical and biological characteristics of riparian and aquatic habitats are important factors in determining appropriate best management practices and mitigation strategies. Documenting habitat characteristics at fish collection reaches also provides baseline information of fish habitat associations.

In response to the above needs, in the summer of 2022, staff will begin the third phase of a planned multi-year project (3-4 years) to conduct a landscape wide, baseline inventory of fish assemblages and associated habitat characteristics in select drainages of the Yukon and Tanana rivers. Prior projects have focused on the upper Yukon and upper Tanana rivers.

This project enables ADF&G, Division of Sport Fish to accomplish objective 1A, under Goal 4 of the Division's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan. The objectives also support the conservation actions of the Alaska Wildlife Action Plan by addressing recommendations for key habitats in Alaska through; data gathering, land and water protection; and habitat work.

OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of the AFFI program is to provide information needed for management of the habitats that support Alaska's freshwater fish.

This project will contribute to that goal by achieving the following objectives:

> Objective 1: To maximize the spatial increase of documented anadromous fish habitats depicted in the AWC within the study area (sampling a minimum 80 headwater target streams, and 12 un-wadeable target streams) not including repeat sampling of select sites to document seasonal presence of some anadromous species.
>
> Objective 2: To use Local Traditional Knowledge (LTK) to maximize the spatial increase of documented anadromous fish habitats depicted in the AWC within the study area while also corroborating and verifying LTK with field surveys.
>
> Objective 3: To record characteristics, using established protocols, of aquatic habitats (including riparian zone) at each sampling location.
>
> Objective 4: To provide the fish distribution and associated aquatic habitat information to State & Federal agencies, participating communities, and the public.

STUDY DESIGN

STUDY AREA

The study area was selected for fish inventory fieldwork based upon: expected gaps in AWC coverage; human activities and infrastructure potentially affecting fish habitat; land conservation status; stipulations related to funding source objectives; and practical considerations of helicopter fuel ranges and time needed to conduct sampling.

2022-2023 STUDY AREA

A 112,122 km^2 study area was delineated around watershed subbasins in the lower Tanana River and the adjacent stretch of the Yukon River where the Tanana River joins (Figure 1; Table 1). A private lodging facility in Tanana, AK will serve as the project's base camp during August 2022 sampling. Additionally, seasonal boat sampling before and after the primary field season will involve remote camping by crews along the Tanana River. Other seasonal or opportunistic trips will base out of Fairbanks, Nenana, and Manley Hot Springs. Following the methods outlined in the Target Streams section of this document, a set of potential target streams were identified within the study area.

The Yukon and Tanana rivers were identified by the AFFI program as a high priority area due to the limited number of fish surveys in this region, the importance of Yukon fish resources to local & distant communities, and the number of water bodies not already in the AWC. As was mentioned above, the study area was, for logistical purposes, delineated primarily based upon proximity to the most accommodating field bases identified in the study area. A list of the subbasins was identified to encapsulate the study area, potential field bases, and the associated target streams (Table 1).

LOCAL AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE INTERVIEWS

This collaborative project is designed to contribute to the AWC using social and biological methods. Prior to field work, a YRDFA (Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association) anthropologist and ADF&G staff will contact the Tribal Councils of Tanana, Manley Hot Springs, and Nenana to schedule community meetings (in-person or online, as able) and ethnographic interviews between late spring 2021 and spring 2022. Tribal councils will identify residents to interview, and interviewees will be presented with a $100 honorarium. These interviews and mapping activities will establish what is known about the timing and distribution of resident and anadromous fishes and create maps that can be overlain on the AWC with other AFFI site selection criteria to identify streams to sample the following year. The next year, project staff will seek to verify LTK surveys and add to the AWC through seasonal sampling. Sites within the study area that are identified as being anadromous fish rearing from LTK surveys and currently unlisted in the AWC will be prioritized for verification.

TARGET STREAMS

Using ArcMap, project staff defined 2 size classes for sampling points based on upstream drainage (catchment) area: headwater streams and un-wadeable streams. Headwater sites drain a 50 km^2 catchment. Un-wadeable streams drain a 200 km^2 catchment. From these 2 size stream classes, downstream points are created (referred to hereafter as the 50 and 200 km^2 pour points), which are used as sample sites and prioritized as described below. In addition to these two stream size classes, 1500 km^2 pour points are defined, which are used as potential main stem river sample sites. The majority of 1500 km^2 pour points are on water bodies already listed in the AWC, so they tend to have a low priority when compared to the 50 and 200 km^2 pour points. However, there are circumstances where the 1500 km^2 pour points are not located in existing AWC streams or are in locations where it's in a more practical location or terrain to sample, and there is potentially valuable fish presence data in those waters. It is for this reason we include them as a potential sample site with the other un-wadeable sample sites (200 km^2 pour points), and if possible, they will be sampled with the cataraft in the same manner as the 200 km^2 pour point sample sites.

Table 1.–List of subbasins with target sites in 2022.

Subbasin name	HUC	Area (km2)
Nenana River	19080308	10,124
Kantishna River	19080310	18,375
Tanana Flats-Tanana River	19080307	15,849
Nowitna River	19090202	18,556
Lower Tanana River	19080311	11,933
Klatsuta River-Yukon River	19090204	6,660
Tolovana River	19080309	8,926
Tozitna River	19090201	4,217
Melozitna River	19090203	7,040
Ramparts-Yukon River	19080404	10,441

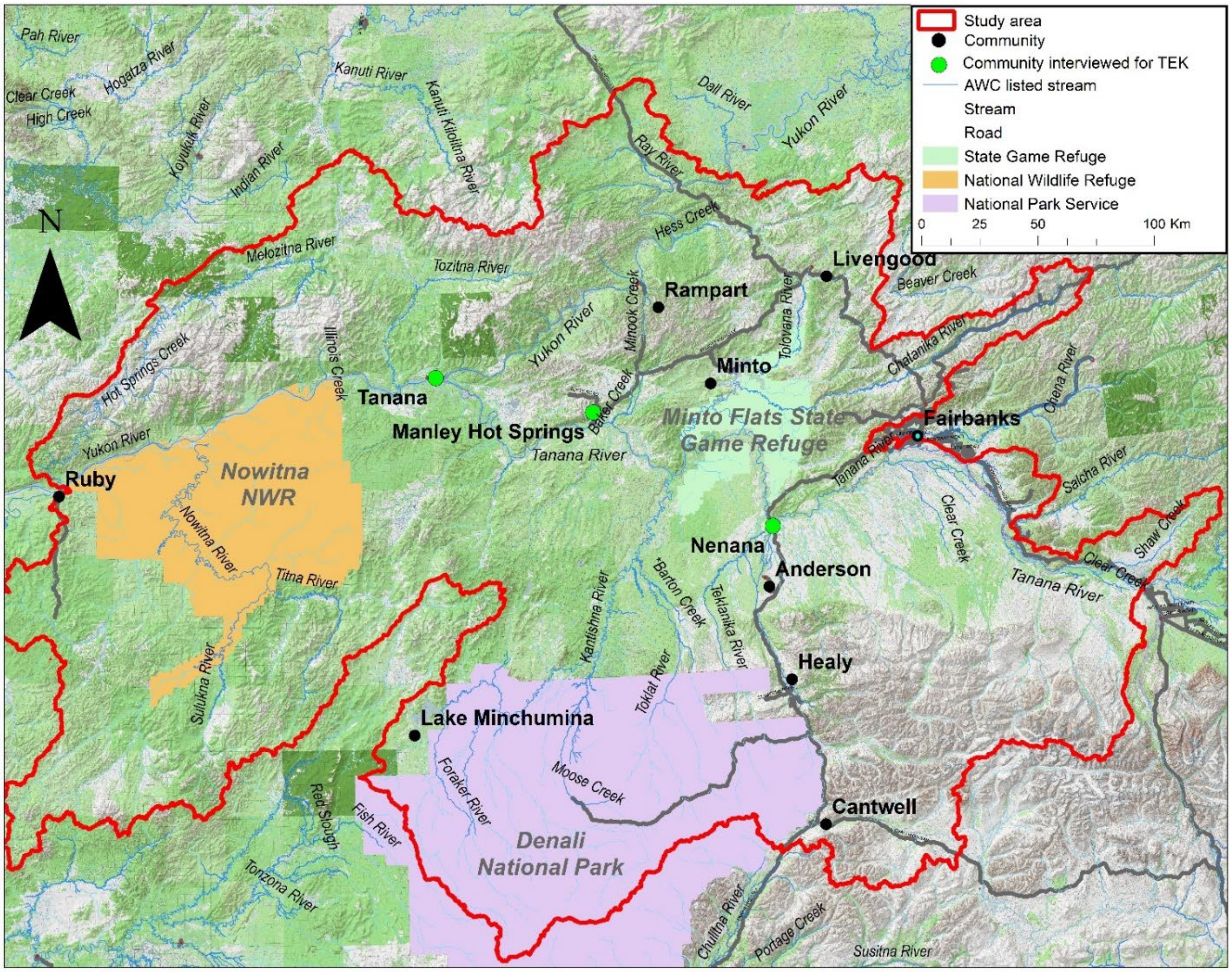

Figure 1.–AFFI 2022-2023 study area map and conservation units.

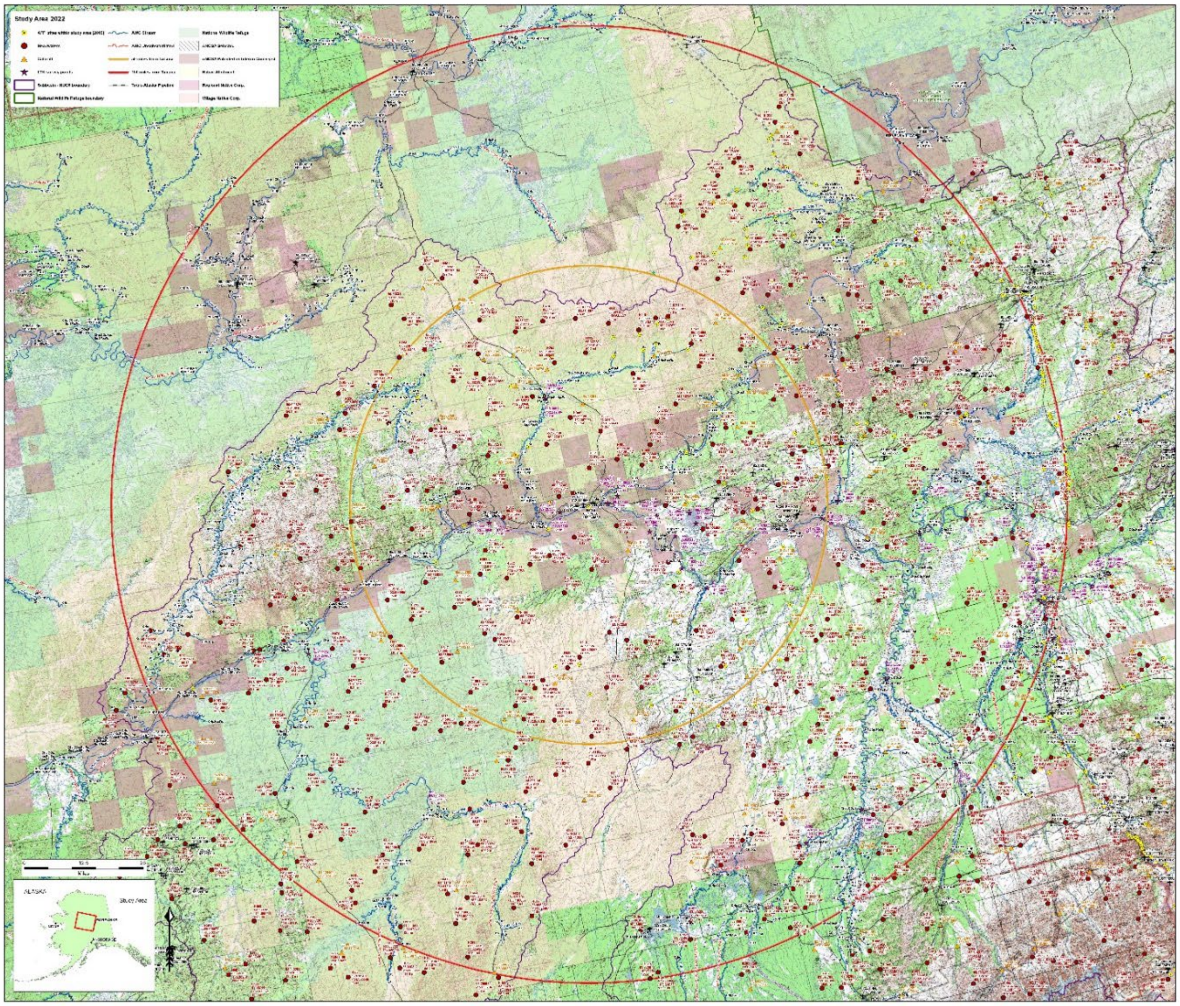

Figure 2.–Study area with potential sites and helicopter ranges relative to Tanana base camp.

HEADWATER STREAMS

At least one headwaters team (Team C) transported by a Robinson R-44 helicopter will visit headwater target streams throughout the study area for a total of 15 field days. From previous experience, staff anticipate Team C will have time to sample at least 6 target streams per day, which would allow for at least 90 site visits that would surpass our project's goal of 80 target headwater streams. Many headwater sample sites will likely be deemed unsuitable by the crew leader in the field, either due to the lack of a suitable helicopter landing zone, the lack of suitable fish habitat, or the presence of an obvious fish passage barrier downstream.

To maximize the length of previously uncatalogued anadromous fish habitat documented by Team C, we ranked each headwater target stream by the length of stream located between the upstream terminus of AWC coverage, and the point along the stream where the upstream watershed area first reached 50 km^2. We do not understand enough about the ecological factors that may limit anadromous fish distribution in the study area to include additional calculable criteria (e.g., valley gradient, geology) in our target stream selection process.

Headwater target streams were originally identified and ranked using the following GIS based protocol:

1. All 50 km^2 pour points within the study area were plotted.
2. Any already listed in the AWC were deleted.
3. Any that we already surveyed were deleted.
4. Any located upstream of known fish-migration barriers were deleted or shifted downstream of the barrier.
5. The length of stream from each 50 km^2 pour point downstream to the upper terminus of AWC coverage, or (in its absence) saltwater, was measured and recorded using an ESRI ArcInfo script. Where more than one 50 km^2 pour point draining to the same AWC terminus was identified, we determined which pour point had the longest flow path downstream to the AWC terminus and recorded the length of that flow path. Then we recorded the length of the next longest flow path measured only to the confluence with the longest flow path determined in the previous iteration. This step was repeated until a flow path length was recorded for each 50 km^2 pour point that shared a common downstream AWC upper terminus. This assures high ranking pour points are distributed across subbasin and watershed boundaries and not concentrated within subbasins.
6. To rank the pour points, we sorted them in descending order by their recorded flow path length, and sequentially numbered them from 1 to n.

Once the original 632 headwater target sites were ranked, the top 150 were selected for the project, with some additional considerations. To more fully inventory species presence in areas of elevated environmental concern, target sites were also included and prioritized in the case of: previously surveyed sites that, based on survey notes and professional judgment, were deemed to have high potential to be anadromous fish habitat; unsubstantiated AWC streams in the study area; and input of regional biologists.

UN-WADEABLE STREAMS

One river boat team (Team A) transported by a 18-foot jet outboard motorboat will visit un-wadeable target streams throughout the study area for a total of 13 field days in addition to the approximate 7 days of sampling expected in both June and September. For logistical reasons, Team A will aim to sample at least 1 un-wadeable stream per field day, consisting of multiple sample reaches, for a total of up to 17 un-wadeable streams sampled. However, the number of sites visited by Team A will likely be much higher given the fact that the boat will allow them to access smaller tributaries at their mouths. Opportunistically, when crew size allows during sampling periods based in Tanana during August 2022, one cataraft team (Team D) will visit small, more remote, un-wadeable streams in the study area for up to 5 days.

Using the same methods described above for selecting and ranking headwater target streams, candidate un-wadeable streams were ranked and the top 50 were selected for the project. Some of our candidate target streams will likely be deemed unsuitable by the crew leader in the field, especially locations that may present unsafe rafting conditions due to woody debris or large rapids, locations above fish migration barriers and locations with no suitable helicopter landing zone.

Identifying more target sites than can be sampled during the planning phase allows for numerous back-up sampling locations should some circumstance prevent sampling of the original top-ranked target sample sites.

METHODS

WAYPOINTS AND STATIONS

At each target stream sample site, we will mark a waypoint at the habitat transect using a handheld GPS receiver (Garmin GPSMAP 60CSx or 76S). This point location will be referred to as the station. If fish sampling is attempted, staff will also mark additional GPS waypoints at the upstream and downstream ends of any fish collection reach. If a fish collection reach is established in the absence of a habitat transect (e.g., when crews observe an aggregation of adult fish spread throughout a stream segment from the helicopter), staff will refer to the upstream terminus of the fish collection reach as the station. Staff may also establish a station at sites with no habitat transect and no fish collection reach; for instance, target streams lacking a suitable landing zone, target streams deemed unlikely to support anadromous or resident fish species, target streams deemed inaccessible, un-wadeable or un-raftable, and waterfalls or other definite barriers to fish movement.

Staff will assign a unique 5-character alphanumeric identifier (Station ID) to each station. Any observations recorded in the project database must be associated with a Station ID. The structure of the Station ID will be:

1. The first 2 characters will represent the sequential survey day (e.g.,01,02…)
2. The third character will represent the team making the observation (e.g., A, B,). For this project, the cataraft team will be designated Team A and the headwater team will be designated as Team C.
3. The fourth and fifth characters (e.g.,01, 02,) will represent the sequential station number visited on a given survey day. Note that the station number (4th and 5th characters of the Station ID) will begin at 01 at the start of each survey day.

For example, station 04A01 will be the 1st station visited by Team A on the 4th field day.

Data pertaining to this project will be housed in the AFFI programs master database under a unique project code (FSYK20) for all sampling completed between during the 20-day field effort, and any subsequent follow-up surveys. The combination of Project Code and Station ID will therefore ensure a universally unique identifier for each station.

See Table 2 for a list of geographic information variables to be recorded at each sample site.

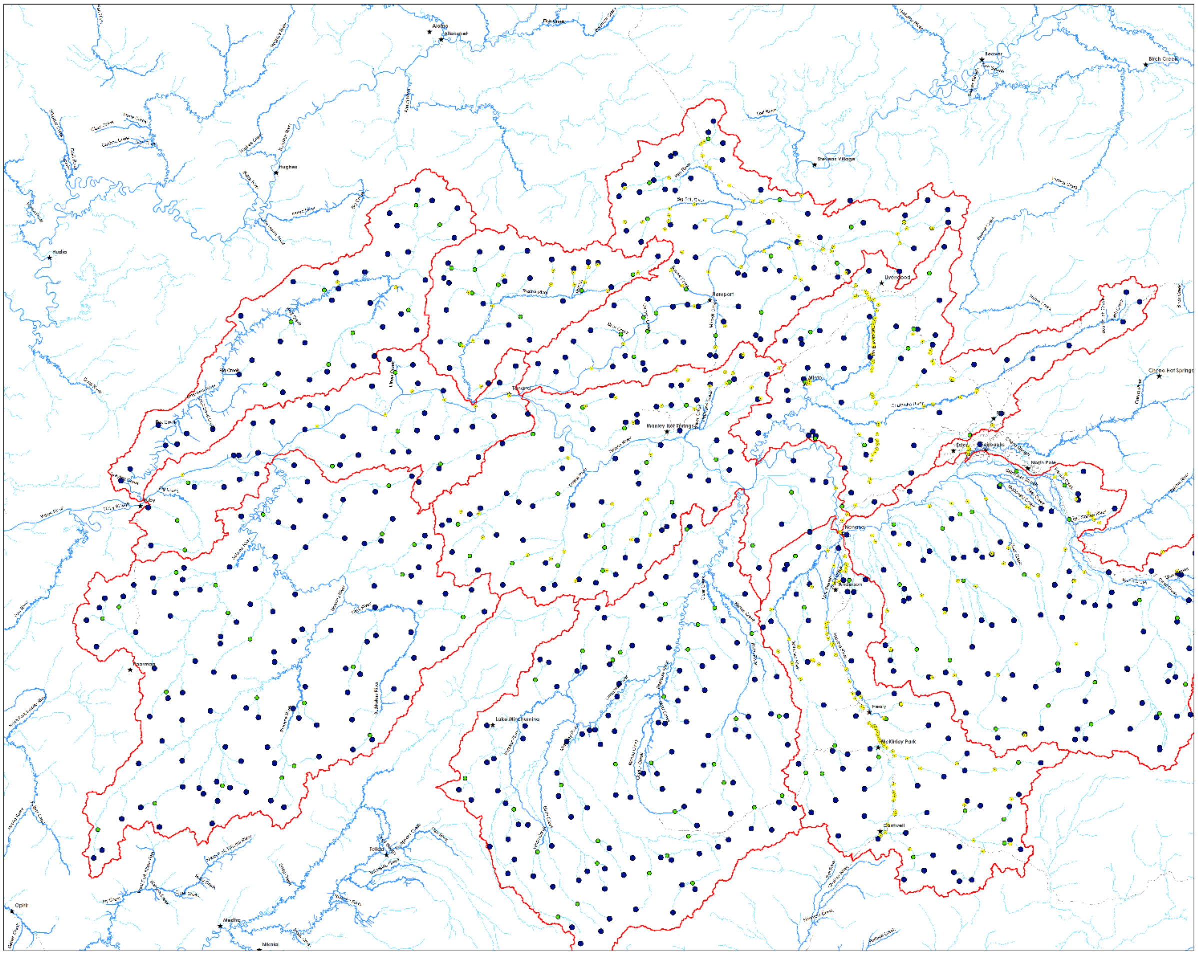

Figure 3.–2022 study area and target stream map, yellow circles are sites with records in the AFFI database, black circles are potential headwater sites for backpack electrofishing, and green circles are potential un-wadeable sites for raft electrofishing.

FISH-COLLECTION REACHES

Sampling sufficiency and site selection

Headwater Streams

Since collecting all species of the local fish assemblage is the primary task, we will be sampling for fish species richness. According to Temple and Pearsons (2007), when species richness is the primary variable of interest, linear sampling distances should be based on multiples of wetted channel width (CW). Several recent studies have estimated the amount of stream length that should be sampled to capture most (typically 90-95%) of the species present in a stream reach. Based on studies (i.e., Patton et al. 2000, Reynolds et al. 2003, Temple and Pearsons 2007) from regions with similarly low species richness as in Alaska, we have previously selected a standard minimum reach length of 40 CW for headwater target streams. This standard has been in place during AFFI projects since the 2003 field season.

To ensure adequate sampling effort occurs in the smallest headwater target streams, and to avoid spending an excessive amount of time in the largest headwater target streams, 40 CW fish collection reaches in headwater streams will be limited to a length of 150–300 m. This range of reach lengths is consistent with the National Water Quality Assessment Program (NAWQA) protocols for sampling fish communities (Fitzpatrick et al. 1998) and with recommendations developed for small Wyoming streams (Patton et al. 2000). Thus, in headwater target streams having a wetted width < 3.75 m, actual reach length will exceed 40 CW; and in headwater target streams having a wetted width > 7.5 m, reach length will be less than 40 CW.

Individual fish collection reaches in headwater target streams will be selected in the field by the Team C crew leader during slow, low-altitude helicopter reconnaissance. Target stream reconnaissance will generally begin at the 50 km^2 pour point (Appendix C1) and proceed up the mainstem. As the helicopter flies upstream at altitudes and speeds sufficiently low to allow adequate visual inspection, the crew leader will evaluate the stream, paying particular attention to water flow, gradient, and barriers to fish passage.

The crew leader will select a fish collection reach meeting the following criteria:

1. a reach at or near the apparent upstream limit of anadromous fish distribution;
2. a reach where the crew leader anticipates anadromous fish could be present, based on observable characteristics including: fish observed from the air; stream substrate; velocity; juxtaposition of aquatic habitat types; known seasonal variation in instream flow; and accumulated experience in evaluating the presence of anadromous fish in adjacent and similar water bodies;
3. a safe helicopter landing site within a 5-minute walk of the selected reach, and;
4. where prior approval to access private, native, military, or municipal lands has been provided.

In some cases, the crew leader may judge that the target stream is not likely to provide anadromous fish habitat or significant resident species, and that the objective of maximizing the increase in length of AWC listed anadromous fish habitats would be better served by devoting effort to another stream. In such cases, the crew leader will designate a Station ID, take an aerial photograph(s) of the target stream, takes notes on what informed the decision, and then direct the pilot to the next target stream.

If anadromous fish are collected from a reach, and in the absence of migratory barriers upstream, additional upstream sampling may be conducted at the discretion of the crew leader. Likewise, if no anadromous fish were collected from a reach, the crew leader may select another fish collection reach further downstream. These options will be weighed against the need to visit other higher priority target streams.

Un-wadeable Streams

Recent analysis of prior (2007-2010) AFFI fish collections indicate that single pass electrofishing in a standard 40 CW reach typically underestimates true species richness in the larger un-wadeable streams of Western and Interior Alaska (Buckwalter et al. 2012). Therefore, to better ensure that all common species of the extant fish assemblage in un-wadeable target streams are detected, Team A will sample a minimum of 12 (or as many as can be sampled in the time available on site) spatially sequential subreaches. Each subreach will be equivalent in length to 10 CW of the target stream. Additional subreaches will be sampled until no new fish species are recorded from 6 consecutive subreaches.

Prior to landing at an un-wadeable target stream, the cataraft team will generally travel by helicopter to the 200 km^2 pour point associated with each target stream (Appendix C2) then proceed slowly and at low altitude upstream from there. As the helicopter travels along the target stream, the crew leader will evaluate the channel's aquatic habitat, paying attention to water flow, gradient, barriers to fish passage, and any potential rafting hazards (e.g., rapids, sweepers, falls). The crew leader will select a segment of the target stream for the day's float meeting the following criteria:

1. a segment that can be safely floated in a day;
2. a segment where the crew leader anticipates anadromous fish may be present, based on observable characteristics including: fish observed from the air; stream substrate; velocity; juxtaposition of aquatic habitat types; known seasonal variation in instream flow; and accumulated experience in evaluating the presence of anadromous fish in adjacent and similar water bodies;
3. a safe helicopter landing zone within a 5-minute walk of the stream at both the upstream (put-in) and anticipated downstream (take-out) ends of the segment;
4. where prior approval to access private, native, military, or municipal lands has been provided (unless both landing zones and the reach are accessible within the bounds of the ordinary high-water level, in which case no access permission is needed, except for sites located within restricted military land or airspace).

FISH COLLECTION

A primary project objective is to sample the entire fish assemblage in each target stream. While it is usually best to use multiple gear types to get a more representative sample of the fish assemblage, logistical constraints affect the practical ability to use a variety of gear types. To achieve this objective in a large number of remote streams in a short amount of time, it was decided to rely primarily on one fish collection method. Single pass electrofishing was chosen because 1) electrofishing is considered to be the single most effective (Barbour et al. 1999, Simon and Sanders 1999, Flotemersch and Blocksom 2005) and widely applicable (Hughes et al. 2002) method in streams and rivers, 2) electrofishing typically captures more species with less size selectivity than other gear types (Hendricks et al. 1980), 3) electrofishing is a relatively safe method for biologists and captures fishes with minimal mortality or injury (Curry et al. 2009), 4) long reaches can be sampled relatively quickly (Curry et al. 2009); 5) electrofishing equipment is compact and portable, and 6) electrofishing is recommended as a standard fish sampling method for cold-water fishes in streams and rivers (Bonar et al. 2009). AFFI standardized our electrofishing effort by adopting a systematic protocol to identify sample site locations, determining electrofishing reach length as relating to wetted CW, and using standardized electrofisher power outputs (Appendix A1, A2, and A3).

Since electrofishing tends to be size selective, with larger fish being more vulnerable to capture (reviewed by Reynolds 1996), smaller fish species and life stages are likely to be underrepresented in our catch. Furthermore, large fish are more likely to be seen and counted than small or cryptic species. Small or cryptic fish are only likely to be observed if mobilized toward the anode; however, large fish and their carcasses are typically easier to observe and count, even if they remain beyond the electrical field. Therefore, our results should not be used to infer absolute or relative abundance of fishes.

Project staff understand that some fish may be injured or killed as a direct or indirect result of selecting electrofishing power output settings high enough to capture members of the entire fish assemblages. Since our sampling efforts will be restricted to single pass electrofishing, representing a very small fraction of a given target stream's length; this project is not expected to significantly affect fish populations. For example, Kocovsky et al. (1997) found no population level effects in salmonids after 8 years of repeat electrofishing in three Colorado streams.

Single pass electrofishing will be the principal fish collection method, supplemented on a limited basis by other gear types (i.e., hook-and-line, dip net, minnow trapping, or visual observations) where appropriate. To determine where to end each electrofishing reach, crew members will use a handheld, consumer grade GPS unit (Garmin GPS Map 60CSx or 76S) in trip computer mode to measure the distance traveled from the starting point. The GPS unit will be configured to record a track point in short intervals and the waypoints and track log will be saved daily.

Crews will follow electrofishing protocols (Appendix A) to minimize stress to fish, maintain crew safety, and standardize sampling efforts between target streams. Team C will use a Smith-Root model LR24 or Apex battery powered backpack electrofisher, and Team A will use a Smith-Root model GPP 2.5 gas generator powered electrofisher. We carefully choose electrofisher output settings to minimize trauma to fish and will generally cease electrofishing in the vicinity of any observed large (>300 mm) salmonids, except to collect individuals to confirm species identification.

All collected fish will be identified to species and measured to fork length [measured from tip of snout to fork of tail (or to tip of tail, if no fork)] at the nearest millimeter (mm). Field reference books (e.g., Pollard et al.1997), or copies of appropriate pages from desk references (e.g., Mecklenburg et al.2002; Morrow 1980) and other materials containing species descriptions, ranges, and identification keys will be available and consulted, as necessary. If a species cannot be confidently identified in the field, crews will photograph the specimen, record the observations under a higher taxonomic level (e.g., genus or family name) in the database, and retain a voucher specimen(s) fixed in a 10% formalin solution. Entries for unknown or uncertain species will be annotated in the appropriate comment field with the best guess at identification. At the first opportunity, the voucher specimens and photographs will be examined and identified to species, and the corresponding records in the database updated.

If spawning by a given species is not directly observed, but the crew leader suspects (based on indirect evidence such as external morphological characteristics, behavior, condition, expression of gametes when handled, or presence of newly emerged young) the species likely spawns within or near the study reach, "suspected spawning" will be recorded in the database for the given species. In addition to recording fish that are collected, we also will record counts or estimates (by species and life stage) of additional fish detected, but not collected. We will document any definite barriers to fish passage (Appendix B3).

Up to 30 fish of each species and life stage will be measured from each reach for Team C, and from each subreach for Team A. Any additional fish captured or seen will be identified and counted. Where more than 30 fish of a given species and life stage are collected, in order to avoid biased sampling of fish to be measured, we will measure every nth fish removed from the bucket, where the value of n is the estimated number of fish of a given species and life stage collected, divided by 30. For each fish, we will record species (Appendix B5), life stage (Appendix B1), life history (i.e., anadromous, resident, unknown), and anomalies in fish appearance or condition (Appendix B2; McCormick and Hughes 1998). Where life stage cannot be determined by external features, we will use fork length thresholds identified in Appendix B1 to classify fish into life stage categories. Injuries due to sampling will be noted in the comments field. Bruising (blackening, usually following the myomeres) may result from electrofishing, and may be accompanied by spinal injury that may not be visible externally. We will minimize voltage and pulses-per-second (pps) when electrofishing to avoid unnecessary stress and injury to fish. If fish die while being captured or in the recovery tank, we will note the mortality in the comments field.

After being identified, measured, and allowed a period of recuperation, all fish (except specimens to be retained for further study) will be released. Specimens to be retained include:

- Those needed to confirm species identification.
- Those requested by Andrés López (Curator of Fishes, University of Alaska Museum, Fairbanks), we will retain (in 10% formalin solution) up to 10 (from the entire study area or each major drainage) voucher specimens (<300 mm-long specimens only) representing each fish species collected. Before storing these specimens in formalin, we will take from each specimen a right-side pectoral fin clip and store it in a uniquely- numbered vial with 95% ethanol—one clip per vial. We will label each whole retained specimen with a pre-numbered tag attached to the right operculum with a zip tie. Each individual fin clip retained for this task will be placed in a separate pre-numbered vial. Tag numbers and vial numbers will be recorded on a datasheet for each individual fish. For specimens >200 mm, we will make an incision through the peritoneum before placing in formalin.

See Table 2 for a list of variables associated with fish collection events and that will be recorded at each study site.

Table 2.–List of variables to be collected during fieldwork.

Variable name	Equipment	Units/Domain	Precision	Comment
Geographic information				
Project code & station ID		Text	-	5-digit alphanumeric—see Waypoints and Visits heading in text.
Station location	consumer-grade GPS unit (e.g. Garmin GPSmap 60CSx or 76S)	Decimal degrees:	0.00001 degrees	
Upper end of reach		Latitude (DD.DDDDD); longitude (-DDD.DDDDD)	0.01 m	
Lower end of reach			0.1%	
Geodetic datum		Text	-	Default is NAD83.
Water-body name	Water-body name from USGS topo map	text	-	
Geographic comments	-	Text	-	Describes location of study site in relation to adjacent long-term or permanent geographic features
Observers	-	List of field staff	-	
Date/time	Field notebook computer	mm/dd/yyyy hh:mm:ss	1 s	Value input automatically from computer's clock when data entry is begun
Camera counter	-	Sequential integers	-	List of photo filenames (last 3 digits only) associated with each station
Visit comments	-	Text	-	Physical and biological conditions at the station during the visit—focus on ephemeral conditions, such as weather or stream conditions, or the dynamics of riparian conditions, that may help explain other recorded observations
Wildlife comments	-	Text	-	Anecdotal wildlife observations, particularly those that relate to fish.
Water quality				
Water temperature	Hanna pen and/or Vernier meter	°C	0.01 °C	Sample thalweg
pH		pH units	0.01 pH units	Sample thalweg
Dissolved oxygen		mg/L	0.01 mg/L	Sample thalweg
Conductivity		µS/cm	1 µS/cm	Ambient conductivity (not temperature corrected). Sample thalweg
Turbidity	Oakton turbidimeter NTU	1 NTU		Sample thalweg
Water color	-	See Appendix B4	-	

Table 2.–Page 2 of 4.

Variable name	Equipment	Units/Domain	Precision	Comment
Channel morphology				
Channel width (wetted and BF)	30-m fiberglass tape	m	0.1 m	In wadeable channels < 30 m wide
	laser range finder (Bushnell Yardage Pro)	m	1 m	In un-wadeable channels, or where width > 30 m
Thalweg depth (wetted and BF)	handheld sonar (HawkEye Digital Sonar) and clinometer (to find the BF level)	m	0.1 m	For un-wadeable channels
	graduated rod	m	0.01 m	All teams—wadeable channels
Stream gradient	clinometer (Sokkia 5x magnifying abney level with clinometer, or Suunto PM-5)	%	0.1%	Water surface angle between consistent channel features near habitat transect.
Substrate composition	-	see Appendix B4	-	3 most dominant substrate classes within scoured portion of streambed in a 5-CW (<100 m) section centered on habitat transect.
Embeddedness category		see Appendix B4	-	Estimated embeddedness of gravel, cobble, and boulder particles in, or as near to as possible, the thalweg in a 5-CW (<100 m) section centered on the habitat transect.
Entrenchment ratio category	Visual estimate or laser range finder (floodprone width), and see channel width (BF)	1.0–1.4=entrenched; 1.41–2.2=moderately-entrenched; >2.2=slightly-entrenched	-	Entrenchment ratio (Rosgen 1994) = flood-prone width ÷ BF width. Flood-prone width is the width of the floodplain measured at a water level of twice the thalweg BF depth.
Channel type	see Channel width, Thalweg depth and Stream gradient	Rosgen (1994) level-II channel types, plus the following: Lake/Pond; Slough; Beaver pond complex; Wetland; or No defined channel	-	To be determined in the office following fieldwork based on BF width and BF depth (width-to-depth ratio), gradient, entrenchment ratio, dominant substrate, and estimated sinuosity values.
Valley type	Visual estimate	Rosgen (1994) level-II valley types.		To be determined in the office following field work based upon site observations, photos and Imagery.
Stream flow				
Stream stage	-	see Appendix B4	-	Water level relative to BF stage.
48-hour precipitation	-	none/trace, moderate, heavy	-	

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Table 2.–Page 3 of 4.

Variable name	Equipment	Units/Domain	Precision	Comment
Stream flow (continued)				
Thalweg velocity	Transparent velocity-head rod (TVHR)	Head depth (mm)→mean water column velocity (m/s)	1 mm (0.1 m/s)	Wadeable streams, depth <0.9 m
	Whole orange, fiberglass tape, stopwatch	m/s	0.1 m/s	Wadeable streams (alternate). Timed orange float through a 6-m length.
	consumer-grade GPS unit (Garmin GPSmap 60CSx or 76S)	m/s	0.1 m/s	Nonwadeable streams—maximum sustained GPS velocity of boat drifting in thalweg.
Meter type	-	TVHR, orange, or GPS	-	
Riparian vegetation communities				
Riparian vegetation composition	-	Viereck et al. (1992) vegetation communities	-	Dominant vegetation community recorded in 8 zones (4 zones on each bank): 0-5 m (from OHW); 5-10 m; 10-20 m; 20-30 m
Canopy height	graduated rod (< 1.5 m); clinometer & range finder (> 1.5 m)	m	0.1 m (< 1.5 m); 0.5 m (>1.5 m)	Recorded for each of the 8 zones described above
Disturbance	-	see Appendix B7	-	
Fish-collection events				
Channel	-	main-, side-, or off-channel	-	Channel type of fish-collection event
Fish-collection method	-	backpack electrofisher, boat electrofisher, visual observations (ground, boat, or helicopter), dipnet, angling, none	-	
Waveform	electrofisher setting	DC-pulsed; DC-unpulsed	-	
Voltage		V	1 V	(LR-24 only)
Range		Low or High	-	(GPP 2.5 only)
Percent of range		0–100 %	Continuous	(GPP 2.5 only)
Frequency		pulses per second (pps)	1 pps	
Duty cycle		%	1%	(LR-24 and Apex only)
Current	electrofisher output meter	A	0.01 A (LR-24); 0.1 A (GPP 2.5)	Peak current (LR-24); average current (GPP 2.5)
Power	electrofisher output meter	W	1 W	Peak power (LR-24 only)
Electrofisher on-time	electrofisher timer	s	1 s	
Efficiency	-	excellent, good, fair, poor	-	Perceived electrofishing efficiency, relative to optimal conditions.

-continued-

Table 2.–Page 4 of 4.

Variable name	Equipment	Units/Domain	Precision	Comment
Catch				
Reach length	GPS (trip computer mode, or track)	m	1 m	Indicate actual length of fish-collection reach, measured by GPS.
Species	-	list of Alaskan freshwater fish species	-	
Life stage	-	see Appendix B1	-	
Life history	-	anadromous, freshwater-resident, marine, unknown, N/A	-	
Suspect spawning	-	yes, no	-	
Barrier	-	see Appendix B3	-	
Fork length	fish measuring board	mm	1 mm	
Sex	-	male, female, blank (if sex was not determined)	-	
Anomalies	-	see Appendix B2	-	
Retained	-	Checkbox (Y/N)	-	Indicate each individual fish retained.
Tag No.	-	10-digit alphanumeric text	-	For retained specimens, indicate the tag number affixed to each fish.
Vial No.	-	10-digit alphanumeric text	-	If a tissue sample was taken, indicate the vial number.
Photo No.	Digital camera	3-digit positive integer	1	For each fish photographed, indicate the photo number (last 3 digits of the photo filename) for each photo taken. May use comma or hyphen to separate non-sequential photo numbers or indicate a range of photo numbers.
Individual fish comments	-	text	-	Comments pertaining to an individual fish (e.g., sampling injuries or mortalities, unusual features or behavior)
Additional counts	-	integer--no. of fish	1 fish	
Estimated	-	yes, no	-	Indicates whether the no. of additional fish recorded above was an estimate or a direct count
Species-life-stage comments	-	text	-	Comments pertaining to an entire group of fish of the same species and life stage

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Fish collection protocols for headwater streams

See Appendix A1 for detailed fish collection protocols for Headwater streams.

After establishing a habitat transect location (station) and determining the location of the fish collection reach relative to the station (i.e., upstream, downstream, or at the habitat station), Team C will multiply the wetted CW by 40 to calculate the reach length to be sampled. A minimum reach length of 150 m will be sampled in target streams having a wetted CW < 3.75 m, and a maximum reach length of 300 m will be sampled in target streams having a wetted CW > 7.5 m.

The backpack electrofishing system to be used in headwater target streams is a Smith-Root LR-24 or Smith-Root Apex fitted with a standard Smith-Root rattail cathode (a 10-ft length of braided, 3/16-in stainless steel cable with the connected end insulated with a 6-ft length of neoprene) and a single anode pole having a standard (3/8-in diameter stock) Smith-Root 28-cm (11-in) diameter stainless steel anode ring.

By default, Team C will begin electrofishing with an unpulsed direct current (DC) waveform, but may switch to pulsed DC if necessary, to extend battery life or improve electrofishing efficiency. To avoid exposing fish to more harmful higher pulse frequencies, if pulsed DC is used, pulse frequency may not exceed 50 pps. A minimum electrofisher on-time of 300 seconds per reach will be required to ensure an adequate minimum level of electrofishing effort.

While collecting fish, the electrofisher operator should move in an upstream direction, zigzagging between the banks, sampling all accessible habitat types, with an emphasis on cover (e.g., large substrate elements, large wood, debris piles, undercut banks, aquatic macrophyte beds, overhanging vegetation). A second crewmember will follow closely, collecting fish with a fiberglass handled dip net. While walking back downstream to the start of the reach, we will electrofish the thalweg and pools as described in Appendix A1.

At the end of the reach, fish will be processed according to the protocol detailed in Appendix A4, and electrofisher settings and fish observations will be recorded in the database.

Fish collection protocols for un-wadeable streams

After arriving at the upstream terminus of each fish collection reach, Team A will measure the wetted CW of the channel in a straight, representative glide channel unit and multiply by 10 to calculate the subreach length. The reach will comprise a minimum of 12 consecutive subreaches (with observations recorded separately for each subreach), with additional subreaches added as necessary until no new species are detected in 6 consecutive subreaches (or as many subreaches as can be completed in 1 day).

In un-wadeable target streams, Team A will use a 18-ft river boat with a Smith-Root GPP 2.5 generator powered electrofisher and control box, an anode system comprised of 2 Smith-Root SAA-6 adjustable spider array electrodes, each having 6 stainless steel dropper cables (38-in long, 3/16-in diameter), suspended from 2 booms [Smith-Root light-duty fiberglass booms (p/n 06248) extending out over the bow, and a cathode system consisting of 18 braided stainless steel dropper cables (38-in long; 3/16-in diameter) bolted directly to the forward platform. While electrofishing, a driver at the center console will maneuver the boat whilst a netter is perched at the lean bar and operates the electricity with a pedal.

In un-wadeable target streams, Team D cataraft (Outcast model PAC 1200 frame with custom tubes) measuring 13-ft long and 65-in wide, with a load capacity of approximately 750 pounds and with a break-down aluminum rowing frame equipped with: a Smith-Root GPP 2.5 generator powered electrofisher and control box, an anode system comprised of 2 Smith-Root SAA-6 adjustable spider array electrodes, each having 6 stainless steel dropper cables (38-in long,3/16-in diameter), suspended from 2 booms [Smith-Root light-duty fiberglass booms (p/n 06248) extending out over the bow, and a cathode system consisting of 18 braided stainless steel dropper cables (38-in long; 3/16-in diameter) bolted directly to the forward platform. While electrofishing, a rower, seated behind the midpoint of the cataraft, will maneuver the cataraft laterally (across the current) with oars, and a second operator will stand on the forward platform and control the electrofisher foot switch while collecting fish with a fiberglass handled dip net.

The Smith-Root GPP 2.5 cannot produce smooth DC, so a pulsed-DC waveform will be selected. By default, Team D will begin electrofishing using a pulse frequency of 30 pps. To avoid exposing fish to more harmful higher pulse frequencies, pulse frequency may not exceed 60 pps. At the end of the reach, fish will be processed according to the protocol detailed in Appendix A4, and electrofisher settings and fish observations will be recorded in the database.

AQUATIC AND RIPARIAN HABITAT ASSESSMENT

At each site where fish collection is attempted, we will also measure a standard suite of habitat variables describing water quality, channel morphology, stream flow, and riparian vegetation. See Table 2 for a list of habitat variables, along with information about instruments used, units and domains, and precision of measurements.

Habitat Transect

We will establish the habitat transect perpendicular to the direction of flow across a representative (of the fish collection reach), non-pool channel unit. In selecting the habitat transect location, we will look for:

1. A straight section, ideally a glide or run, where streamflow lines are parallel.
2. A relatively uniform streambed, free of numerous boulders and heavy aquatic vegetation growth.
3. Relatively uniform flow, free of eddies, slack water, and excessive turbulence.

In pool-riffle stream reaches, the habitat transect will typically be at the transition between a pool and a riffle. Most habitat variables will be assessed at the habitat transect (station); however, some variables (i.e., stream gradient, substrate composition and embeddedness, and riparian vegetation) will be assessed over a short (e.g., 5 CW) section of habitat upstream and/or downstream of the habitat transect.

Site Photos

For each Station ID recorded in the database, we will take ground and aerial photographs with a digital camera. After marking the station GPS waypoint, the first photo taken at each station will be of the GPS screen showing the GPS date and time. This will provide the information needed to accurately associate photos with the correct station and to geotag each photo with GPS data. We will take at least 4 additional photos at each station, including 2 photos from the streambank at the station, one upstream and one downstream, and at least 2 aerial photos of the drainage with the fish collection reach in the foreground, one upstream and one downstream. Additional photos will be taken of notable habitat features, fish, or other subjects of interest throughout the reach. After returning to the office, we will link photos with stations, geotag photos, and use GIS to derive the elevation of each station form the National Elevation Dataset digital elevation model, along with other attributes (legal description of station locations, USGS quad name, HUC) to be reported.

Water Quality

We will measure 4 water quality variables (temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, conductivity) with a Hanna pen and/or Vernier probe. The pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), and conductivity sensors will be calibrated weekly (or more frequently if readings are suspect). To measure these variables, we will place the probes in flowing water as near to the thalweg as practical and wait for the readings to stabilize before recording them. We will measure turbidity with an Oakton turbidimeter, which we will calibrate daily using 0- and 10, 10-, or 100-NTU standards (depending on the estimated turbidity of the sample). We will collect a water sample for turbidity analysis from flowing water as near to the thalweg as practical. We will also visually assess water color (Appendix B4).

Channel Morphology

To measure stream gradient, we will select a relatively straight stream segment in the vicinity of the habitat transect, which spans at least 2 consistent channel features (e.g., top of riffle to top of riffle). Then we will use a clinometer to measure the water surface angle (%) between consistent channel features. If no single suitable segment is found, multiple gradient measures can be averaged as follows, where y is water-surface angle (%) and x is segment length:

$$y = (y1 * x1 + y2 * x2 + \ldots yn * xn)/(x1 + x2 + \ldots xn)$$

To characterize substrate composition, we will visually (or in turbid water, by feel under-foot, or with a pole) assess the 3 most dominant substrate classes (Appendix B4) within the perimeter of the scoured stream bed in a 5-CW (up to 100 m maximum) stream section centered on the habitat transect. Within the same stream section, we will also visually estimate substrate embeddedness (Appendix B4) in (or as close as possible to) the thalweg.

In wadeable channels <30m wide, we will measure channel width, both at the bankfull (BF) level (BF width) and at the wetted edges (wetted width), using a fiberglass tape stretched horizontally across the stream perpendicular to the direction of flow. We will also measure thalweg depths as the vertical distance from the stream bed in the thalweg to both the water surface (wetted depth) and the BF level (BF depth). In un-wadeable streams, or where channel width exceeds 30m, we will measure channel widths using a laser range finder, and wetted depth with a handheld sonar device. To calculate BF depth in un-wadeable streams, we will add the wetted depth to the estimated distance from the water surface to the BF level. We will use a clinometer to aid in estimating the BF level by sighting along the habitat transect to BF indicators on both banks and moving the clinometer up or down to achieve a level sighting. We will estimate the entrenchment ratio category in the vicinity of the habitat transect.

Following fieldwork, we will assign both a level-II Rosgen (1994) channel type code and a level-II Rosgen (1994) valley type code to each fish collection reach such that general ecological characteristics are described for each sample reach located in a lotic habitat. We will use site specific field observations, aerial and ground-based photos, and digital imagery to determine valley type. To determine channel type, we will use site photos, measured stream gradient, calculated width-to-depth ratio, estimated entrenchment class, dominant substrate, and estimated sinuosity (calculated using GPS tracks, site photos, or NHD hydrography) values collected during fieldwork.

For lentic habitats, we added 5 more channel-type classes, including: Lake/Pond; Slough; Beaver pond complex; Wetland; and No defined channel.

Streamflow

We will assess stream stage visually (Appendix B4). We will note recent (within approximately the past 48 hours) precipitation (None/Trace, Moderate, Heavy). At sites where the thalweg is wadeable at the habitat transect, and the wetted depth is <0.9 m, all teams will measure thalweg depth using a transparent velocity head rod (TVHR), then convert surface velocity to mean water-column velocity based on depth (Fonstad et al.2005). If use of a TVHR is not feasible, we will estimate thalweg velocity by timing the passage of a whole orange during a 6-meter long float in the thalweg beginning at the habitat transect. In un-wadeable streams where neither a TVHR nor an orange can be used, Team B will estimate thalweg (surface) velocity as the maximum sustained GPS ground speed of the boat drifting in the thalweg with minimal wind effects.

Riparian vegetation

In a reach 5 channel widths long (up to 100 m maximum) centered on the habitat transect, we will visually assess the dominant riparian vegetation community (Viereck et al.1992; Appendix B6) and measure its canopy height and identify any disturbance (Appendix B7) in each of the following 8 zones (4 zones on each bank): 0-5 m (from the bankfull level); 5-10 m; 10-20 m; and 20-30 m. We will estimate canopy heights <1.5 m with a graduated rod, and canopy heights >1.5 m with a clinometer and range finder.

PERMISSION FOR ACCESS TO STUDY SITES

ADF&G is responsible for the sustainability of all fish and wildlife throughout Alaska, regardless of land ownership. No prior permission is needed for ADF&G to access study sites located on State of Alaska lands. There are general state lands in the study area. A master Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) between ADF&G and BLM recognizes the right of ADF&G to enter onto their lands at any time to conduct routine management activities. Under the MOU, ADF&G informs BLM of the project and estimated dates but does not need formal permission for these activities. There is the Nowitna National Wildlife Refuge, managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) located within the study area boundary. Project staff will work with agencies to secure appropriate authorization to access sample sites within their respective boundaries. On lands under other ownership status (e.g., private, native, municipal, or Dept. of Defense), prior permission is needed to access study sites where a helicopter cannot land within the boundary of ordinary high water (OHW), which is often the case in small and medium streams. At large streams, we can typically access and conduct activities within the OHW level. To identify and study sites where prior approval may be needed for access, target stream locations were plotted on land status maps in GIS (Appendix D). From inspection of this map it was determined that some target streams are located on lands belonging to the Doyon Ltd, and several Village Corporations. Prior to visiting these sites, we will apply for permission to access them if necessary and, even without a need for permitting, inform them of our sampling timeframes and locations. We will not access any sites on private land above the OHW level without prior permission from the landowner.

DATA COLLECTION AND REDUCTION

Other than derived values to be computed later, we will directly enter all measured or observed values in the field into a Microsoft Access relational database (MDB) using a laptop computer.

Wherever appropriate, the MDB will use drop down lists or validation rules (e.g., for continuous data within an acceptable range of values, such as pH values restricted to 0–14). In base camp, at the end of each field day, crew leaders will error check all data recorded that day. Each team's MDB file, GPS unit files (waypoints and tracks), and digital photographs will be backed up each day onto an external hard drive and then transferred to a laptop computer, which will be securely stored and transported separately from the field computers.

After the field season, all the team MDBs will be aggregated and checked for nonsensical values. Using ESRI ArcGIS software and GIS layers, we will derive additional station location information (i.e., USGS quadrangle name, HUC, meridian, township, range, section, AWC Region, NED elevation) for each station. We will also update fish life stage assignments based on Appendix B1. These values will then be appended into the compiled MDB.

Data from the compiled MDB will then be replicated to the AFFI database (AFFID), a Microsoft SQL Server database, for long term usage. Accessing AFFID data for staff review, editing, and reporting is primarily achieved through a Microsoft Access Data Project (ADP). The SQL Server is also used to provide raw data and web-based reports for the Internet using ESRI ArcIMS, Adobe ColdFusion, and related GIS applications, along with other appropriate and available map layers (e.g., topographic maps, hydrography, and land ownership coverage).

DATA ANALYSIS

For each water body where we observe anadromous fish, we will prepare and submit a nomination package to the AWC, if that particular species and life-stage is not already documented in the AWC. The nomination package will include all the information required by the AWC program (see Appendix G for an example) and will include a summary of all fish species observed (anadromous or not), from every sampling event on that water body (regardless if anadromous fish were observed during each sampling event).

SCHEDULE AND DELIVERABLES

The 13-day summer field trip with the full crew and helicopter support is planned for July 20-August 1, 2022. Teams will be based out of private bunk houses in Tanana, Alaska. By conducting fieldwork in late-July to early August, it is believed crews will maximize chances of observing a variety of anadromous and resident fishes, especially stream rearing species and life stages, at the upstream limits of their range. For example, in this area, spawning Chinook salmon and rearing Chinook and coho salmon should be near maximum distributions and some drainages may support summer chum salmon spawning. Seasonal boat electrofishing in June and September will be performed to attempt to document seasonal fish communities that may differ through time including rearing chum salmon outmigration in spring and early summer as well as anadromous whitefish species or coho salmon migrating or spawning in fall. Then, in July 2023, crews will finish headwater surveys while based out of Fairbanks and Nenana. See Table 3 for a schedule listing milestones and deliverables.

Table 3.–Schedule of project activities.

Year	Dates	Activity
2021	May-July	Perform LTK ethnographic interviews and mapping with communities of Tanana, Nenana, and Manley Hot Springs.
2022	May 1	Select sites and apply for any required access permits.
	June	Circulate sample sites to interested parties for final prioritization of sampling.
	July 13	Last week of field preparations.
	July 20	Crews depart for 2022 field work.
	August 1	Crews return home.
	September 21	Boat electrofishing survey.
	September 30	Begin data entry, review, and validation.
	September 30	Submit AWC nominations.
	October 31	Complete data entry
	December 30	Complete data review & QA/QC
2023	March 1	Post all 2022 data to AFFI Online Mapping Application.
	May 1	Select sites and apply for any required access permits.
	July 24-28	Fish surveys, two crews out of Fairbanks and Nenana.
	September 1	Data entry, review, quality control and assurance.
	September 30	Submit AWC nominations, complete data entry
2024	June 30	AWC, AFFI data online and published, reports and funding obligations completed

RESPONSIBILITIES

Table 4.–List of personnel and duties.

Name	Duties
Brandy Baker	Field crew member. ADF&G Tanana River Biologist out of Delta Junction.
Nate Cathcart	Project leader and field crew supervisor. Prepare and manage project budget and funding proposals. Prepare operational plan. During fieldwork, perform daily data quality control and data backups. Complete post season data reduction, review and analysis. Prepare and submit nomination of appropriate waters to the AWC. Author publications and reports.
Ivy Schultz & Priscilla Lema	Prepare land-status maps and field maps.
Joe Giefer	Project supervisor. Field crew member for July-August.
Duncan Green	Project Technician and Field Team leader. Under supervision of project leader, assist with all aspects of project. Coordinate fieldwork logistics. Coordinate field crew trainings. Inventory, procure, maintain, and package field equipment and supplies. Prepare and submit nominations of appropriate waters to the AWC.
Jason Graham	GIS analyses of target stream locations. Post summarized results to project web site. Maintain and develop online mapper.
Ryan Snow	Design project database. Compile field data files in Anchorage network. Assist data retrieval and database reporting. Provide technical support for software and hardware development operations and maintenance. Develop software tools to integrate GIS and database functions. Develop software tools to display data via the Web.
Joe Spencer	Field crew member for July-August. Fishery Biologist 1 out of Fairbanks.
Lisa Stuby	Field crew member for July-August. Fishery Biologist 3 out of Fairbanks.
Robbie Pype	Field crew member for July-August. ADF&G Fish & Wildlife Technician 3 out of Anchorage.

BUDGET

Table 5.–Budget summary.

Cost category	Allocation ($K)
100 Personnel	11.7
200 Travel	26.1
300 Contractual	98.4
400 Supplies	21.0
500 Equipment	0.0
Total	157.2

Table 6.–Summary of personnel expenses reflects only the match budget allocated to this project.

Name	PCN	Job class	Months	OT (hr)	Haz (hr)	Salary & benefits ($K)
Nate Cathcart	11-6140	Habitat Biologist II	1.5	0	65	11.7
Total						11.7

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APPENDIX A

The procedure to collect fish with a backpack electrofisher (Smith-Root LR-24) is presented below. The objective is to detect all the common fish species found in the reach. Fish collection should be completed within 30 minutes with a cumulative electrofishing time of *at least* 300 s.

Procedures to collect fish at wadeable sites. (adapted from McCormick and Hughes 1998).

1. Establish the habitat transect (Station) in a straight, representative, non-pool (preferably glide or run) channel unit, mark the first GPS waypoint at the Station, and complete habitat characterization and data entry.
2. Measure wetted channel width (CW, to the nearest 0.1 m) at the station. The minimum fish collection reach length is 40 CW, or 150 m, whichever is greater. The maximum reach length for wadeable streams is 300 m.
3. Both crewmembers must wear leak-free chest waders with wading belt snugly fastened, wading shoes that fit properly, electrically insulated gloves, and polarized sunglasses (preferably with amber lenses). A hat with a brim may also be helpful in reducing glare.
4. Make sure the electrofisher battery is securely fastened. Check electrical connections (battery, anode, cathode). Replace the battery cover securely.
5. Try on the backpack unit and make any adjustments to the suspension system to achieve a comfortable fit, with the unit snug against the operator's back and resting above the hip bones. If necessary, untangle and route the cathode (rat tail) and anode cables.
6. With both electrodes out of the water and clear of each other and both operators, turn the unit on and confirm the system is ready. Reset the timer to zero.
7. The two-person electrofishing team will typically begin electrofishing at the station and work their way upstream the predetermined reach length while collecting fish. If the downstream end of the reach does not coincide with the Station, the team will mark a second GPS waypoint at the downstream end of the reach. A handheld, consumer-grade GPS unit in trip computer mode, a hip chain, or other similarly accurate method, will be used to measure the reach length as they work their way upstream. At the upstream end of the reach, the team will mark a third GPS waypoint. While walking back downstream to the start of the reach, continue electrofishing in the thalweg (see Step 14 below).
8. To use a smooth-DC waveform (preferred):
    a. Set the waveform to smooth DC, and select the initial voltage setting according to the ambient water conductivity (***not*** specific conductance, which is temperature compensated) —see Appendix A3.
    b. Ensure that all non-target organisms are clear of the water and begin fishing when both crewmembers are ready.
    c. Closely observe the fishes' response and attempt to maximize capture-prone responses (i.e, taxis or forced swimming) and minimize responses associated with elevated trauma (i.e., immobilization, branding, spinal deformities, or recovery period exceeding 15 seconds). Try to capture fish before they approach near to the electrodes and remove fish quickly from the electric field.

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d. If fish are unresponsive, increase the voltage by 50 V, press the Enter key and try again. If fish exhibit symptoms of trauma, decrease the voltage by 50 V, press the Enter key, and try again.

e. If fish are still not showing capture-prone responses, or if it is necessary to extend battery life, switch to a pulsed-DC waveform.

9. To use a pulsed-DC waveform:

a. Select initial voltage setting according to the ambient (not temperature compensated) water conductivity—see Appendix A3.

b. Set initial pulse frequency to 30 pulses-per-second (pps).

c. Set duty cycle to achieve a pulse width of 2 ms, according to the following table:

Frequency (pps)	Duty cycle (%) 2 ms	Duty cycle (%) 4 ms
30	6	12
35	7	14
40	8	16
45	9	18
50	10	20
60	12	24

d. If electrofishing is unsuccessful:

i. Increase the voltage by 50 V, press the enter key and try again. Stop increasing voltage when fish exhibit a forced response (twitch).

ii. If fish twitch but are not showing taxis (induced movement of the fish toward the anode), increase the duty cycle to achieve a pulse width of 4 ms, according to the table in Step 9.c. Press the Enter key and try again. If necessary, repeat this step, increasing duty cycle by 10% until fish show taxis. If the duty cycle is increased to maximum, and taxis is still not achieved, proceed to Step iii.

iii. Increase the frequency by 10 pps and press the Enter key. Adjust the duty cycle to achieve a pulse width of 2 ms for the new frequency setting (see Step 9.c) and try again. Repeat Step ii after each frequency increase. Avoid frequencies >60 pps.

10. Beginning at the downstream end of the sampling reach, the electrofishing team will fish in an upstream direction, zigzagging across the channel from bank to bank in order to sample all habitat types. On the upstream pass, the emphasis is on sampling cover and channel margins. The thalweg is more effectively sampled during the downstream pass. Depress the switch and sweep the anode slowly from side to side in the water. Electrofish intermittently to avoid herding fish, especially in glides or long pools. After electrofishing continuously for a duration of up to 5 s, quietly advance upstream approximately 2–4 m before resuming electrofishing.

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11. Attempt to sample the variety of habitats (deep and shallow, fast and slow, complex and simple, warmer and colder) present throughout the reach. Be sure to sample available cover (e.g., large substrate elements, large wood, debris piles, undercut banks, aquatic macrophyte beds, overhanging vegetation). Move the anode into confined cover with the power off, then depress the switch and sweep the anode away from the cover to draw fish out into open. Do not attempt to sample in or near pools greater than waist deep, or where velocity is too fast to safely wade. Always move slowly and carefully to avoid startling fish and to minimize risk of falling.

12. The netter follows downstream of the electrofisher operator, collecting fish with a dip net with a non-conductive handle (e.g. fiberglass or wood) and placing them into a 5-gallon bucket with stream water for later processing. Try to net all fish seen. When this is not feasible (e.g., in highly productive systems), try to collect a representative sample of the fish assemblage (e.g., not just large game fish). Pay special attention to netting small and benthic fish, as well as fish that respond differently to the electric field—not just the big fish that move to the surface. Particularly when visibility is obscured by turbidity, debris, or vegetation, the netter should keep the dip net in the water downstream of the anode. The dip net opening should be near vertical, perpendicular to the current, with the dip net frame in contact with the substrate. The distance between the anode and the dip net is related to the current velocity: the faster the current, the greater the distance between the anode and dip net. In fast water, the net should remain several meters downstream of the anode.

13. Refresh the water in the bucket periodically to minimize physiological stress prior to measuring fish.

14. At the upstream end of the reach, mark a GPS waypoint. Then, while walking back downstream to the start of the reach, electrofish the thalweg while trying to walk the same speed as the water. Try to herd fish out of deep pools towards the pool tailout. When approaching the tailout, to avoid herding fish further downstream into the riffle, briefly (e.g., 2-s pause) cease electrofishing to allow fish to turn and attempt to re-enter the pool, then resume electrofishing as they swim past the anode. For the downstream pass, the netter should stay even with the electrofisher operator as they both walk downstream.

15. Record in the database the final, or most successful, electrofisher output settings (voltage, frequency, waveform, electrofisher on-time, duty cycle and typical peak current and power), sampling efficiency (poor, fair, good, excellent), and distance sampled, along with fish observations, including fish collected while electrofishing, as well as any additional fish observed within the reach, but not collected[1]. If conditions prevent safe or effective electrofishing within a reach, the conditions, and their effect on sampling efficiency, should be noted in the Sampling Event tab in the database, and the length of stream that was actually sampled should be noted in Sampling Event comments.

[1] In the database, only those fish captured while electrofishing should be associated with an electrofishing sampling event. Fish observed, but not captured should be recorded under a separate sampling event (e.g., Visual observations-ground). Fish collected from off-channel habitats (e.g., tributaries, side channels, floodplain habitats, adjacent beaver ponds) should be recorded under a distinct sampling event.

Appendix A2.–Electrofishing protocol for un-wadeable streams.

The objective is to detect all the common fish species found in the reach. The procedure to sample with a generator powered boat electrofisher unit (Smith-Root GPP 2.5) is presented below.

Procedures to collect fish by boat electrofishing. (adapted from McCormick and Hughes 2000)

Onshore at launch site

1. Check generator oil and fill tank with gas (wipe up any spillage).
2. Attach electrodes to boat and connect their cables to the corresponding outlet on the control box. If the fishing site is distant, keep electrodes and anode poles in boat.
3. Connect generator and pulsator (control box).
4. Confirm that all gear for the day is in the boat.
5. Put on a life jacket. Wear polarized sunglasses to aid vision.

At sample reach

1. Establish the habitat transect (Station) in a straight, representative, non-pool (preferably glide or run) channel unit, mark the first GPS waypoint at the Station, and complete habitat characterization and data entry.
2. Measure wetted channel width (CW, in meters) at the station—multiply by 10—this is the length of a single subreach. The minimum fish collection reach length is 10 subreaches, plus any additional subreaches necessary until no new species are detected in the last 6 consecutive subreaches (or as much as can be sampled in a day). Record fish observations and electrofisher settings separately for each subreach under a unique sampling-event code.
3. Check all electrical connections and suspend the electrodes in the water. The wetted surface area of the cathode(s) should be greater than that of the anode(s). Fill live well and put on electrically insulated gloves. Verify that all electrical switches are off, that all non-target organisms are clear of the water or 2 boat lengths away, and that both crewmembers are clear of the water and electrodes and ready to begin electrofishing. Reset the timer on the electrofisher control box to zero at the start of each subreach.
4. If ambient conductivity is <300 μS/cm, set the Range dial to High. If ambient conductivity is >300 μS/cm, set the Range dial to Low. Switch the Mode dial to DC (**Caution! The position of this switch should not be changed when the foot switch is engaged!**) and select an initial frequency of 30 pulses-per-second (pps) and an initial Percent of Range (POR) setting of 10%.
5. Start the generator and depress the foot pedal to begin electrofishing. Increase POR as needed to elicit a capture-prone response [i.e, taxis (induced movement of the fish toward the anode) or forced swimming] from fish, while minimizing responses associated with elevated trauma (i.e., immobilization, branding, spinal deformities, or recovery period exceeding 15 seconds).

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Note: Where water conductivity is high (>300 µS/cm), avoid using POR settings in excess of 60%, which will simply increase duty cycle, but not peak voltage, and may overload the generator (Martinez and Kolz 2009). If the generator sounds labored, decrease POR and/or switch from High to Low range.

6. If fish taxis cannot be achieved, increase frequency to 60 pps, return the POR dial to 10%, and repeat Step 5.
7. Select the riverbank for fishing (river left for odd-numbered target streams, river right for even), and stay along the selected bank through the entire reach, to the degree it is safely navigable. Position the boat so the bow is angled downstream and toward the bank. While drifting downstream, maneuver laterally in the channel to avoid obstacles and position the anode(s) into habitats providing cover for fish. Most effort should occur near the bank, where most fish are expected to occur, and at depths less than 3 m wherever possible. However, all habitat types should be sampled, so zigzag between the thalweg and the bank to allocate some sampling effort to a variety of habitats throughout the channel.

   With electrical current off, maneuver the boat so the anode(s) approach near to fish cover elements (e.g., large substrate elements, large wood, debris piles, undercut banks, aquatic macrophyte beds, overhanging vegetation), then begin electrofishing as the boat is backed away from the cover. Electrofish intermittently to avoid herding fish, especially in glides or long pools. After electrofishing continuously for a duration of up to 10 s, drift quietly for 5–10 m before resuming electrofishing. Do not place the boat in danger in order to fish particular habitats. Cut the generator and stow the gear before negotiating hazards.
8. The netter uses a dip net with non-conductive (e.g. fiberglass) handle to retrieve fish, which are then deposited into a livewell for later processing. Try to capture fish before they approach near to the electrodes and remove fish quickly from the electric field. Try to net all fish seen. When this is not feasible (e.g., in highly productive systems), try to collect a representative sample of the fish assemblage (e.g., not just large game fish). Pay special attention to netting small and benthic fish, as well as fish that respond differently to the electric field—not just the big fish that move to the surface. If benthic fish are being missed, hold the net behind the anode just above the bottom so some are collected.
9. Change the water in the livewell periodically to minimize stress prior to processing.
10. Using a GPS unit in trip computer mode to monitor distance traveled, continue sampling downstream to the end of the subreach. At the end of the subreach, process the fish according to Appendix A4. Be sure to release them upriver, or preferably near the opposite bank, to reduce the likelihood of recapturing them.

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11. Record in the database the final, or most successful, electrofisher output settings (mode, range, POR, pulse frequency, current, electrofisher on-time, duty cycle and power, if known), sampling efficiency (poor, fair, good, excellent), and distance sampled, along with fish observations, including fish collected while electrofishing, as well as any additional fish observed within the reach, but not collected[2]. If conditions prevent safe or effective electrofishing within a reach, the conditions, and their effect on sampling efficiency, should be noted in the Sampling Event tab in the database, and the length of stream that was actually sampled should be noted.
12. Be sure the station visit information is completely entered before leaving the site.

[2] In the database, only those fish captured while electrofishing should be associated with an electrofishing sampling event. Fish observed, but not captured should be recorded under a separate sampling event (e.g., Visual observations-boat). Fish collected from off-channel habitats (e.g., tributaries, side channels, floodplain habitats, adjacent beaver ponds) should be recorded under a distinct sampling event.

Appendix A3.–Recommended target voltage for standardized backpack electrofishing (constant power transfer) for predominantly juvenile salmonids in cold waters at various ambient water conductivities.

Ambient conductivity (µS/cm)	Target voltage		Ambient conductivity (µS/cm)	Target voltage	
	pulsed DC[a]	Smooth DC		pulsed DC	Smooth DC
20	1155	490	170	306	130
30	834	354	180	299	127
40	674	286	190	294	125
50	577	245	200	289	123
60	513	218	210	284	121
70	467	199	220	280	119
80	433	184	230	276	117
90	406	173	240	273	116
100	385	163	250	269	115
110	367	156	260	266	113
120	353	150	270	264	112
130	340	145	280	261	111
140	330	140	290	259	110
150	321	136	300	257	109
160	313	133			

Note: Target voltage values were calculated for a Smith-Root LR-24 backpack electrofisher fitted with a standard Smith-Root rat-tail cathode (a 10-ft length of braided, 3/16-in stainless-steel cable with the connected end insulated with a 6-ft length of neoprene) and a single anode pole having a standard Smith-Root 11-inch-diameter stainless-steel anode ring, and are optimized for capturing juvenile salmonids in cold, wadeable flowing waters with predominantly rocky substrates. These target voltages may not be optimal for electrofishing systems having a different internal resistance (i.e., different electrofishing system, electrode type, or if electrodes are heavily corroded), if targeting different fish species/life stages, or when electrofishing in un-wadeable waters or over predominantly fine substrates.

We prepared this power-standardization table based on the power-transfer theory for electrofishing (Kolz 1989), using water ambient conductivity measurements and metered electrofisher output values (peak voltage and current) selected while electrofishing to maximize capture-prone responses (taxis and forced swimming) and minimize responses associated with elevated trauma (immobilization, branding, spinal deformities, or recovery period exceeding 15 seconds) in target fish. We assumed fish conductivity = 100 (µS/cm).

[a] 30 pulses per second, 12% duty cycle (4 mS pulse width)

This table provides a starting voltage setting for standardized backpack electrofishing. While electrofishing, always monitor the response of target and non-target organisms and fine-tune electrofisher operations and settings as recommended in the user's manual to achieve the desired response.

Appendix A4.–Procedure to process collected fish.

1. Anesthetize collected fish with AQUI-S 20E according to instructions.
2. Remove 1 fish at a time from the sedation bucket and place on a length measuring tube (FL ≤ 250 mm) or board (FL ≥ 250 mm).
3. Identify all collected fish to species (Appendix B5), life stage (Appendix B1), and life history (anadromous, resident, marine/estuarine, unknown) and measure fork length to the nearest mm. Refer primarily to Pollard et al. 1997 to identify unknown salmoninae (salmon, trout, or char) and to Mecklenburg et al. 2002 for all other species. Also refer to photos of known specimens for confirmation. Check each fish for external anomalies (Appendix B2). Document any definite fish passage barriers (Appendix B3) found in or adjacent to the reach. Immediately after identification and measurement, place fish in a second bucket of fresh stream water for recovery.
4. Take a representative photo of each anadromous species and life stage, as well as any rare or unusual fish, fish with anomalies, or fish where ID was uncertain. Record the photo number(s) associated with each fish in the database.
5. Take a fin clip from species requested by UAF (see UAF instructions) Record the fin clip vial number in the database.
6. Retain the following specimens:
    - <u>Species unknown</u>: In 10% formalin—up to 5 (from each site) individual fish of each species and life stage that cannot be confidently identified in the field;
    - <u>UAF Museum</u>: In 10% formalin—voucher specimens of each species (see UAF instructions);
    - <u>Optionally-anadromous fishes for otolith study</u>: Frozen—up to 12 large (> 300 mm, individuals from each study site where they are collected of each optionally-anadromous species, such as: Dolly Varden; humpback whitefish; least cisco, and Bering cisco.
    - <u>ADEC Veterinarian</u>: Frozen—up to 10 individual fish from each study site where they are collected (See DEC instructions).

    Euthanize (by a blow to the head, or an overdose of AQUI-S 20E) all specimens to be retained. Tag any retained fish with a unique tag number and record the tag number in the database. For UAF, each fish must be individually tagged. For all other retained specimens, fish of the same species and life stage that were all collected from the same reach may be retained as a group with a single unique tag for the group. Any specimens retained for the otolith study must be frozen. All other specimens should be stored in 10% formalin solution. For specimens >200 mm, make an incision through the belly wall before placing in formalin. Keep specimens cool (e.g., in fresh stream water) until they can be put in formalin or frozen. ***CAUTION! MINIMIZE THE CHANCE OF ATTRACTING WILDLIFE BY KEEPING RETAINED FISH INSIDE A COVERED COOLER OR HEAVY-DUTY PLASTIC BAG. NEVER LEAVE SPECIMENS UNATTENDED IN THE FIELD.***

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7. While 1 crewmember processes fish, the other will enter fish observations into the appropriate fields in the database.
8. When fish have recovered, release them to slow water. When additional subreaches will be sampled downstream (un-wadeable streams), be sure to release the fish upriver, or preferably near the opposite bank, to avoid recapturing them.

Record the species, life stage, life history, and count, along with any comments indicating average size, behavior, anomalies, etc., of any additional fish that were observed, but not collected (e.g., visually observed adults).

APPENDIX B

Appendix B1.–Fish life-stage classes and threshold fork-length values.

Descriptions of fish life-stage classes.

Code	Name	Description
FXE	fixed egg	Eggs adhering to or buried within a substrate.
PLE	planktonic egg	Non-adherent, buoyant or nearly so, eggs drifting with currents.
FXA	alevin	Pre-emergent sac-fry within the interstices of the substrate.
PLL	planktonic larvae	Hatched juveniles drifting with currents and with no, or poorly, developed volitional swimming capabilities.
JUV	juvenile	Sexually immature free-swimming fish.
SMT	smolt	Juvenile anadromous fish on first emigration from fresh to marine water.
JOA	juvenile/adult	Free swimming fish whose sexual maturity is not determined.
ADT	adult	Fish at or approaching sexual maturity.
ASP	adult spawning	Adults observed in the act of spawning.
KLT	kelt	Post-spawning iteroparous anadromous fish in freshwater prior to return to marine water.
CAR	carcass	Post-spawning adult carcass.
NAP	not applicable	No fish observed or general information record only.
NRD	not recorded	Life stage not recorded.

Fork-length threshold values (mm) used to assign fish to selected life-stage classes.

	Life stage		
Species	Juvenile	Juvenile-or-adult	Adult
lamprey-unspecified	-	-	-
longnose sucker	<188	188–348	>348
northern pike	<330	330–448	>448
Alaska blackfish	<42	42–113	>113
broad whitefish	<343	343–448	>448
humpback whitefish	<280	280–363	>363
least cisco	<199	199–318	>318
round whitefish	<199	199–318	>318
inconnu (sheefish)	<586	586–648	>648
Arctic grayling	<190	190–328	>328
pink salmon	-	-	-
chum salmon	-	-	-
coho salmon	-	-	-
sockeye salmon	-	-	-
Chinook salmon	-	-	-
Dolly Varden	<83	83–	-
burbot	<280	280–498	>498
slimy sculpin	<51	51–68	>68

Note: A hyphen or missing value indicates that we assigned individual fish to the indicated life stage based only on examination of morphological indicators of sexual maturity, not based on fork-length threshold values.

Appendix B2.–Fish-anomaly classes.

Code	Name	Description
AB	Absent	Absent eye, fin, tail.
BK	Blackening	Tail or whole body with darkened pigmentation.
BL	Blisters	In mouth, just under skin.
BS	Extensive black spot	Small black cysts (dots) all over the fins and body.
CO	Copepod	A parasitic infection characterized by a worm-like copepod embedded in the flesh of the fish; body extends out and leaves a sore/discoloration at base, may be in mouth gills, fins, or anywhere on body.
CY	Cysts	Fluid-filled swellings; may be either small or large dots.
DE	Deformities	Skeletal anomalies of the head, spine, and body shape; amphibians may have extra tails, limbs, toes.
EF	Eroded fins	Appear as reductions or substantial fraying of fin surface area.
EG	Eroded gills	Gill filaments eroded from tip.
EX	Exophthalmia	Bulging of the eye.
FA	Fin anomalies	Abnormal thickenings or irregularities of rays
FU	Fungus	May appear as filamentous or "fuzzy" growth on the fins, eyes, or body.
GR	Grubs	White or yellow worms embedded in muscle or fins.
HM	Hemorrhaging	Red spots on mouth, body, fins, fin bases, eyes, and gills.
IC	Ich	White spots on the fins, skin or gills.
LE	Lesions	Open sores or exposed tissue; raised, granular, or warty outgrowths.
LI	Lice	Scale-like, mobile arthropods.
MU	Mucus	Thick and excessive on skin or gill, or as long cast from vent.
NO	None	No anomalies present.
OT	Other	Anomalies or parasites not specified.
SA	Scale anomalies	Missing patches, abnormal thickenings, granular skin
SO	Shortened operculum	Leaves a portion of the gill chamber uncovered
TU	Tumors	Areas of irregular cell growth which are firm and cannot be easily broken open when pinched. (Masses caused by parasites can usually be opened easily.)
WR	Leeches	Annelid worms which have anterior and posterior suckers. They may attach anywhere on the body.

Source: McCormick and Hughes 1998.

Appendix B3.–Fish-passage barrier classes.

Code	Name	Description
EBD	Ephemerally Fixed, Beaver Dam	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling, to be blocked by a beaver dam. Used where the location of the barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
EDJ	Ephemerally Fixed, Debris Jam	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling, to be blocked by a debris jam. This category is restricted to small scale (?10 m) features that do not dramatically alter the overall channel type. Larger mass-wasting created barriers fall in the EGD category. Used where the location of the ultimate barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
EGD	Ephemerally Fixed, Hydro-Geomorphically Dynamic	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling, to be blocked by current hydrological or geomorphic conditions but where evidence indicates that these landscape-scale conditions are in flux over brief (decades) geologic time. Used in areas of recent or ongoing geomorphic alteration (e.g., glacial advance or retreat, mass wasting, tectonic movements, dynamic channel formation). Used where the location of the barrier to movement is within 100 m.
ELF	Ephemerally Fixed, Low Flow	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling, to be blocked by low stream flow, but where evidence indicates that at higher stream flow, fish could ascend further up the channel. Used where the location of the barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
EOT	Ephemerally Fixed, Other	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling, to be blocked by a non-permanent barrier other than those listed immediately above. Used where the location of the ultimate barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
ESS	Ephemerally Fixed, Spring Source	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling or on-site analysis, to be blocked by the emergence of ground water from an unconfined substrate. Compare to GSL. Used where the location of the barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
GLK	Geologically Fixed, Lake Shore	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient sampling or on-site analysis, to be limited by the perimeter of a geologically stable lake shore. Used where the location of the barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
GOT	Geologically Fixed, Other	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling or on-site analysis, to be blocked by a geologically fixed barrier other than those listed immediately above. Used where the location of the ultimate barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
GSL	Geologically Fixed, Stream Limit	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling or on-site analysis, to be limited to the presence of surface water, and where that presence of surface water appears to be fixed in space and stable in time (compare to ELF). Spring-fed headwall pools are examples. Used where the location of the barrier to movement is known within 100 m.

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Code	Name	Description
GWG	Geologically Fixed, Waterfall/High Gradient	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling or on-site analysis, to be blocked by a waterfall, cascade, or other similar geologically fixed barrier. Used where the location of the barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
HCU	Human, Culvert	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling, to be blocked by a culvert through a roadbed, a railroad bed, a runway, or through any other type of fill. This code includes culverts of all materials (e.g., metal, plastic, wood) and shapes (e.g., round, arched, bottomless) Used where the location of the barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
HDB	Human, Debris	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling, to be blocked by debris placed or deposited in the stream as the direct result of human activities but where that material was not intentionally placed to impound, filter, or divert stream flow. Examples include woody debris from logging activities, and debris flows from failed road prisms. Used where the location of the barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
HDM	Human, Dam	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling, to be blocked by a dam, weir, head gate, or other cross channel structure that impounds, filters, or diverts stream flow. This code includes structures of all materials (e.g., earth, concrete, rip rap, metal, wood). Used where the location of the barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
HOT	Human, Other	Where the upstream movements of a given species appear, based on sufficient upstream and downstream sampling, to be blocked by a human-created structure other than those listed immediately above. Used where the location of the barrier to movement is known within 100 m.
NAP	Not applicable	No fish observed. See downstream stations.
NON	None	No barrier exists at survey station.
SBU	Specific Barrier Unknown	Where a given species is collected at a downstream station and not at an upstream station but where no specific barrier is known between the 2 stations. Used where the distributional limits are not known within 100 m.
UNK	Unknown	No information exists upstream of a sample station. Often where a species is collected at a station and no additional sampling or survey occurs upstream.

Appendix B4.–Water color, substrate, and stream-stage classes.

Water-color classes.

Code	Description	Definition
CLR	Clear	Transparent water, or nearly so.
FER	Ferric	Rust- (orange) stained.
GHT	Glacial, High Turbidity	High turbidity waters (visibility ≤ 30 cm (12 in) typical of streams originating directly from glaciers (e.g., Matanuska River).
GLT	Glacial, Low Turbidity	Low turbidity waters (visibility > 30 cm) typical of systems with large lakes (settling basins) below glacial discharge (e.g., Kenai River). These waters are frequently turquoise-colored.
HUM	Humic	Tea-colored water (tannic)
MUD	Muddy	Dark water with high suspended particulate load.

Substrate classes.

Code	Name	Intermediate-axis dimensions
BED	Bedrock	> 4,096 mm. Solid rock—few or no discrete particles
BLD	Boulder	256–4,096 mm
CBL	Cobble	64–256 mm
GRV	Gravel	2–64 mm
SND	Sand	0.0625–2 mm
SCL	Silt/Clay	≤ 0.0625 mm
ORG	Organic	Incompletely decomposed organic material

Source: adapted (Bedrock and Organic classes added) from Cummins (1962), which is based on the Wentworth (1922) scale.

Stream-stage classes.

Code	Description
DNC	Dry, no defined channel
DDC	Dry, defined channel
LDF	Low, intermittent surface flow
LCF	Low, continuous surface flow
MED	Medium
HIH	High
WNC	Wet, no defined channel

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Embeddedness classes.

Code	Level of embeddedness[a]	Description
NEG	Negligible	Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles have <5% of their height covered by fine sediment[b].
LOW	Low	Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles have 5-25% of their height covered by fine sediment.
MOD	Moderate	Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles have 25-50% of their height covered by fine sediment.
HIH	High	Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles have 50-75% of their height covered by fine sediment.
VHI	Very high	Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles have >75% of their height covered by fine sediment.

[a] Embeddedness (*sensu* Armantrout 1998): Degree that gravel and larger sizes of particles (boulders, cobble, or rubble) are surrounded or covered by fine sediment (e.g., less than 2 mm).

[b] <2 mm, i.e., sand, silt, or clay.

Note: If the dominant substrate type is sand, silt, or clay, the level of embeddedness will be rated as Very high. If the dominant substrate type is bedrock, the level of embeddedness will be rated as Negligible.

Source: modified from Bain (1999), which was adapted from Platts et al. 1983.

Appendix B5.–Fish species codes.

Code	Common name	Scientific name
ACI	sturgeon-unspecified	*Acipenser* sp.
ATG	green sturgeon	*Acipenser medirostris*
ATW	white sturgeon	*Acipenser transmontanus*
CAC	Arctic char	*Salvelinus alpinus*
CBT	brook trout	*Salvelinus fontinalis*
CDV	Dolly Varden	*Salvelinus malma*
CHR	char-unspecified	*Salvelinus* sp.
CLK	lake trout	*Salvelinus namaycush*
DAL	Alaska blackfish	*Dallia pectoralis*
ERC	trout-perch	*Percopsis omiscomaycus*
FAR	Arctic flounder	*Pleuronectes glacialis*
FLN	righteye flounders-unspecified	Pleuronectidae
FST	starry flounder	*Platichthys stellatus*
GAD	cod-unspecified	Gadidae
GAR	Arctic cod	*Boreogadus saida*
GBR	burbot	*Lota lota*
GPA	Pacific cod	*Gadus macrocephalus*
GRA	Arctic grayling	*Thymallus arcticus*
GSA	saffron cod	*Eleginus gracilis*
HAM	American shad	*Alosa sapidissima*
HER	herrings-unspecified	Clupeidae
HPA	Pacific herring	*Clupea pallasii*
IDA	salmonid, unspecified	Salmonidae
KNS	ninespine stickleback	*Pungitius pungitius*
KSB	stickleback-unspecified	Gasterosteidae
KTS	threespine stickleback	*Gasterosteus aculeatus*
LAC	Arctic-Alaskan brook lamprey paired species	*L. camtschatica / L. alaskense*
LAK	Alaskan brook lamprey	*Lampetra alaskense*
LAR	Arctic lamprey	*Lampetra camtschatica*
LMO	Atlantic salmon	*Salmo salar*
LMP	lamprey-unspecified	*Lampetra* sp.
LPC	Pacific lamprey	*Lampetra tridentata*
LRV	American river lamprey	*Lampetra ayresii*
LWB	western brook lamprey	*Lampetra richardsoni*
MIN	lake chub	*Couesius plumbeus*
NOS	longnose sucker	*Catostomus catostomus*
OEU	eulachon	*Thaleichthys pacificus*
OLS	longfin smelt	*Spirinchus thaleichthys*
OPS	pond smelt	*Hypomesus olidus*
ORM	rainbow smelt	*Osmerus mordax*
OSM	smelt-unspecified	Osmeridae
OSS	surf smelt	*Hypomesus pretiosus*
PIK	northern pike	*Esox lucius*
SAM	Pacific salmon-unspecified	semelparous *Oncorhynchus sp.*
SCK	Chinook salmon	*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*
SCM	chum salmon	*Oncorhynchus keta*

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Code	Common name	Scientific name
SCO	coho salmon	*Oncorhynchus kisutch*
SPI	pink salmon	*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*
SSE	sockeye salmon	*Oncorhynchus nerka*
TCT	cutthroat trout	*Oncorhynchus clarkii*
TRB	rainbow trout	*Oncorhynchus mykiss*
TRT	trout-unspecified	iteroparous *Oncorhynchus sp.*
UCR	coastrange sculpin	*Cottus aleuticus*
UFH	fourhorn sculpin	*Myoxocephalus quadricornis*
ULP	sculpin-unspecified	Cottidae
UPR	prickly sculpin	*Cottus asper*
UPS	Pacific staghorn sculpin	*Leptocottus armatus*
USH	sharpnose sculpin	*Clinocottus acuticeps*
USL	slimy sculpin	*Cottus cognatus*
WAK	Alaska whitefish	*Coregonus nelsonii*
WAR	Arctic cisco	*Coregonus autumnalis*
WBC	Bering cisco	*Coregonus laurettae*
WBD	broad whitefish	*Coregonus nasus*
WHB	humpback whitefish	*Coregonus pidschian*
WHC	humpback whitefish complex	*C. clupeaformis / C. nelsonii / C. pidschian*
WHF	whitefish-unspecified	Coregoninae
WIN	inconnu (sheefish)	*Stenodus leucichthys*
WLC	least cisco	*Coregonus sardinella*
WLK	lake whitefish	*Coregonus clupeaformis*
WPG	pygmy whitefish	*Prosopium coulteri*
WRN	round whitefish	*Prosopium cylindraceum*
YMA	shiner perch	*Cymatogaster aggregata*
YYP	yellow perch	*Perca flavescens*
QQQ	other species not listed	-
VVV	no collection effort	-
XXX	no fish collected or observed	-
ZZZ	general fish observation, no species information	-

Appendix B6.–Riparian vegetation communities (Viereck et al. 1992).

Code	Key	Class	Description
I	Trees > 3 m tall with canopy cover of ≥ 10%. If not, go to II.	Forest	Single stemmed woody plants at least 3 m tall at maturity and at least 10% cover.
IA	> 75% of tree cover contributed by coniferous species. If not, go to IB.	Coniferous Forest	Dominated by coniferous (needleleaf) tree species (Sitka, White, and Black Spruce; Western and Mountain Hemlock; Western Redcedar; Alaska-Cedar, Silver and Subalpine Fir, Pacific Yew, Lodgepole Pine, and Tamarack.
IA1	Tree canopy of 60 - 100% cover. If not, go to IA2.	Closed Coniferous Forest	Forest community has a 60 - 100% total tree canopy coverage.
IA1a	Sitka Spruce dominates overstory and regeneration.	Closed Sitka Spruce Forest	Occupies wet sites in SE Alaska, primarily in alluvial flood plains, and in narrow coastal band in SC Alaska to Kodiak.
IA1b	Western Hemlock dominates overstory; other species < 25% of overstory.	Closed Western Hemlock Forest	Widespread in SE Alaska, often with a Sitka Spruce component.
IA1c	Sitka Spruce and Western Hemlock each contribute > 30% cover. Sitka Spruce constitutes most of overstory, Western Hemlock usually provides most of understory.	Closed Sitka Spruce-Western Hemlock Forest	Occurs on moist sites throughout SE Alaska and in coastal band in SC Alaska.
IA1d	Western Hemlock dominates. Sitka Spruce > 25% cover but < Western Hemlock.	Closed Western Hemlock-Sitka Spruce-(Western Redcedar) Forest	Widespread in SE Alaska and in coastal band in SC Alaska (Redcedar may be present S of 57º N).
IA1e	Western Hemlock and Alaska-Cedar dominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Closed Western Hemlock-Alaska-cedar	Occurs on a variety of upland sites from sea level to subalpine throughout SE Alaska.
IA1f	Mountain Hemlock dominates canopy cover.	Closed Mountain Hemlock Forest	Occurs near tree line, normally on saturated soil, throughout SE Alaska and in narrow subalpine band in SC Alaska.
IA1g	Western Hemlock and Western Redcedar dominate (each contribute 25 - 75% of canopy cover). Alaska-cedar and Mountain Hemlock may also be significant.	Closed Western Hemlock-Western Redcedar Forest	Occurs on low-producing, poorly drained sites in southern SE Alaska.
IA1h	Silver Fir and Western Hemlock dominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover). Sitka Spruce and Western Redcedar may also be important.	Closed Silver Fir-Western Hemlock Forest	Limited distribution in southernmost SE Alaska.

Code	Key	Class	Description
IA1i	Subalpine Fir dominates canopy cover. Other important species include Sitka Spruce, Mountain Hemlock, and Alaska-cedar.	Closed Subalpine Fir Forest	Occurs in scattered locations near tree line in SE Alaska.
IA1j	White Spruce dominates canopy cover. May include scattered Paper Birch or Balsam Poplar.	Closed White Spruce Forest	Widespread in SC and Interior Alaska, generally on well-drained, permafrost-free soils.
IA1k	Black Spruce dominates canopy cover. White Spruce and Paper Birch may be present.	Closed Black Spruce Forest	Widespread in SC and Interior Alaska, generally on poorly drained organic soils, often over permafrost-free soils.
IA1l	Black Spruce and White Spruce codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Closed Black Spruce-White Spruce Forest	Occurs in Interior Alaska near the northern and western limits of trees. Also on terraces and bases of south-facing slopes.
IA2	Tree canopy of 25 - 60% cover. If not, go to IA3.	Open Coniferous Forest	Forest community has a 25 - 60% total tree canopy coverage.
IA2a	Sitka Spruce dominate overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Open Sitka Spruce Forest	Often occurs in alluvial deposits and glacial moraines and outwash in SE Alaska and in narrow coastal band in SC Alaska to Kodiak.
IA2b	Western Hemlock and Sitka Spruce dominate overstory (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Open Western Hemlock-Sitka Spruce Forest	Occurs from low to mid-elevations in SE Alaska.
IA2c	Mountain Hemlock dominates overstory. Other trees < 25% of canopy cover.	Open Mountain Hemlock Forest	Primarily on high mountain slopes in SC and SE Alaska.
IA2d	Dominated by various combinations of Alaska-cedar, Western Hemlock, Mountain Hemlock, Sitka Spruce, Lodgepole Pine, Western Redcedar, and Pacific Yew.	Open Mixed Conifer Forest	Stands with 3 - 5 overstory conifer species common on level or gently sloping wet sites in SE Alaska.
IA2e	White Spruce dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Open White Spruce Forest	On well-drained sites and near tree line in Interior, SW, NW, and SC Alaska.
IA2f	Black Spruce dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Open Black Spruce Forest	Extremely common on poorly drained, cold sites in Interior and SC Alaska.
IA2g	Black Spruce and White Spruce codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Open Black Spruce-White Spruce Forest	Occurs mostly near tree line in Interior Alaska.
IA2h	Black Spruce and Tamarack codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Open Black Spruce-Tamarack Forest	On wet lowland sites with permafrost in Interior Alaska.

Code	Key	Class	Description
IA3	Tree canopy of 10 - 25% cover.	Coniferous Woodland	Forest community has a 10 - 25% total tree canopy coverage.
IA3a	Lodgepole Pine dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Lodgepole Pine Woodland	Generally on boggy, poorly-drained sites in SE Alaska.
IA3b	Sitka Spruce dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Sitka Spruce Woodland	On poorly drained sedge peat in SE and coastal SC Alaska.
IA3c	White Spruce dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	White Spruce Woodland	Common and northern and elevational treelines.
IA3d	Black Spruce dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Black Spruce Woodland	In Interior, SC, SW, and NW Alaska on wet, boggy sites, often with sphagnum mosses, and on dry upland sites frequently with lichens.
IA3e	Black Spruce and White Spruce codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Black Spruce-White Spruce Woodland	In Interior, SC, SW, and NW Alaska, often near the northern, western, and elevational limit of trees.
IB	> 75% of tree cover contributed by broadleaf species. If not, go to IC.	Broadleaf Forest	Dominated by broadleaf (all deciduous trees except for tamarack) tree species (Red Alder, Black Cottonwood, Balsam Poplar, Quaking Aspen, Paper Birch).
IB1	Tree canopy of 60 - 100% cover. If not, go to IB2.	Closed Broadleaf Forest	Forest community has a 60 - 100% total tree canopy coverage.
IB1a	Red Alder dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Closed Red Alder Forest	Occupies moist sites and disturbed areas in SE Alaska.
IB1b	Black Cottonwood dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Closed Black Cottonwood Forest	Generally along streams in SE and SC Alaska.
IB1c	Balsam Poplar dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Closed Balsam Poplar Forest	Occurs most frequently on floodplains in Interior, SC, and SW Alaska and in isolated stands on the northern slope of the Brooks Range.
IB1d	Paper Birch dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Closed Paper Birch Forest	Occurs on many upland sites, both with and without permafrost, in Interior and SC Alaska.
IB1e	Quaking Aspen dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Closed Quaking Aspen Forest	Occurs on warm, well-drained upland soils in Interior and SC Alaska.

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Code	Key	Class	Description
IB1f	Paper Birch and Quaking Aspen codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Closed Paper Birch-Quaking Aspen Forest	Found on moderately warm sites in Interior and SC Alaska.
IB1g	Quaking Aspen and Balsam Poplar codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Closed Quaking Aspen-Balsam Poplar Forest	Occurs on floodplains in Interior Alaska.
IB2	Tree canopy of 25 - 60% cover. If not, go to IB3.	Open Broadleaf Forest	Forest community has a 25 - 60% total tree canopy coverage.
IB2a	Paper Birch dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Open Paper Birch Forest	Occurs on dry to moist sites in Interior, SC, and W Alaska. On dry sites lichens are important in understory; on moist sites, shrubs are dominant.
IB2b	Quaking Aspen dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Open Quaking Aspen Forest	Primarily on extremely dry sites on steep south-facing slopes in Interior and SC Alaska.
IB2c	Balsam Poplar or Black Cottonwood dominate overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Open Balsam Poplar (Black Cottonwood) Forest	Occurs as open clumps near tree line in Interior, SC, SW, and NW Alaska and in isolated groves on north slope of Brooks Range (Black Cottonwood restricted to SC and SE Alaska).
IB3	Tree canopy of 10 - 25% cover.	Broadleaf Woodland	Forest community has a 10 - 25% total tree canopy coverage.
IB3a	Paper Birch (may be multistemmed) dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Paper Birch Woodland	On dry sites, such as old sand dunes and coarse gravel deposits, in NW and northern Interior Alaska.
IB3b	Balsam Poplar dominates overstory. Other species < 25% of canopy cover.	Balsam Poplar Woodland	Reported from the Susitna R. floodplain. May occur on slopes near tree line.
IB3c	Paper Birch and Quaking Aspen codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Paper Birch-Balsam Poplar Woodland	Reported from the Susitna Valley.
IC	Broadleaf or coniferous species both contribute 25 - 75% of tree cover.	Mixed Forest	Broadleaf or coniferous species contribute 25 - 75% of tree cover.
IC1	Tree canopy of 60 - 100% cover. If not, go to IC2.	Closed Mixed Forest	Forest community has a 60 - 100% total tree canopy coverage.

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Code	Key	Class	Description
IC1a	Paper Birch and White and/or Black Spruce dominate overstory.	Closed Spruce-Paper Birch Forest	Primarily in Interior and SC Alaska where it tends to occur on cool wet sites when black spruce is included in mixture
IC1b	White Spruce, Paper Birch, and Balsam Poplar/Black Cottonwood dominate overstory.	Closed White Spruce-Paper Birch-Balsam Poplar (Black Cottonwood Forest)	Reported from the Susitna Valley.
IC1c	White and/or Black Spruce, Paper Birch, and Quaking Aspen dominate overstory.	Closed Spruce-Paper Birch-Quaking Aspen Forest	Reported from Interior Alaska.
IC1d	Quaking Aspen and White and/or Black Spruce dominate overstory.	Closed Quaking Aspen-Spruce Forest	Most common in Interior and SC Alaska on warm, well-drained sites--an intermediate successional phase.
IC1e	Balsam Poplar and White Spruce dominate overstory.	Closed Balsam Poplar-White Spruce Forest	On floodplains In Interior, SC, SW, and NW Alaska where it is an intermediate successional stage.
IC2	Tree canopy of 25 - 60% cover. If not, go to IC3.	Open Mixed Forest	Forest community has a 25 - 60% total tree canopy coverage.
IC2a	Paper Birch and White and/or Black Spruce dominate overstory.	Open Spruce-Paper Birch Forest	On a variety of upland sites in Interior, SC, SW, and NW Alaska.
IC2b	Quaking Aspen and White and/or Black Spruce dominate overstory.	Open Quaking Aspen-Spruce Forest	Reported from the Porcupine River area in Interior Alaska.
IC2c	White Spruce, Paper Birch, and Balsam Poplar dominate overstory.	Open Paper Birch-Balsam Poplar-Spruce Forest	Reported from Susitna Valley.
IC2d	White Spruce and Balsam Poplar dominate overstory.	Open Spruce-Balsam Poplar	Reported from Susitna Valley.
IC3	Tree canopy of 10 - 25% cover.	Mixed Woodland	Forest community has a 10 - 25% total tree canopy coverage.
IC3a	Paper Birch and White and/or Black Spruce dominate overstory.	Spruce-Paper Birch Woodland	Reported from Susitna Valley.
II	Erect to decumbent woody shrubs with cover ≥ 25% OR dwarf trees (< 3 m tall) with cover ≥ 10% cover. If not, go to III.	Scrub	Scrub communities are composed of combinations of dwarf trees, and tall, low, and dwarf shrubs.

Code	Key	Class	Description
IIA	Dwarf trees (< 3 m tall) with cover ≥ 10% cover. If not, go to IIB.	Dwarf Tree Scrub	Community dominated by dwarf trees (< 3 m tall), usually shrublike. Shrubs may be absent or abundant.
IIA1	Dwarf tree canopy of 60 - 100% cover. If not, go to IIA2.	Closed Dwarf Tree Scrub	Dwarf tree canopy of 60 - 100% cover.
IIA1a	Mountain Hemlock dominates overstory. Sitka Spruce may be present.	Closed Mountain Hemlock Dwarf Tree Scrub	Occurs at tree line in SE Alaska. On wind-exposed sites may form mat 0.3 m tall.
IIA1b	Subalpine Fir dominates overstory. Mountain Hemlock and Sitka Spruce may be present.	Closed Subalpine Fir Dwarf Tree Scrub	Forms dense stands at elevational tree line in SE Alaska. On highly exposed sites may form prostrate mat 0.15 m tall.
IIA2	Dwarf tree canopy of 25 - 59% cover. If not, go to IIA3.	Open Dwarf Tree Scrub	Dwarf tree canopy of 25 - 59% cover. Shrubs may be absent or abundant, usually common.
IIA2a	Black Spruce dominates overstory. Dwarf tamarack and paper birch may also be present.	Open Black Spruce Dwarf Tree Scrub	Found on very cold and/or wet soils in Interior, SC, and W Alaska.
IIA2b	Mountain Hemlock dominates overstory. Sitka Mountain-ash may be present.	Open Mountain Hemlock Dwarf Tree Scrub	Common on peatlands and sometimes on exposed ridges in SE Alaska.
IIA3	Dwarf tree canopy of 10 - 25% cover.	Dwarf Tree Scrub Woodland	Dwarf tree canopy of 10 - 24% cover. If other vegetation types are lacking, dwarf tree cover can be as low as 2%.
IIA3a	Black Spruce dominates overstory. Other tree species usually not present.	Black Spruce Dwarf Tree Woodland	Common in Interior, SC, and W Alaska on very cold or wet sites.
IIB	Shrubs > 1.5 m tall and ≥ 25% cover dominate. If not, go to IIC.	Tall Scrub	Woody plants other than trees > 1.5 m tall and ≥ 25% cover dominate.
IIB1	Shrub canopy cover > 75%. If not, go to IIB2.	Closed Tall Scrub	Shrub canopy cover > 75%.
IIB1a	Willow species dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species).	Closed Tall Willow Shrub	Characteristic of floodplains and common throughout Alaska except for Aleutian Is. and Arctic coast.
IIB1b	Alder species dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species).	Closed Tall Alder Shrub	Common throughout most of state on steep slopes, floodplains, and stream banks.
IIB1c	Shrub Birch species or hybrids dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species).	Closed Tall Shrub Birch Shrub	Generally found in taiga openings in Interior Alaska near tree line.
IIB1d	Alder and Willow species codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Closed Tall Alder-Willow Shrub	Occurs on floodplain terraces and drainages on slopes throughout most of Alaska except Aleutian Is. and Arctic Coastal Plain.

Code	Key	Class	Description
IIB1e	Shrub Birch and Willow species codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Closed Tall Shrub Birch-Willow Shrub	Not common but present on Seward Peninsula.
IIB1f	Standing water present most or all of growing season. Alder (usually) and willow typically dominate.	Closed Tall Shrub Swamp	Common in Interior, SC, and SE Alaska on sites with poorly drained soil and hummocky microrelief with depressions containing standing water. Typically dominated by alder or willow.
IIB2	Shrub canopy cover 25 - 74% OR ≥ 2% IF little or no other vegetation cover present.	Open Tall Scrub	Shrub canopy cover 25 - 74% (or ≥ 2% if little or no other vegetation present).
IIB2a	Willow species dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species).	Open Tall Willow Shrub	Occupies a variety of sites, from dunes to river banks. Most common in Interior, W, SC, and Arctic Alaska.
IIB2b	Alder species dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species).	Open Tall Alder Shrub	Found throughout state, but not as abundant as closed alder communities.
IIB2c	Shrub Birch species or hybrids dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species).	Open Tall Shrub Birch Shrub	Occurs at and above tree line, especially in Alaska Range.
IIB2d	Alder and Willow species codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Open Tall Alder-Willow Shrub	On floodplain terraces and steep slopes near tree line in Interior and N Alaska.
IIB2e	Shrub Birch and Willow species codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Open Tall Shrub Birch-Willow Shrub	Occurs near tree line especially in Alaska Range and W Alaska.
IIB2f	Standing water present most or all of growing season. Alder (usually) and Willow typically dominate.	Open Tall Shrub Swamp	Occurs on floodplains and drainages in Interior and SC Alaska.
IIC	Shrubs 0.2 - 1.5 m tall and ≥ 25% cover dominate. If not, go to IID	Low Scrub	Woody plants other than trees 0.2 - 1.5 m tall and ≥ 25% cover dominate.
IIC1	Shrub canopy cover > 75%. If not, go to IIC2.	Closed Low Scrub	Shrub canopy cover > 75%.
IIC1a	Shrub Birch species or hybrids dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species).	Closed Low Shrub Birch	Thickets not common but do occur on Seward Peninsula and Interior Alaska.
IIC1b	Willow species dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species).	Closed Low Willow Shrub	Common in Interior, W and N Alaska along streams and lakes.
IIC1c	Shrub Birch and Willow species codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Closed Low Shrub Birch-Willow Shrub	Occupies alluvial deposits in N and W Alaska.
IIC1d	Ericaceous (e.g., Copperbush Cladothamnus pyrolaeflorus) species dominate.	Closed Low Ericaceous Shrub	Near tree line in SE Alaska (Copperbush Cladothamnus pyrolaeflorus).

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Code	Key	Class	Description
IIC1e	Alder and Willow species codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Closed Low Alder-Willow Shrub	Reported from SE Alaska on poorly drained soils.
IIC2	Shrub canopy cover 25 - 74% OR ≥ 2% IF little or no other vegetation cover present.	Open Low Scrub	Shrub canopy cover 25 - 74% (or ≥ 2% if little or no other vegetation present).
IIC2a	Mixed shrubs and tussock-forming sedges dominate (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Open Low Mixed Shrub-Sedge Tussock Tundra	One of the most extensive tundra units in Alaska; centered in N and W Alaska.
IIC2b	Mixed shrubs and tussock-forming sedges dominate (in subarctic and subalpine regions within tree limit).	Open Low Mixed Shrub-Sedge Tussock Bog	Occurs in lowland areas of Interior and SC Alaska.
IIC2c	Shrub Birch and Ericaceous species codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover) on wet non-peat soils. Hydrophytic sedges and Sphagnum are absent.	Open Low Mesic Shrub Birch-Ericaceous Shrub	Mesic slopes and alpine areas in Interior and SC Alaska and in N and W Alaska. Hydrophytic sedges and Sphagnum mosses generally absent.
IIC2d	Shrub Birch and Ericaceous species codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover) on wet peat soils. Peat-forming sedges and/or mosses are present.	Open Low Shrub Birch-Ericaceous Shrub Bog	Common on peat mounds and ridges of poorly drained lowlands in all Alaska except SE Alaska and Aleutian Is. Hydrophytic sedges and Sphagnum mosses generally present.
IIC2e	Ericaceous species dominate (< 25% other canopy species). Wet peat soils.	Open Low Ericaceous Shrub Bog	Common in maritime climates of SE and SC Alaska and Aleutian Is. Hydrophytic sedges and Sphagnum mosses generally present.
IIC2f	Shrub Birch and Willow species codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Open Low Shrub Birch-Willow Shrub	Occurs in poorly drained lowlands and on moist slopes in N, Interior, SC, and SW Alaska
IIC2g	Willow species dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species).	Open Low Willow Shrub	Occurs on moist uplands in N, Interior, and SC Alaska
IIC2h	Willow species dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species); sedges dominate understory (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Open Low Willow-Sedge Shrub Tundra	Occurs on poorly drained lowlands of Arctic and W Alaska.
IIC2i	Willow species dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species); graminoids dominate understory on peat soils (in subarctic and subalpine regions within tree line).	Open Low Willow-Graminoid Shrub Bog	Occurs in wet stream bottoms and depressions in Interior, SW, SC, and SE Alaska.

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Code	Key	Class	Description
IIC2j	Sweetgale and graminoids dominate on extremely wet (often standing water) on peat soils.	Open Low Sweetgale-Graminoid Bog	Occupies poorly drained lowlands and pond margins in SE, SC, and SW Alaska.
IIC2k	Alder and Willow species codominate (each contributes 25 - 75% of canopy cover).	Open Low Alder-Willow Shrub	Occurs near tree line in interior Alaska and on river terraces in Arctic Alaska.
IIC2l	Alder species dominate overstory (< 25% other canopy species).	Open Low Alder Shrub	Occupies moist areas, especially drainages, in most of Alaska, except SE and Aleutian Is.
IIC2m	Sagebrush and Juniper dominate.	Sagebrush-Juniper	Exists on steep south-facing bluffs in Interior and SC Alaska.
IIC2n	Sagebrush and grasses dominate.	Sagebrush-Grass	Occurs on south-facing bluffs in Interior and SC Alaska.
IID	Shrubs < 0.2 m tall and ≥ 25% cover OR ≥ 2% IF little or no other vegetation cover present.	Dwarf Scrub	Woody plants other than trees < 0.2 m tall and ≥ 25% cover dominate.
IID1	Dryas species dominate. If not, go to IID2.	Dryas Dwarf Scrub	Dryas species dominant in dwarf shrub layer.
IID1a	Dryas species dominate.	Dryas Dwarf Shrub Tundra	Very wide-spread throughout the northern two-thirds of Alaska.
IID1b	Dryas species and sedges dominate.	Dryas-Sedge Dwarf Shrub Tundra	Common on alpine sites throughout the northern two-thirds of Alaska.
IID1c	Dryas species and fruticose lichens dominate.	Dryas-Lichen Dwarf Shrub Tundra	Occurs on windswept alpine sites, especially on the Seward Peninsula.
IID2	Ericaceous species dominate. If not, go to IID3.	Ericaceous Dwarf Scrub	Ericaceous species dominant in dwarf shrub layer.
IID2a	Bearberry Arctostaphylos species dominate.	Bearberry Dwarf Shrub Tundra	Occurs in alpine areas in Interior and Arctic Alaska, but most common in W Alaska.
IID2b	Vaccinium cranberry species dominate.	Vaccinium Dwarf Shrub Tundra	Common in alpine areas of Interior, N, and W Alaska.
IID2c	Crowberry Empetrum nigrum dominates.	Crowberry Dwarf Shrub Tundra	Characteristic of S. Alaska and Aleutian Is.
IID2d	Mountain-Heath Phyllodoce aleutica dominates.	Mountain Heath Dwarf Shrub Tundra	Common on alpine slopes in SC and SE Alaska.
IID2e	Cassiope species dominate.	Cassiope Dwarf Shrub Tundra	Widespread on moist alpine sites throughout Alaska.
IID3	Willow species dominate.	Willow Dwarf Scrub	Willow species dominant in dwarf shrub layer.

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Code	Key	Class	Description
IID3a	Willow species dominate.	Willow Dwarf Shrub Tundra	Common in alpine areas throughout Alaska except for SE Alaska.
III	Herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation dominates with < 25% scrub and < 10% forest cover. If not, go to IV.	Herbaceous	Herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation with ≤25% shrub cover and <10% forest cover.
IIIA	Grasses and Sedges dominate (Rushes and Horsetails are treated as forbs). If not, go to IIIB.	Graminoid Herbaceous	Grasses, sedges, or rushes dominant.
IIIA1	Graminoids dominate on well- to excessively drained sites. If not, go to IIIA2	Dry Graminoid Herbaceous	Grasslands of well-drained, dry sites, such as south facing bluffs, old beaches, and sand dunes.
IIIA1a	Elymus species dominate.	Elymus	Occurs on beaches, dunes, gravel outwash flats, and dry slopes mostly in coastal areas, but occasionally in Alaska and Brooks Ranges and Interior Alaska.
IIIA1b	Fescue species dominate.	Dry Fescue	Occupies dry slopes in Interior, SC, and W Alaska.
IIIA1c	Medium height grasses dominate with conspicuous shrubs providing < 25% cover.	Midgrass-Shrub	Locally common on steep, south-facing slopes in Interior and SC Alaska.
IIIA1d	Medium height grasses and broad-leaved herbs dominate.	Midgrass-Herb	Occupies various sites in SC, SE, and Interior Alaska and Aleutian Is. from alpine meadows to stream banks.
IIIA1e	Hair-grasses Deschampsia species dominate.	Hair-Grass	Common in Aleutian Is. and along southern coast of Alaska. Often diverse stands with small numbers of a great many species.
IIIA2	Graminoids dominate or codominate on mesic sites.	Mesic Graminoid Herbaceous	Grasslands on moist sites, but usually not with standing water (tussocks often present).
IIIA2a	Bluejoint Calamagrostis dominates (includes lawns).	Bluejoint Meadow	Found throughout Alaska except for SE and Arctic Alaska. Occupies large areas in SC and SW Alaska. Includes installed and maintained lawns.
IIIA2b	Bluejoint Calamagrostis and herbs codominate.	Bluejoint-Herb	Widely distributed in southern half of state.
IIIA2c	Bluejoint Calamagrostis dominates with conspicuous shrubs providing < 25% cover.	Bluejoint-Shrub	Extensive in SW Alaska and probably also common in SC and Interior Alaska.
IIIA2d	Sedges in tussock growth form dominate (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Tussock Tundra	Widely distributed throughout W, N, and Interior Alaska.
IIIA2e	Sedges and Grasses dominate in various combinations (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Mesic Sedge-Grass Meadow Tundra	Usually of minor extent in arctic and alpine settings.

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Code	Key	Class	Description
IIIA2f	Sedges and broad-leaved herbs codominate (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Mesic Sedge-Herb Meadow Tundra	Usually of minor extent in arctic and alpine settings.
IIIA2g	Grasses and broad-leaved herbs codominate (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Mesic Grass-Herb Meadow Tundra	Occurs in small, limited areas. Reported from Arctic Slope but probably more widespread.
IIIA2h	Sedges dominate with conspicuous willow component providing < 25% cover (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Sedge-Willow Tundra	Widely distributed in tundra areas throughout Alaska except SC and SE; probably most abundant from Brooks Range north.
IIIA2i	Sedges dominate with conspicuous shrub birch component providing < 25% cover (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Sedge-Birch Tundra	Known from northern Alaska.
IIIA2j	Sedges dominate with conspicuous dryas component providing < 25% cover (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Sedge-Dryas Tundra	Widely distributed in tundra areas throughout Alaska except SE.
IIIA3	Graminoids dominate or codominate on wet (saturated or flooded most or all of growing season) sites.	Wet Graminoid Herbaceous (emergent)	Grasslands on wet sites, standing water present for part of year; dominated by sedges or grasses; includes wet tundra, bogs, marshes, and fens.
IIIA3a	Sedges dominate (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Wet Sedge Meadow Tundra	Found in very wet areas, generally underlain by permafrost, in every part of Alaska except SE and Aleutian Is.
IIIA3b	Sedges and Grasses dominate in various combinations (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Wet Sedge-Grass Meadow Tundra	Largely confined to the Arctic Coastal Plain in very wet areas underlain by shallow permafrost.
IIIA3c	Sedges and broad-leaved herbs codominate (in arctic and alpine regions beyond tree line).	Wet Sedge-Herb Meadow Tundra	Found on very wet, poorly drained sites with standing water, such as oxbow lakes and alpine bogs. Apparently widely distributed throughout Alaska.
IIIA3d	Tall Sedges emerging from standing water (> 0.15 m deep) dominate.	Fresh Sedge Marsh	Found in SC and SE Alaska; may be found in Interior.
IIIA3e	Grasses emerging from standing water (> 0.15 m deep) dominate.	Fresh Grass Marsh	Common in ponds, slow-flowing streams, lake margins, and thermokarst pits in N and W Alaska. Depth of water ranges from seasonally flooded to 2 m.

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Code	Key	Class	Description
IIIA3f	Coarse, relatively tall Sedges in saturated or shallow flooded (≤ 0.15 m deep) soils dominate (in subarctic and subalpine regions within tree limit).	Subarctic Lowland Sedge Wet Meadow	Common in very wet areas on floodplains, margins of ponds, lakes, and sloughs and in depressions in upland areas. Reported from W, SC, SE, Interior Alaska and Aleutian Is.
IIIA3g	Sedges in saturated or shallow flooded (≤ 0.15 m deep) soils dominate with conspicuous shrub component providing < 25% cover (in subarctic and subalpine regions within tree limit).	Subarctic Lowland Sedge-Shrub Wet Meadow	Occupies upper parts of coastal marshes in SC and SE Alaska.
IIIA3h	Salt-tolerant Grasses (e.g., Puccinellia) dominate.	Halophytic Grass Wet Meadow	Commonly occupies tidal mud flats along entire Alaska coast.
IIIA3i	Salt-tolerant Sedges (e.g., Carex) dominate.	Halophytic Sedge Wet Meadow	Commonly occupies tidal mud flats along entire Alaska coast.
IIIA3j	Delicate, low Sedges on bog peats dominate (in subarctic and subalpine regions within tree limit).	Subarctic Lowland Sedge-Bog Meadow	Develops on peat deposits, sometimes forming quaking sedge mats, in filled lakes, ponds, and depressions throughout the southern two-thirds of Alaska.
IIIA3k	Mosses (e.g., Sphagnum) dominate with delicate, low sedges present and usually codominant on peat soils (in subarctic and subalpine regions within tree limit).	Subarctic Lowland Sedge-Moss Bog Meadow	Occurs on peat soils, including seepage slopes, raised bogs, slope bogs, early stages of flat bogs, and floating bogs in SE and SC Alaska and Aleutian Is.
IIIB	Forbs (broad-leaved herbs), Rushes (Juncaceae), Horsetails (Equisetaceae), and Ferns dominate. If not, go to IIIC.	Forb Herbaceous	Vegetation dominated by forbs (broadleaf herbs, ferns, rushes, or horsetails).
IIIB1	Forbs dominate on dry sites (often sparsely vegetated pioneer communities). If not, go to IIIB2.	Dry Forb Herbaceous	On dry sites, usually rocky and well-drained; mostly tundra sites.
IIIB1a	Open Herb communities colonizing previously unvegetated non-alpine sites.	Seral Herbs	Found throughout Alaska on floodplains, riverbanks, and eroding bluffs.
IIIB1b	Wide variety of herbs and sedges dominate on sites covered by late melting snow beds.	Alpine Herb-Sedge (Snowbed)	Includes a wide-variety of types below late-lying snowbanks in mountainous areas throughout Alaska.
IIIB1c	Sparse herb communities on alpine rock outcrops, talus and blockfields.	Alpine Herbs	Occur as sparse vegetation on talus and blockfields, and in some well-vegetated herbaceous meadows in alpine valleys throughout Alaska.
IIIB2	Forbs dominate on mesic soils.	Mesic Forb Herbaceous	On moist sites but without standing water, mostly within forested areas.

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Code	Key	Class	Description
IIIB2a	Mixture of herbs dominate.	Mixed Herbs	Occur on mesic slopes and streambanks throughout most of Alaska.
IIIB2b	Fireweed Epilobium angustifolium dominates.	Fireweed	Occurs on disturbed areas in SC and Interior Alaska.
IIIB2c	Tall (0.5 - 1.5 m) Umbilliferae (e.g., Heracleum and Angelica) dominate.	Large Umbel	Occurs on moist to wet areas, often along drainages, in SE and SC Alaska and Aleutian Is.
IIIB2d	Ferns (e.g., Athyrium and Dryopteris) dominate.	Ferns	Restricted to localized areas in SE and SC Alaska and Aleutian Is.
IIIB3	Forbs dominate on wet (saturated or flooded most or all of growing season) sites.	Wet Forb Herbaceous (emergent)	On wet sites, usually with standing water for part of year.
IIIB3a	Herbs (e.g., Equisetum, Menyanthes trifoliata, and Potentilla palustris) emerging from standing water (> 0.15 m deep) dominate.	Fresh Herb Marsh	Found in ponds, sloughs, and oxbow lakes in SC, SW, SE and Interior Alaska.
IIIB3b	Herbs on saturated or shallow flooded (≤ 0.15 m deep) non-peat soils dominate (in subarctic and subalpine regions within tree limit).	Subarctic Lowland Herb Wet Meadow	Found in seepage areas, ephemeral pools, pond margins and upper edges of coastal marshes on Aleutian Is. and in W, SC, and SE Alaska.
IIIB3c	Broad-leaved Herbs on saturated or shallow flooded (≤ 0.15 m deep) peat soils (often floating mat) dominate (in subarctic and subalpine regions within tree limit).	Subarctic Lowland Herb Bog Meadow	Commonly forms floating mats or occurs along margins of bog ponds in Interior, SC, and SE Alaska. Also occurs in wet areas above streams in Aleutian Is.
IIIB3d	Halophytic Herbs dominate on tidal areas inundated ≥ a few times/month by salt water.	Halophytic Herb Wet Meadow	Occurs on a variety of wet substrates on beaches and seaward parts of coastal marshes along entire Alaska coastline.
IIIC	Bryophytes (mosses and liverworts) and/or Lichens dominate. If not, go to IIID.	Bryoid herbaceous	Vegetation dominated by mosses or lichens.
IIIC1	Bryophytes (mosses and liverworts) dominate. If not, go to IIIC2.	Bryophyte	Vegetation cover dominated by mosses.
IIIC1a	Bryophytes (e.g., Gymnocolea, Scapania, and Nardia) dominate on wet sites. Vascular plants are virtually absent.	Wet Bryophyte	Occurs on a wide variety of small and localized, mostly wet sites in the southern part of Alaska.
IIIC1b	Bryophytes (e.g., Rhacomitrium, Grimmia, and Andreaea) dominate on non-wet sites. Vascular plants are virtually absent.	Dry Bryophyte	Occurs on gravelly slopes, sand dunes, and mounds. Cover usually is sparse.
IIIC2	Lichens dominate.	Lichen	Vegetation cover dominated by lichens.

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Code	Key	Class	Description
IIIC2a	Crustose Lichen species dominate.	Crustose Lichen	Occurs on extremely harsh, dry, windblown rocky sites with little or no soil development primarily in alpine regions throughout Alaska.
IIIC2b	Foliose and Fruticose Lichen species dominate. Other plant types are absent or nearly so.	Foliose and Fruticose Lichen	Occurs on dry fellfields and exposed ridges.
IIID	Plants with floating or submerged leaves dominate. Plants may also have emergent leaves and flowers.	Aquatic (nonemergent) Herbaceous	Dominant vegetation growing submerged in water or floating on water surface. Emergent (often specialized) leaves may occur.
IIID1	Aquatic communities in fresh water.	Freshwater Aquatic Herbaceous	Vegetation submerged or floating in fresh water.
IIID1a	Pondlilies Nuphar and Nymphaea dominate.	Pondlily	In fairly large ponds with mineral substrates. Widely distributed throughout SE, SC, W, and Interior Alaska.
IIID1b	Common Marestail Hippuris vulgaris dominates. Standing water may dry up for several weeks during growing season. Emergents are absent or nearly so.	Common Marestail	Found in oxbows, tundra ponds, and sluggish sloughs in SE, SC, W, and N Alaska.
IIID1c	Aquatic Buttercup Ranunculus species dominate or codominate.	Aquatic Buttercup	Occurs in shallow ponds and flooded gravel pits in SC, W, and N Alaska.
IIID1d	Burreed Sparganium species dominate.	Burreed	Occurs in shallow ponds and lakes in SE, SC, W, and N Alaska.
IIID1e	Water Milfoil Myriophyllum spicatum dominates.	Water Milfoil	Found in shallow ponds in SC, W, and Interior Alaska.
IIID1f	Pondweeds Potamogeton species dominate.	Fresh Pondweed	Present in small ponds and pools throughout Alaska.
IIID1g	Water Star-Wort Callitriche species dominate.	Water Star-Wort	Reported from shallow seasonal pools with rock bottoms on Amchika Is.
IIID1h	Aquatic Cryptogams (e.g., mosses Fontinalis, liverwort Scapania, lichen Siphula, and quillwort Isoetes) dominate.	Aquatic Cryptogam	Poorly described but probably widely distributed in shallow lakes and ponds throughout Alaska.
IIID2	Aquatic communities in brackish water.	Brackish Water Aquatic Herbaceous	Vegetation submerged or floating in brackish water.
IIID2a	Four-Leaf Marestail Hippuris tetraphylla dominates.	Four-Leaf Marestail	Occurs on deltas, tidal flats, and bays along the Alaska coastline.
IIID2b	Brackish water-tolerent Pondweed Potamogeton, Wigeongrass Ruppia spiralis, or Horned Pondweed Zannichellia palustris dominate.	Brackish Pondweed	Occurs in permanent shallow (0.10 - 0.15 m deep) brackish ponds in SE, SC, and SW Alaska.

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Code	Key	Class	Description
IIID3	Aquatic communities in marine water.	Marine Aquatic Herbaceous	Vegetation submerged or floating in saltwater.
IIID3a	Eelgrass Zostera marina dominates.	Eelgrass	Occupies subtidal and low intertidal sites with clear water in bays, inlets, and lagoons from SE Alaska to the Seward Peninsula.
IIID3b	Marine Algae dominates.	Marine Algae	Found on subtidal and intertidal sites, often in exposed rocky areas on the SC, SE, and Aleutian coasts.
IV	< 2% vegetative cover.	Unvegetated	Less than 2% vegetative cover; either natural or anthropogenic.

Appendix B7.–Vegetation disturbance classes.

Code	Description
A	Anthropogenic Disturbance
AA	Unique
AA1	Timber Harvest
AA1a	0-1 year post-harvest
AA1b	1-5 year post-harvest
AA1c	10-20 year post-harvest
AA1d	20+ year post-harvest
AA2	Construction
AA2a	0-1 year post-construction
AA2b	1-5 year post-construction
AA2c	10-20 year post-construction
AA2d	20+ year post-construction
AA3	Enhancement/Restoration
AA3a	Bank Stabilization
AA3b	Riparian Thinning
AA3c	Fisheries Related
AA3d	Rip-Rap
AB	Repeated Seasonal
AB1	Foot Traffic
AB1a	Anglers
AB1b	Non-anglers
AB2	Vehicle Traffic
AB2a	Non-Recreational (road vehicle)
AB2b	Recreational (ATV, snowmachine)
AC	Permanent
AC1	Pervious Surfaces
AC1a	Urban/Commercial Landscaping
AC1b	Agricultural
AC1c	Gravel
AC1d	Other
AC2	Impervious Surfaces
AC2a	Parking Area
AC2b	Paved Trail/Walkway
AC2c	Concrete Wall/Abutment
N	Natural Disturbance
NA	Water/Flood
NA1	Slumping/Undercutting
NA1a	Wood Inputs
NA1b	Sediment Inputs

Code	Description
NA2	Sediment deposition from tributary
NB	Windthrow
NC	Glacial Retreat
ND	Fire
NE	Mass Wasting
NE1	Avalanche
NE2	Landslide
NE3	Debris Torrent
NE4	Natural Tree Mortality

APPENDIX C

Appendix C1.–Headwater target stream location information, sites are potentially visited.

Site	Latitude	Longitude
1	63.08506212	-151.6730267
2	63.02054665	-151.6031368
3	63.06532124	-151.4233369
4	63.11313127	-151.3470623
5	63.12658686	-150.7939101
6	63.21240541	-150.5931287
7	63.23158968	-150.7041435
8	63.17402512	-148.1919505
9	63.17259009	-148.3001035
10	63.21004695	-148.3421269
11	63.19756605	-148.7779793
12	63.22580325	-148.5972127
13	63.22945428	-151.3762147
14	63.30885521	-151.3686031
15	63.3559085	-152.1548502
16	63.30209739	-152.2133781
17	63.33123047	-150.7856274
18	63.3423342	-150.877602
19	63.30128272	-151.5216926
20	63.28257106	-148.5075132
21	63.24615558	-151.8263239
22	63.28907723	-151.9934964
23	63.26708799	-151.5988594
24	63.35042594	-150.5393857
25	63.36232821	-155.8256004
26	63.39380392	-155.7547308
27	63.27486655	-147.7438899
28	63.2811814	-151.2073264
29	63.38704788	-151.3231423
30	63.31486839	-147.8294422
31	63.14450857	-151.1150255
32	63.30711588	-148.2736458
33	63.37280748	-150.3730464
34	63.39789766	-150.2783922
35	63.36330796	-148.9759651
36	63.38582735	-149.3188398
37	63.40914517	-152.3658538
38	63.37819957	-148.729827
39	63.34567183	-151.1225164
40	63.40437896	-151.8255509
41	63.49208329	-152.1101203
42	63.48967941	-152.0281697
43	63.45567022	-149.080538

Site	Latitude	Longitude
44	63.45020883	-148.5307493
45	63.46033885	-150.5482478
46	63.43629231	-152.2040722
47	63.43624398	-150.0750593
48	63.42660182	-149.8971675
49	63.53638101	-150.6519124
50	63.44583052	-147.8075038
51	63.45881749	-148.0596297
52	63.48961358	-155.2582175
53	63.56385502	-155.4259726
54	63.48266292	-148.1717229
55	63.57615593	-152.2179476
56	63.50568759	-154.7957459
57	63.59402018	-154.749682
58	63.54818765	-151.5027511
59	63.53284038	-149.8181933
60	63.5054458	-149.6877641
61	63.4883143	-147.7143281
62	63.51762154	-155.5886808
63	63.59834392	-151.7506203
64	63.51532433	-151.6469566
65	63.64694777	-155.0592551
66	63.63284633	-152.626369
67	63.59287239	-152.5192061
68	63.64306371	-154.9147279
69	63.6212663	-154.8764654
70	63.59670521	-154.2821757
71	63.57163282	-154.1663548
72	63.64608891	-154.6424108
73	63.66918247	-154.7588862
74	63.59370934	-151.2479807
75	63.58269774	-151.1199523
76	63.49932686	-150.2474631
77	63.61946835	-150.2114845
78	63.60064003	-148.1689846
79	63.68875588	-151.7582802
80	63.59405574	-150.516188
81	63.73448689	-155.4500988
82	63.60896909	-150.8365579
89	63.6294467	-154.4983439
90	63.63693825	-149.0081949
91	63.56139639	-149.0610444

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Site	Latitude	Longitude
92	63.76880647	-153.8567792
93	63.67668122	-149.6248533
94	63.48418721	-149.5415189
95	63.73697139	-152.3725299
96	63.75080149	-152.3108593
97	63.74261059	-154.2501038
98	63.66701437	-148.1356654
99	63.64603389	-149.2378031
100	63.70074815	-149.1886906
101	63.75015507	-154.5460599
102	63.75258645	-150.7369155
103	63.62527527	-152.2828937
104	63.80491598	-154.687379
105	63.71539889	-148.9862801
106	63.71801978	-149.31755
107	63.80480987	-154.3152917
108	63.82442789	-155.2476048
109	63.74896525	-155.0684232
110	63.73085798	-148.2877625
111	63.80878425	-151.662398
112	63.7956262	-153.5578597
113	63.83370339	-153.3844896
114	63.82608963	-152.0475995
115	63.83668151	-151.5239068
116	63.71643432	-147.854645
117	63.52589588	-149.3214226
118	63.72042064	-147.614327
119	63.7205254	-147.1460947
120	63.68031829	-147.1762715
121	63.88147363	-152.3663019
122	63.67930835	-147.0836935
123	63.82433003	-150.1628902
124	63.79583102	-150.0493548
125	63.85006128	-151.4555246
126	63.85084081	-151.4065466
127	63.80822594	-150.4045113
128	63.79364545	-151.3640233
129	63.90744738	-155.073621
130	63.875285	-152.027791
131	63.86806831	-150.8427208
132	63.86358522	-150.7832409
133	63.75448113	-149.7090206

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Site	Latitude	Longitude
134	63.87259071	-150.0414005
135	63.8674371	-149.7052539
136	63.78884326	-148.4538448
137	63.61337521	-146.4420921
138	63.60536996	-146.444156
139	63.82477087	-148.1149584
140	63.77314861	-146.8273732
141	63.94529116	-154.8230889
142	63.87816836	-149.8384732
143	63.95583152	-154.0863929
144	63.91223866	-153.5634371
145	63.91931224	-154.0354592
146	63.84699987	-149.0886061
147	63.72726382	-146.258279
148	63.72746363	-146.1375496
149	63.9051632	-151.2847147
150	63.8986703	-149.3682345
151	63.73169292	-146.4402406
152	63.86800038	-148.3639259
153	63.86616936	-150.59446
154	63.89186255	-153.8769753
155	63.69908989	-146.6816896
156	63.949107	-150.6584008
157	63.79404374	-146.5517
158	63.95716566	-154.5045703
159	63.92094895	-154.3955478
160	63.99603235	-153.0758871
161	63.86413163	-147.765755
162	63.92289164	-148.7342728
163	63.91908941	-155.3631278
164	63.99139346	-155.2025844
165	63.93527214	-149.052802
166	64.03079385	-153.1866665
167	64.02490319	-151.7316978
168	64.04156798	-153.9784197
169	64.02690319	-151.1773572
170	63.97672958	-151.1981966
171	63.84184631	-151.2331455
172	64.0782052	-154.6175096
173	63.99603524	-150.5792283
174	63.96845968	-147.8887187
175	64.01439055	-155.0745024
176	64.08281529	-151.547849

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Site	Latitude	Longitude
177	64.06687065	-150.6306425
178	64.01567499	-149.9658631
179	63.73653639	-147.462228
180	63.82499272	-147.0509332
181	63.92992235	-147.0067106
182	63.93007273	-146.6462137
183	63.93392989	-146.6532494
184	64.09565218	-151.4777122
185	64.11148972	-153.6159111
186	64.01900881	-153.599929
187	63.98824147	-148.2629313
188	63.94431479	-148.1442586
189	63.95491623	-147.6711139
190	63.86629367	-146.300621
191	63.87952866	-146.2318494
192	63.90073394	-147.4763261
193	63.95543904	-147.2588319
194	64.12049662	-151.7963873
195	64.13756173	-154.2535194
196	64.0629347	-149.0926898
197	64.1041462	-151.2537091
198	64.08934626	-153.4880845
199	64.0109982	-148.725662
200	64.05322749	-148.746355
201	64.13289849	-151.8744443
202	63.9275806	-146.2720144
203	64.10697836	-155.3294398
204	64.15064708	-153.0042744
205	64.13820882	-154.9655631
206	64.17705565	-154.2606621
207	63.98500919	-150.4164307
208	64.07999142	-150.4274903
209	64.15757942	-150.7183506
210	64.11211091	-150.3296856
211	64.17037725	-151.2573018
212	64.17336931	-151.0430827
213	64.1136866	-148.7798841
214	64.09921367	-149.3466087
215	64.21596931	-153.4239704
216	63.9761087	-148.4143506
217	64.23489212	-154.7384928
218	64.20773028	-154.7415088
219	64.21972146	-154.0797585
220	64.24675681	-155.5037607
221	64.26119656	-153.7489942

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Site	Latitude	Longitude
222	64.25105908	-153.0280613
223	64.2648964	-154.0055193
224	63.98365238	-146.0802945
225	64.03470024	-146.0012793
226	64.18645493	-155.8536224
227	64.23929837	-153.3436301
228	64.0705144	-150.1284159
229	64.16303846	-150.1042542
230	64.09381164	-146.1586063
231	64.18449721	-152.7466097
232	64.25202041	-150.2169237
233	64.31265603	-155.1949144
234	64.28851364	-155.9495445
235	64.2870507	-151.2834193
236	64.21750941	-149.8619781
237	64.23861903	-149.7869819
238	64.29221929	-154.5985305
239	64.32523553	-152.3621906
240	64.32571747	-151.3406723
241	64.3383256	-155.8354544
242	64.16678439	-147.6121567
243	64.07133388	-149.4849872
244	64.23171721	-149.4523885
245	64.34953279	-153.3491911
246	64.32622358	-150.9353406
247	64.27088217	-150.7823796
248	64.18405726	-146.7441675
249	64.36716622	-152.9426497
250	64.07001612	-146.4680959
251	64.18230145	-146.5126951
252	64.0961754	-154.7984183
253	64.33400792	-154.2701614
254	64.37595157	-155.7918089
255	64.36200742	-154.474378
256	64.38481184	-155.6236653
257	64.1711702	-146.0329997
258	64.02103741	-149.7674803
259	64.37085066	-150.8533607
260	64.3987437	-152.7117116
261	64.35141704	-150.0064394
262	64.3334522	-149.0825315
263	64.16807915	-149.0859484
264	64.41162477	-152.4737638

Site	Latitude	Longitude
265	64.40197259	-154.0696802
266	64.23553844	-146.7124755
267	64.28904717	-148.5364449
268	64.32711429	-148.5678276
269	64.15623609	-147.8141827
270	64.15869413	-147.1771233
271	64.23870889	-147.0940042
272	64.43039639	-155.5314839
273	64.28100868	-148.5833897
274	64.40148078	-155.1463056
275	64.416921	-154.9300961
276	64.07863759	-148.0057732
277	64.17915225	-147.9004772
278	64.3305399	-149.0257291
279	64.40732158	-151.8254233
280	64.42113134	-151.7202617
281	64.24687995	-145.9233794
282	64.40417285	-155.3450937
283	64.45915932	-155.3607835
284	64.37532902	-148.9118915
285	64.20426952	-148.0441843
286	64.27249316	-146.0760052
287	64.47091235	-153.0180929
288	64.3378816	-149.5445334
289	64.43610658	-150.4392032
290	64.28017628	-146.0988588
291	64.45539825	-155.0898172
292	64.37240096	-149.4175902
293	64.23406973	-148.8958879
294	64.19282891	-146.8725323
295	64.31541089	-146.7202555
296	64.3013539	-146.3335543
297	64.42377007	-151.3477806
298	64.45228069	-151.1659654
299	64.28008778	-145.8502985
300	64.43316598	-153.3547711
301	64.23358996	-148.2170915
302	64.50145516	-155.0790755
303	64.50379482	-152.9482175
304	64.50701651	-154.6661542
305	64.20930477	-146.9710839
306	64.45540478	-149.6118644
307	64.43740806	-149.6327449

Site	Latitude	Longitude
308	64.37910414	-149.110878
309	64.48617133	-150.4385906
310	64.54804349	-154.251535
311	64.31455646	-145.5576847
312	64.50032175	-154.431687
313	64.34966384	-145.9262662
314	64.33449842	-147.0727732
315	64.40732789	-148.7412857
316	64.4279169	-152.1904836
317	64.50832297	-151.7964715
318	64.58508461	-153.974248
319	64.44891275	-147.4311753
320	64.38506149	-147.5884049
321	64.1774151	-147.3683047
322	64.50546971	-149.1343309
323	64.59886406	-153.4400505
324	64.58297482	-152.8512889
325	64.46495525	-148.3142714
326	64.60845901	-153.288077
327	64.45312509	-147.8932857
328	64.42356386	-147.8426563
329	64.42941716	-148.1017435
330	64.43014458	-148.0089775
331	64.3956084	-145.6767716
332	64.600075	-151.9951286
333	64.51672644	-151.0719607
334	64.58290142	-150.9585239
335	64.62708901	-152.8890519
336	64.46930538	-150.1193848
337	64.55541626	-149.0517235
338	64.62038346	-153.6190807
339	64.58615585	-155.3844005
340	64.48899013	-152.4121573
341	64.43463076	-150.7115404
342	64.6258834	-150.471993
343	64.56057373	-152.6424008
344	64.57674375	-149.3834267
345	64.43974678	-151.4985455
346	64.60821507	-151.4184626
347	64.50074382	-148.4971277
348	64.54682913	-148.6257368
349	64.66358754	-154.0847749
350	64.68227592	-154.2231695
351	64.66648035	-152.7297425
352	64.62316619	-152.2345609

Site	Latitude	Longitude
353	64.43221174	-148.3777151
354	64.44032489	-145.2726657
355	64.68502239	-152.6634978
356	64.2884736	-147.2154541
357	64.69452725	-153.1802257
358	64.61749192	-150.7274565
359	64.63048445	-150.6800847
360	64.70535191	-154.5631915
361	64.70731192	-153.7941381
362	64.51536281	-149.3144024
363	64.46845571	-145.2571091
364	64.70641367	-152.474272
365	64.56023485	-146.6020604
366	64.72962416	-152.375367
367	64.73489576	-155.4156094
368	64.73061514	-151.53086
369	64.67105367	-150.6136627
370	64.43078614	-147.7540826
371	64.47527462	-147.6665811
372	64.73828453	-151.2653658
373	64.67469002	-148.7749264
374	64.58412406	-148.0885092
375	64.46550745	-145.5330295
376	64.77102445	-153.6309316
377	64.48035295	-150.9450612
378	64.78393941	-152.1323592
379	64.74923056	-152.0236684
380	64.71737839	-148.9811159
381	64.70467539	-148.449913
382	64.53468634	-147.4214293
383	64.6088811	-146.9237668
384	64.63166646	-146.9193408
385	64.73196129	-151.8969397
386	64.6136877	-149.6345791
387	64.69247458	-147.6274561
388	64.5265344	-147.2950952
389	64.80071038	-153.3356508
390	64.8188493	-154.9964041
391	64.8362203	-155.6711208
392	64.76876963	-154.0270624
393	64.81927219	-154.7246969
394	64.44980981	-149.8670949
395	64.85943956	-152.9982478

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Site	Latitude	Longitude
396	64.84139411	-153.9582055
397	64.59046282	-147.2673986
398	64.6880881	-150.2311972
399	64.76652914	-149.2051166
400	64.84972853	-154.5825174
401	64.87176257	-154.4234431
402	64.77533838	-148.4183019
403	64.84838478	-150.9318096
404	64.80341752	-150.9183569
405	64.71760565	-146.8471495
406	64.8018382	-150.2786408
407	64.88283017	-155.5883635
408	64.77712706	-149.3228661
409	64.83795711	-150.0813477
410	64.57538569	-147.1765124
411	64.88749789	-152.7476607
412	64.90666772	-153.6583115
413	64.83615811	-152.9358419
414	64.8158566	-149.0237918
415	64.8758846	-151.6119073
416	64.85800997	-149.4870344
417	64.90586751	-151.1222238
418	64.90540561	-154.0810657
419	64.82294635	-150.4442082
420	64.94278569	-154.5907895
421	64.94287315	-154.6371215
422	64.94494977	-153.4890186
423	64.95384794	-154.4132502
424	64.90913695	-150.0612801
425	64.88169448	-148.3730586
426	64.86147836	-148.8177208
427	64.97778	-155.2689523
428	64.86380524	-147.7679322
429	64.92936119	-152.3828782
430	64.95006972	-150.7008242
431	64.95074484	-151.6131755
432	64.9563415	-150.1825059
433	64.91587296	-148.7657221
434	64.98372827	-155.1611584
435	64.94860253	-149.2675957
436	64.95269029	-149.3318249
437	64.97605789	-149.7947174
438	64.96606357	-149.2920343

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Site	Latitude	Longitude
439	64.95513262	-153.0259551
440	64.95596212	-153.1700683
441	65.00292295	-150.516303
442	65.04533939	-153.9808318
443	65.01745504	-153.628965
444	65.05687494	-155.3375399
445	65.02356343	-151.3203676
446	65.06943226	-154.4576675
447	65.04496279	-151.0135867
448	65.0437006	-150.9066075
449	65.07523013	-154.2804982
450	65.0257856	-155.0750476
451	65.04880522	-152.4301541
452	65.03835061	-149.6858253
453	65.07356363	-150.904586
454	64.97559021	-147.5458533
455	65.03802185	-152.9434703
456	65.04743998	-153.3368141
457	65.03514552	-152.5786746
458	65.10480731	-152.8713655
459	65.12752572	-153.7725192
460	64.98016371	-152.1574641
461	65.10029821	-150.7214485
462	65.14005745	-153.9366684
463	65.10353722	-150.5823871
464	65.04502006	-154.832447
465	65.00119896	-148.1128751
466	65.07281827	-149.0100476
467	65.009509	-152.7613076
468	65.11834806	-150.3420359
469	65.1069971	-149.7807788
470	65.08651596	-152.229595
471	65.09235752	-151.9151874
472	65.15111482	-151.1302355
473	65.09405532	-149.4988212
474	65.11875875	-151.5426022
475	65.19093831	-152.6956205
476	65.21305099	-153.3572273
477	65.17892092	-150.4808683
478	65.18012669	-150.5723651
479	65.17592994	-150.212068
480	65.19029177	-154.1862553
481	65.22150132	-152.9294663

Site	Latitude	Longitude
482	65.21676613	-152.2726123
483	65.21748149	-152.1687079
484	65.13312154	-149.5066145
485	65.19086887	-149.9874808
486	65.17363507	-149.3410203
487	65.20214366	-149.6790804
488	65.2634494	-154.2316807
489	65.25900165	-154.5949311
490	65.25384415	-151.6404859
491	65.16723935	-148.2190816
492	65.20373626	-148.9596099
493	65.21662629	-149.2984923
494	65.27978047	-152.6310663
495	65.28080513	-152.0154555
496	65.2201628	-149.1128212
497	65.29448545	-152.9735772
498	65.17588464	-147.7520722
499	65.23911006	-153.9377261
500	65.27126435	-153.7739131
501	65.28746188	-151.8054238
502	65.31513414	-154.4752194
503	65.18118287	-147.4435122
504	65.31729861	-153.194011
505	65.26498487	-151.110139
506	65.22462247	-148.4246249
507	65.17531018	-147.2030662
508	65.30794852	-151.5490353
509	65.24062596	-148.7090911
510	65.24635237	-150.8134411
511	65.27303842	-150.8270996
512	65.27907135	-149.9039641
513	65.28487395	-150.1457414
514	65.29046138	-150.198388
515	65.3047762	-150.9895225
516	65.21187179	-146.855223
517	65.37021063	-151.4648593
518	65.26732558	-148.119617
519	65.37840872	-152.2780188
520	65.38251002	-152.7111118
521	65.31109296	-149.3353516
522	65.33044421	-149.3417737
523	65.29387373	-153.527594
524	65.30391146	-148.0860439

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Site	Latitude	Longitude
525	65.35700739	-149.7595015
526	65.34026701	-149.7188428
527	65.35307989	-150.6051598
528	65.34729303	-150.4395193
529	65.33311593	-148.247782
530	65.32715779	-149.4893736
531	65.40984294	-151.3023565
532	65.33032741	-153.3326345
533	65.350921	-148.4437924
534	65.35768759	-149.160899
535	65.44198461	-152.0672382
536	65.38920852	-154.2114513
537	65.38396263	-153.979953
538	65.32169567	-148.9420456
539	65.28047089	-146.3320914
540	65.4441368	-153.2510574
541	65.39752469	-148.684255
542	65.48845846	-154.5830449
543	65.41796677	-150.0521908
544	65.49466041	-153.0761941
545	65.43102148	-152.934282
546	65.48232149	-150.2827874
547	65.4871367	-150.5199875
548	65.47311029	-149.9069324
549	65.49239442	-150.380613
550	65.38190421	-151.876641
551	65.52872967	-152.3036458
552	65.35068969	-146.1557028
553	65.43821031	-148.019655
554	65.52332805	-150.752888
555	65.50364508	-151.0734815
556	65.5501594	-153.7275199
557	65.52895194	-151.5520945
558	65.53917068	-153.3664846
559	65.39450475	-146.2692393
560	65.50644218	-152.650271
561	65.59529091	-153.6640538
562	65.49306809	-149.3830884
563	65.5248493	-149.251734
564	65.57566934	-151.0905203
565	65.62282385	-154.0916355
566	65.61393657	-152.0935283
567	65.62222951	-151.8541766
568	65.63213648	-152.6681754
569	65.61234383	-152.6216676

Site	Latitude	Longitude
570	65.65783334	-153.6860798
571	65.65923254	-153.4158133
572	65.57598718	-148.656258
573	65.62540446	-152.8421861
574	65.65332023	-151.4380699
575	65.56452926	-148.3700137
576	65.60411064	-149.8906817
577	65.5618915	-148.9538456
578	65.57986673	-148.8567694
579	65.68942506	-152.6236642
580	65.67210942	-151.2068027
581	65.67636132	-151.2976717
582	65.59446812	-149.8309358
583	65.61214511	-149.6334789
584	65.60270844	-149.4975526
585	65.66279121	-150.4611887
586	65.6931458	-151.6444368
587	65.68759738	-150.6361871
588	65.72887009	-153.1949607
589	65.73076973	-152.3231373
590	65.73613905	-153.0014357
591	65.60474999	-149.1695084
592	65.7300154	-151.8718623
593	65.74430983	-152.1099372
594	65.6746308	-150.2808681
595	65.64516124	-147.9280943
596	65.6493594	-148.2166911
597	65.70999253	-149.3118418
598	65.72131181	-149.0939599
599	65.7883254	-152.5610983
600	65.83968245	-153.1025382
601	65.79809188	-149.8444357
602	65.73845636	-147.8699763
603	65.79535208	-149.5694154
604	65.79316952	-150.9239049
605	65.74683704	-150.7891544
606	65.79388158	-150.2679087
607	65.76520016	-148.6730132
608	65.78114	-148.2714879
609	65.78824284	-147.8627287
610	65.80836529	-150.5046095
611	65.90338579	-152.5261035
612	65.88830984	-153.173833
613	65.93585015	-152.7651543

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Site	Latitude	Longitude
614	65.83189508	-148.0450381
615	65.81722423	-149.1922889
616	65.97727363	-152.9016441
617	65.92297363	-149.623734
618	65.92858149	-150.9796893
619	65.97134001	-150.9287788
620	65.94177339	-150.7819366
621	65.94749969	-150.5361375
622	65.98506512	-150.6408826
623	65.94165106	-150.4406873
624	65.98566007	-150.2844334
625	66.04853117	-150.6032476
626	66.05009175	-149.9738512
627	66.07502597	-150.4655163
628	66.08566577	-150.4210698
629	65.85605217	-148.7809103
630	66.11509433	-149.9588546
631	66.16128389	-150.0914773
632	66.2031787	-150.0361494

Appendix C2.–Unwadeable (raft electrofishing) target stream location information, sites are potentially visited.

Site	Latitude	Longitude
1	63.30567	-147.88074
2	63.23624	-150.61257
3	63.34865	-150.82042
4	63.28326	-150.98459
5	63.41968	-150.62774
6	63.38305	-151.95044
7	63.17526	-151.61879
8	63.28143	-148.68268
9	63.39811	-147.86644
10	63.44480	-148.19613
11	63.64039	-151.72313
12	63.41751	-151.41979
13	63.55218	-152.14620
14	63.68603	-154.18584
15	63.73286	-154.07722
16	63.69548	-150.36965
17	63.62092	-150.29083
18	63.61257	-147.69258
19	63.33097	-151.43452
20	63.68122	-148.91537
21	63.58055	-155.30327
22	63.65438	-154.71056
23	63.51812	-150.03814
24	63.63994	-149.56529
25	63.63240	-149.42238
26	63.12797	-151.79078
27	63.47335	-155.79686
28	63.51859	-150.73497
29	63.71214	-150.92282
30	63.67718	-152.56963
31	63.82736	-148.82377
32	63.86765	-150.15229
33	63.55699	-149.78689
34	63.88036	-148.68184
35	63.73829	-149.29417
36	63.97816	-153.98706
37	63.71343	-151.23857
38	63.96821	-150.78272
39	63.99775	-154.41072
40	64.05398	-151.92270
41	63.82260	-147.38097
42	63.89477	-146.94811

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Site	Latitude	Longitude
43	63.73364	-147.02066
44	64.12030	-151.22502
45	63.86708	-149.76901
46	64.14915	-151.15553
47	64.16098	-151.49240
48	64.14759	-150.54645
49	64.09313	-148.73107
50	64.01598	-155.21958
51	64.08718	-148.50228
52	63.74586	-146.41022
53	63.84721	-146.15130
54	64.24241	-150.44455
55	64.29673	-155.80549
56	63.85098	-153.40551
57	64.11803	-153.54923
58	64.30649	-152.55694
59	64.34355	-155.66049
60	64.32792	-154.67567
61	64.32843	-150.72930
62	64.19552	-149.96609
63	64.43598	-154.79106
64	64.30328	-150.28724
65	64.19363	-146.47366
66	64.10769	-146.15483
67	64.33865	-148.02998
68	63.75131	-147.86321
69	64.28378	-149.48206
70	64.22546	-154.47461
71	64.48320	-155.14896
72	64.47651	-153.09782
73	64.29591	-147.03843
74	64.37743	-149.05876
75	64.59278	-152.98505
76	64.51127	-152.09891
77	64.49702	-151.68608
78	64.63531	-153.27799
79	64.57087	-155.07419
80	64.40424	-145.39676
81	64.34499	-148.60809
82	64.03393	-148.21623
83	64.34023	-147.47983
84	63.98199	-147.26067
85	64.61654	-150.49954
86	64.46997	-151.28165

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Site	Latitude	Longitude
87	64.56048	-151.25610
88	64.64798	-151.25771
89	64.58053	-148.61748
90	64.68599	-155.14773
91	64.53711	-147.02215
92	64.66898	-152.58378
93	64.54402	-152.48233
94	64.66695	-149.07386
95	64.71294	-154.36379
96	64.68668	-150.87059
97	64.54949	-148.17864
98	64.59857	-148.00808
99	64.77653	-151.66322
100	64.73564	-149.52548
101	64.48568	-149.53085
102	64.60391	-147.89612
103	64.82381	-153.21187
104	64.72454	-150.62114
105	64.83354	-155.05382
106	64.53772	-149.91076
107	64.67125	-147.03460
108	64.69827	-147.61730
109	64.74535	-147.45660
110	64.88179	-150.19768
111	64.83036	-147.88516
112	64.88419	-150.83662
113	64.90196	-153.72934
114	64.93858	-149.27501
115	64.89899	-148.82607
116	64.90362	-147.85204
117	65.02231	-151.02619
118	65.05929	-150.07272
119	65.01318	-151.87333
120	65.10982	-151.40539
121	64.90540	-152.73165
122	65.09967	-150.44418
123	65.03590	-153.12313
124	65.21989	-154.35310
125	65.16148	-149.33151
126	65.18095	-150.03251
127	65.12371	-147.96646
128	65.26639	-153.13770
129	65.26169	-148.35019
130	65.37118	-152.52342

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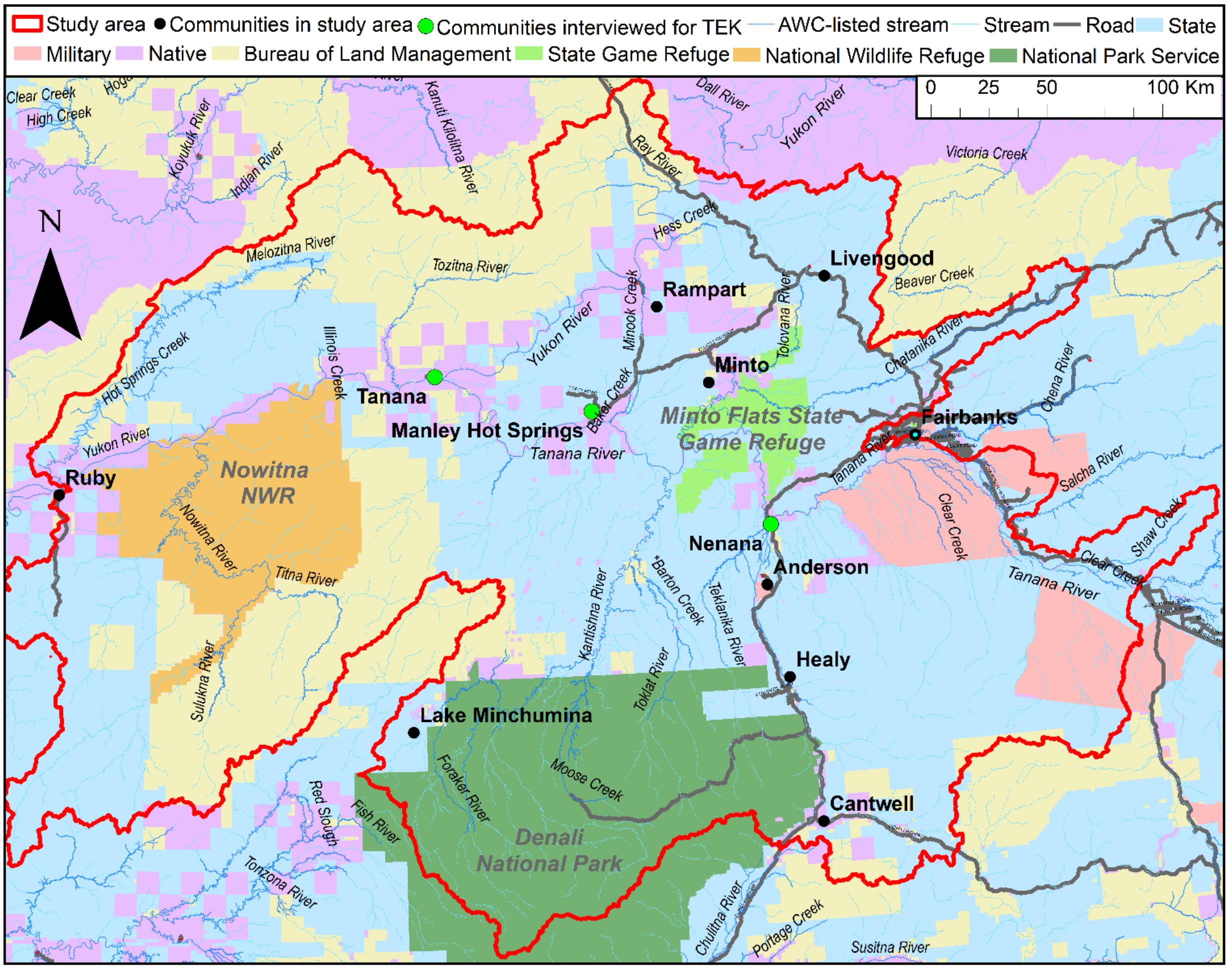
Site	Latitude	Longitude
131	65.38947	-151.02163
132	65.29947	-150.90967
133	65.33522	-148.28352
134	65.42259	-153.53250
135	65.29924	-153.76083
136	65.39586	-150.76912
137	65.45043	-150.80156
138	65.46632	-154.11181
139	65.46522	-150.68073
140	65.47291	-151.95507
141	65.36549	-150.13389
142	65.35548	-149.24846
143	65.57046	-152.40496
144	65.56706	-151.37205
145	65.58959	-153.79793
146	65.55323	-150.38691
147	65.50906	-153.00705
148	65.59958	-152.15628
149	65.61974	-150.88212
150	65.54690	-148.09174
151	65.66230	-152.37422
152	65.67030	-152.59335
153	65.66222	-149.56938
154	65.61637	-148.95101
155	65.44485	-149.69487
156	65.75230	-148.79089
157	65.84016	-152.69736
158	65.75410	-148.28700
159	65.72148	-148.02976
160	65.91862	-152.91913
161	65.83551	-150.71769
162	65.87956	-149.45044
163	65.97569	-150.68360
164	66.13436	-150.09537

APPENDIX D

Appendix D1.–2022 study area land status map.



APPENDIX E

The following outline, used by permission, accompanies the video *Staying safe in bear country*, which will be mandatory viewing for all field crew members.

Main Messages of the Video

STAYING SAFE IN BEAR COUNTRY

Safety in Bear Country Society, 2001

BEAR'S CHARACTERISTICS, BEHAVIOR AND SOCIETY

MIND OF BEARS

□ Bears are intelligent.
□ Curious
□ Individuals
□ More predictable than most people think.
□ They think about food more than people.

PHYSICAL TRAITS

□ Amazing noses and ears and eyes are good.
□ Strong and fast, good swimmers.
□ Black bears are great at tree climbing, but grizzlies are not bad.
□ Covered in fur

BLACK VS GRIZZLY BEARS

□ Grizzly distribution more limited but locally can be the most abundant.
□ Grizzlies more likely to attack when threatened.
□ Black bears rarely attack defensively but will attack in predation attempts
□ Grizzlies more dangerous than blacks, but risks from either much less than people tend to fear.
□ Humans are more tolerant of black bears.

BEAR SOCIETY

□ Flexible social structure that allows bears to function at low densities or at concentrated food sources with reduced chance of injury.
□ Bears do fight but more often use avoidance, restraint, and posturing to prevent injury.

THREE MAJOR ASPECTS OF BEAR SOCIETY

□ Body language and vocalizations to communicate with each other
□ Dominance hierarchy or pecking order
□ Personal space

-continued-

BEARS' MOTIVATIONS

Bears have varying motivations for what they do.

□ Food and the search for it dominate a bear's life
□ Mating and raising offspring
□ Investigating novel stimuli; curiosity
□ Establishing and asserting dominance

From a safety standpoint it's important to understand the difference between "defensive" and other motivations, especially ones that might lead to "predatory" attack. It is also important to understand the psychology of bears as they grow up. There's a big difference in the mentality of a recently weaned 2 to 4 year old bear versus an adult female with cubs or an adult male.

BEAR-HUMAN INTERACTIONS

Most bears have previous experience around people and learn from each interaction. Humans usually don't even know they came close to a bear, BEARS USUALLY AVOID PEOPLE. Two major categories of bear- human interactions where bears don't avoid or even approach people: Defensive and Non-defensive.

DEFENSIVE INTERACTIONS

□ Bear thinks you are a threat to itself, its cubs or its food.
□ Usually you approached it and entered into its personal space, surprising or crowding it.
□ Most likely will appear agitated and stressed.
□ Closer you are to it before it becomes aware of you, more likely it is to react defensively.
□ Almost always stop short of contact, fight/flight is triggered.
□ Defensive response that results in an attack (physical contact) almost always involve grizzly bears surprised at close range, on a carcass or protecting young. The few defensive attacks by black bears have been females protecting cubs (but these are very rare).

NON-DEFENSIVE INTERACTIONS

A number of different non-defensive motivations that may appear similar to each other:

□ Curious bear
□ Human-habituated bear
□ Food-conditioned bear
□ Dominance-testing bear
□ Predatory bear

AVOIDING BEAR ENCOUNTERS OR REACTING DURING ONE

AVOID BEARS WHENEVER POSSIBLE

LET BEAR YOU CANNOT AVOID KNOW YOU ARE HUMAN by talking and slowly waving your arms. Try to give the bear your scent (by air, not by physical contact).

AVOID BEARS THAT ARE AWARE OF YOU AND UNCONCERNED NEVER APPROACH A BEAR

-continued-

LEAVE AREA YOU ENCOUNTERED A BEAR

IF YOU HEAR VOCALIZATIONS OR SEE UNATTENDED CUBS…be extremely cautious and leave the area silently the way you came.

Review of your response during bear encounters:

- □ Identify yourself as human to bears you cannot avoid by talking and slowly waving your arms. Try to give the bear your scent by wafting it to them.
- □ Increase your distance from the bear, even if it appears unconcerned.
- □ Do not run, it could invite pursuit.

If a bear approaches you:

- □ Stand your ground!
- □ Quickly assess the situation. Is the bear behaving defensively or in some other way?
- □ Remain calm, attacks are rare.
- □ Do not run unless you're absolutely sure of reaching safety.
- □ Group together. Prepare your deterrent.

If the bear is approaching in a defensive manner:

- □ Stand your ground. Try to appear non-threatening.
- □ Don't shout at the bear. Talk to the bear in a calm voice.
- □ If the bear stops its approach, increase your distance.
- □ If the bear resumes its approach, stand your ground, keep talking calmly, and prepare to use your deterrent.
- □ If the bear cannot be deterred and is intent on attack, fall to the ground as close to contact as possible and play dead.
- □ When the attack stops, remain still and wait for the bear to leave. If an attack is prolonged or the bear starts eating you, it is no longer being defensive.

If the bear approaches in a non-defensive manner:

- □ Talk to the bear in a firm voice.
- □ Try to move away from the bear's travel path; that may be all it wants you to do.
- □ If the bear follows you with its attention directed at you. Stop! Stand your ground and prepare to use your deterrent.
- □ Act aggressively toward the bear. Let the bear know you will fight if attacked. Shout! Make yourself look as big as possible. Stamp your feet as you take a step or two toward the bear. Threaten the bear with whatever is at hand. A bear that is initially curious or testing you may become predatory if you do not stand up to it. The more the bear persists, the more aggressive your response should be.
- □ If the bear attacks, use your deterrent and fight for your life. Kick, punch, or hit the bear with whatever weapon is available. Concentrate your attack on the face, eyes, and nose. Fight any bear that attacks you in your building, vehicle, or tent.

Remember:

- □ If an attack (that is, physical contact is made) is defensive… Play dead. (Don't play dead before you have used all possible means, such as deterrents to prevent an attack). This is more likely to be with Grizzly Bears.

-continued-

□ If the attack is predatory… Fight back. This is more likely to be with black bears.

HELPING SOMEONE BEING ATTACKED

You may be able to drive away an attacking bear from someone else, but if you do this, you risk drawing the attack to yourself.

DETERRENTS AND PREVENTING PROBLEMS

DETERRENTS

BEAR SPRAY

□ Used to deter bears at close range.
□ It is not 100 percent effective or a substitute for avoiding an encounter.
□ Use only approved bear sprays.
□ Carry it ready to use and keep it handy in your tent at night.
□ Exercise caution

FIREARMS

□ Make sure it's adequate.
□ Practice
□ Mentally rehearse the situations where you would use it.

DETERRENTS IN GENERAL

□ Know their capabilities and limitations.
□ Can be useful but should not give you a false sense of security.
□ Training and practice are essential.
□ Observe regulations governing their transport and use.
□ Consult with local authorities.

PREVENTING BEAR PROBLEMS

Most of bear safety is prevention.

LEARN ABOUT BEARS

AVOID ENCOUNTERS

□ Move away undetected from bears that are unaware of you or distant.

STAY ALERT

Be aware of your surroundings.

-continued-

□ Look for signs of recent bear activity.

DON'T SURPRISE BEARS

□ Warn bears of your presence.

TRAVEL IN A GROUP

□ Groups are noisier and easier to detect and several people are more intimidating to a bear.

KEEP CHILDREN CLOSE

□ Children can be messy and attract bears. Consider not taking them into the field.

DOGS

□ Keep it on a leash or leave it at home. The exception is a specially trained dog, but most dogs are not.

CHOOSE CAMPSITES CAREFULLY

□ Don't camp on bear travel routes.
□ Use local knowledge of bears and recommended camping practices.

DON'T ATTRACT BEARS OR REWARD THEM WITH FOOD

□ Keep a clean camp free of attractants.

OTHER DETECTION/DETERRENT OPTIONS

□ Trip wires, motion detectors, moats, and compact electric fences can be useful.

FIRST AID

□ Be proficient in first aid.
□ Carry sufficient medical supplies.

COMMUNICATION

□ Inform others of your plans.
□ Communication can save lives.

Appendix E2.–Electrofishing safety.

For 2020, all electrofishing crew leaders are required to have attended an approved electrofishing course. Exceptions can be made for new staff members unable to receive training Other electrofishing crewmembers will receive an electrofishing orientation (see Appendix E3) and be directly-supervised by the crew leader at all times while electrofishing. All crewmembers will be certified in 1st Aid and adult CPR.

The following was adapted from McCormick and Hughes, 1998:

Because fishes are collected using electrofishing units, safety procedures must be followed meticulously at all times. Primary responsibility for safety while electrofishing rests with the electrofishing team leader. Electrofishing units have a high voltage output and may deliver a dangerous electrical shock.

While electrofishing, avoid contact with the water unless sufficiently insulated against electrical shock. Use chest waders or hip boots with nonslip soles and watertight rubber (or electrician's) gloves. If they become wet inside, **stop fishing until they are thoroughly dry. Avoid contact with the anode and cathode at all times due to the potential shock hazard.** If you perspire heavily, wear polypropylene or some other wicking and insulating clothing instead of cotton.

While electrofishing, avoid reaching into the water. If it is necessary for a team member to reach into the water to pick up a fish or something that has been dropped, **do so only after the electrical current has been interrupted and the anode is removed from the water**. Do not resume electrofishing until all individuals are clear of the electroshock hazard.

Avoid operating electrofishing equipment near unprotected people, or non-target animals. Discontinue activity during thunderstorms or heavy rain.

Team members should keep each other in constant view or communication while electrofishing. Although the electrofishing team leader has authority, each team member has the responsibility to question, modify, or stop an operation as well as to decline participation if it is unsafe.

Appendix E3.–Acknowledgment of electrofishing orientation.

Acknowledgment of Electrofishing Orientation

I have received instruction and orientation about Electrofishing from my employer. As a result, I understand and accept the following conditions:

1. Electrofishing (EF) is an inherently hazardous activity in which safety is the primary concern. The electrical energy used in EF is sufficient to cause death by electrocution.
2. During operations, it is critical to avoid contact with the electrodes and surrounding water. The EF field is most intense near the electrodes and can extend 5-10 m outward.
3. The electrodes are energized by the power source, a generator or battery, and controlled by safety switches; these switches must remain off until the signal is given to begin EF.
4. The power source has a main switch that must be turned off immediately if an emergency occurs.
5. The electrodes are usually metal probes suspended in the water. If direct current is issued from a boat, the anodes (+) are in front of the boat to catch fish and the cathodes (-) may be suspended from the sides; both can produce electroshock. When a metal boat is the cathode, the boat is safe as long as all metal surfaces inside it are connected to the hull.
6. Moveable anodes on a boat are dangerous, especially on metal boats. All electrodes on a conventional EF boat should be in fixed position during operation.
7. Dry skin and clothing are good protection against electroshock. The body should be fully clothed during EF. Rubber knee boots are minimal foot protection, as are rubber gloves for the hands. A personal flotation device must be worn when the water is considered swift, cold, or deep. Ear protection is necessary for those working near the generator.
8. At least 2 members of the EF crew must have knowledge of CPR and first aid. A first aid kit and, in an EF boat, a fire extinguisher must be within immediate reach during an operation. Electroshock can cause heart fibrillations or respiratory arrest; CPR can cure only the latter. The EF crew must know the location of the nearest defibrillation unit.
9. A communication system, particularly hand signals, must be available to all members of an EF crew. When multiple anodes are used in a portable EF operation, the buddy system must be used. Above all, NEVER OPERATE ALONE.
10. Stunned fish should be removed from the EF field as soon as possible and not subjected to continuous electroshock by being held in the dip net. Using the anode as a dip net is unhealthy for fish and people and should be avoided.
11. An EF operation should proceed slowly and carefully; avoid chasing fish and other sudden maneuvers. Night activities require bright, bow-mounted headlights. Operations should crease during lightning or thunderstorms; use discretion during rain. Avoid EF too close to bystanders and pets or livestock.
12. All EF crewmembers must know who their leader is and recognize his or her authority as final in operational decisions. However, every crewmember has the right to ask questions or express concern about any safety aspect of an EF operation. A crewmember has the right to decline participation in an EF operation, without fear of employer recrimination, if he or she feels unsafe in such participation.

____ __________

Signature of Employee Date

I have discussed the above-named conditions with the employee and am satisfied that he or she understands them.

____ __________

Signature of Supervisor Date

*Adapted from Reynolds (1996), with permission.

APPENDIX F

Appendix F1.–Flight safety.

Introduction:

This appendix was adapted from material provided by Coastal Helicopters and Greens Creek Mine, and is used by permission. The purpose of this information is to provide employees with safe practices in and around helicopters.

Pre-Flight Briefing

1. The aircraft pilot is in charge of all passengers. The pilot is responsible and accountable for all aspects regarding the safe operation and performance of the aircraft in flight or on the ground.
2. Transport of Cargo: Field Gear is controlled by and at the discretion of the pilot. Always inform the pilot about any weapons or other potentially hazardous items to be taken on board the aircraft, especially aerosol deterrents such as "Bear Pepper Spray". Items such as these should be isolated and transported in sealed containers.
3. Passengers riding in the front seat should never ride with items larger than a map board in their hand. Bulkier items should be stowed in the cargo bay or on the rear seats.
4. Have daily supplies and equipment needs planned ahead of time, so loads can be properly stowed prior to boarding the aircraft.
5. Know the location and operation of seat belts, harnesses, doors and hatches that may have to be operated during an emergency.
6. Know and understand the use of the intercom system.
7. Know the location and operation of all emergency and survival equipment on board appropriate for the type of flight operation conducted. This includes the fire extinguisher, emergency fuel shut-off, and the ELT (emergency locator transmitter) and emergency floatation devices.
8. Smoking and open flames are not permitted within 100 feet of the aircraft, fuel tanks or landing sites containing either.

Personal Protection for Flight

1. Hearing protection is mandatory.
2. Natural fiber clothing (wool, cotton, etc) offer better protection than synthetics in case of fire.
3. PFDs should be worn for extended overwater flights.

Approaching and Departing the Helicopter

Always keep your eyes on the ship during landings and takeoffs. When performing these critical tasks, your observations and awareness will protect you and others from unnecessary risk while the helicopter is in operation.

NEVER TURN YOUR BACK TOWARD THE AIRCRAFT!

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- Always wait for the pilot's acknowledgement, command or signal before approaching or departing the aircraft.
- Always approach and depart the aircraft the within the pilot's field of view.
- Crouch low when approaching or departing under the main rotor.
- In side-hill situations always approach and depart from the aircraft from the DOWNHILL SIDE.
- NEVER approach or depart the aircraft from the rear.
- Always stay alert when near the aircraft, but DON'T RUSH! Be deliberate and think your actions through (don't let the noise and air blast make you hasty!).
- Ensure that no loose objects can be sucked, blown, or thrown into the rotor system; ensure that loose personal items such as hats (including hard hats), jackets, clipboards, folders, maps, etc. are secure.
- Always check and then double check for loose exterior items or loads.
- To avoid contact with the main rotor blades, long pieces of equipment or tools (e.g., electrofishing poles, dip net handles) should be carried horizontally at or below waist level. Equipment or tools of this type should never be carried upright and/or over the shoulder.
- NEVER THROW OR TOSS anything from *or* toward the aircraft.
- Eye protection must be worn at all times near the aircraft. If suddenly blinded by dust, stop and crouch down or, better yet, sit down and wait for help.

Entering the Helicopter

1. When entering the aircraft, confirm the pilot acknowledges your approach, use caution, the doors are fragile (and expensive pieces of equipment). Do not put your weight on the doors and do not use the doors as handles for hoisting or lowering yourself into or from the aircraft. Close doors snugly so that all latches are engaged and check to ensure that interior loads will not damage the doors when shut.
2. Once in the aircraft, fasten your seatbelt and (if present) shoulder harness. Put on and secure the headset. Rear seat passengers should notify the pilot when they are secured that they are ready.
3. The pilot and passengers must ensure that all equipment on board in the cockpit is securely stowed before taking off.

Exiting the Helicopter

1. Wait until the pilot has giving you permission to exit the aircraft. Follow any special instructions that the pilot gives you.
2. When landed, remove the headset and seat/shoulder belts.

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3. Retrieve any equipment stored in the cockpit or cargo hold, being cautious of the main rotor at all times. Carry equipment and loads horizontally. Secure loose clothing, equipment etc.
4. Depart downhill if the landing site is on a hill and always walk around the front of the aircraft to avoid the area of lowest rotor clearance.
5. Enter or Exit on the Downhill Side
6. NEVER ATTEMPT TO WALK AROUND THE REAR OF THE AIRCRAFT TO AVOID LOW MAIN ROTOR CLEARANCE ON A HILL!
7. Use caution if the landing surface is slippery or wet.
8. Move as far away as possible from the helicopter to offer the maximum amount of take-off room possible. If it is a tight remote landing zone, the pilot may command you to crouch down next to the aircraft/skids as the take-off is performed.
9. If the helicopter departs the sampling site for fuel or other reasons, reconfirm the time and place for the next pick-up; have a contingency plan and alternate-landing zone in case the weather is down or the helicopter fails to show for a pick-up.

In-flight

1. Be extra eyes and ears for pilot. Observe your surroundings and airspace at all times. Watch for hazards while landing and taking off. Warn the pilot of any unusual circumstances regarding the safety of the aircraft.

2. Wear your seatbelt and shoulder harness at all times during the flight.
3. Ensure to keep communication over the intercom to a minimum so as not to distract the pilot.

Remote Landing Zone Sites & Operations

1. Each LANDING ZONE selected by the crew leader will be inspected and approved by the pilot before landing.
2. All landing sites are at the complete discretion of the pilot
3. Exit or enter a hovering aircraft one at a time in one smooth, unhurried motion.

Finding and Preparing Suitable Landing Zones:

Do……

a. Select a spot that is relatively flat and open. The clearing needs to be wide enough to allow safe approach and departure angles for the aircraft at all times.

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b. The pilot has absolute final say on the appropriateness of the landing site. If the pilot cannot land there, search for an alternative suitable Landing Zones.

c. Position yourself in such a way that you are not in the direct path of the aircraft and so that you have an accessible escape route should something go wrong.

Do Not……

d. Do not select a Landing Zones with abundant small trees or other hazards that could inadvertently obstruct the tail rotor.

e. Do not select a Landing Zones with abundant loose material on the ground.

f. Do not select a Landing Zones where the placement of the tail rotor will endanger other individuals or strike other objects.

g. Do not demand the pilot to land at a site that is not desirable or presents unacceptable risks, give only suggestions and trust the judgment of the pilot.

Refueling Operations

1. No smoking or open flames are allowed within 100 feet of the aircraft or fuel storage tanks.
2. The aircraft and fueling tanks should be grounded to dissipate static electricity.
3. If a spill occurs, the helicopter company will follow its emergency spill response plan.
4. Ground power units should not be connected or disconnected during refueling.
5. Fuel servicing personnel should not carry lighters or matches when refueling.
6. At the first sight of lightning in the area, refueling operations should be suspended.
7. Refueling should not be conducted with passengers on board.

Slinging Equipment

1. Slinging will be an unusual event most often used to transport fuel drums to and from remote fuel stashes.
2. The pilot shall ensure that all persons are briefed before takeoff on all pertinent procedures to be followed (including normal, abnormal, and emergency procedures) and equipment to be used during the external-load operation.
3. Have all loads and pick-ups planned out ahead of time so that the operation can proceed smoothly.

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4. The pilot will determine the sites and both ends of the operations and of all loads being transported (must be well within the aircraft's lifting ability). All slings must be furnished by the aircraft company.
5. All verbal commands and hand signals will be reviewed and confirmed before operations take place.
6. The slinging of loads must be pre-planned so the load flies in the intended manner, and ensures that nothing will cause the load to hang up, get caught, or have articles come loose during flying. When an inbound load is spinning on the sling the pilot should set it down near the destination to stop the spinning, then bring it to the unload point. Do not attempt to grab a spinning load.
7. Helicopter slung loads will often build up static electricity that will give a shock to the individual unhooking the sling. Use either insulated gloves and/or have the pilot discharge the line first by touching the ground.
8. Never go underneath a slung load.
9. Do not reach for a load as you may over reach and lose balance. Let the pilot bring the load to you.
10. Always have an escape route in the event of sudden and unexpected movement of the load so that you can quickly get away from the area.

Flight Following Procedures

1. Pilots will abide by their company's procedures for flight following.

Flight Plan and Overdue Aircraft Procedures

1. Each morning at base camp, each team leader will fill out a daily flight plan, which will include the date, aircraft type, tail number, color, company name, pilot and crewmembers' names, destinations (target stream IDs) listed in the order to be visited, and time due back.
2. During the day, the team leader will check in with the base camp by radio or satellite phone, if any deviation from the flight plan occurs.
3. If a helicopter is overdue, base camp staff will initiate the following overdue aircraft procedures:
    a. 10 minutes past due: Base camp personnel will begin a communications search. Attempt contact with the helicopter via radio and/or Iridium phone.
    b. 30 minutes past due: Base camp personnel will continue attempting contact with the overdue helicopter. If the 2nd project helicopter and/or other teams are still out, also attempt contact with them to notify them of the overdue helicopter and obtain its last-known location. If airborne, the 2nd helicopter pilot will also attempt radio contact with the overdue helicopter.

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c. 60 minutes past due:

i. Check in with helicopter company (Coastal Helicopters 800-789-5610 or 907-789-5600; Quicksilver Air 907-457-1941) to notify them of the overdue helicopter and see if they have been in contact with the pilot.
Obtain last-known location from helicopter company (Coastal has automatic flight following; Quicksilver uses a spot indicator activated by the pilot).

ii. Aircraft is declared "Missing". Notify DPS Alaska State Troopers : MATCOM 907-352- 5401 or State Troopers in King Salmon (907-246-3307) or Dillingham (907-842-5641) to activate Search and Rescue. Continue attempting to contact the helicopter. State Troopers will coordinate all search and rescue activities, including any search flights to be made by the second project helicopter.

Emergency Procedures

1. Respond and obey to all instructions or commands given by the pilot.
2. Passenger Position: The passenger's body position is an important factor in a survivable accident. The "brace-for-impact" position is used to reduce secondary impact and flailing around. If contact with the aircraft interior is likely, the passenger should place his/her body against what the passenger will hit before the impact occurs. If a passenger is resting against the surrounding structure, he/she can "ride the structure down" during the crash, thus avoiding a secondary impact. In addition, this position will reduce the forces acting on the body and can help reduce the severity of injuries. If a passenger is in a seat equipped with a shoulder harness and a safety belt, the harness should be snug, not slack.
3. After a forced landing, follow the pilot's instructions. Exit the aircraft immediately, unless there is danger from the rotor blades or directed not to do so by the pilot.
4. Emergency Water Landing. Passengers should follow the instructions of the pilot in the event of a forced landing in water. Use life vests when clear of the aircraft. If the life raft lanyard is dangling loose the pilot and passengers should exercise extreme caution not to accidentally pull the lanyard or allow it to become entangled with the aircraft.
5. If practical, retrieve the emergency and survival gear, and ensure that the ELT is transmitting.
6. If practical, and the pilot is incapacitated, activate the emergency fuel shutoff valve.
7. If available, activate a personal locator beacon.
8. Administer first aid to those in need.
9. Assess the situation: determine the need to evacuate the injured individuals, determine the nearest landing zone and the easiest route to safety).

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Evacuation Procedures

1. On an Iridium satellite phone, dial "911" and press "OK". The call will be routed to the nearest public safety location. You may also contact the DPS Alaska State Troopers : MATCOM 907-352-5401 or State Troopers in King Salmon (907-246-3307) or Dillingham (907-842-5641) for medical assistance, to request an air ambulance, or any other special medivac needs.
2. Be prepared to provide the following information:
   a. Nature of the emergency and evacuation urgency (e.g., urgent evacuation—life or limb threat);
   b. Number of victims and basic diagnosis of injuries (e.g., “internal bleeding and loss of consciousness”);
   c. GPS coordinates for the injured person’s location;
   d. Injured person’s full name, date of birth, and weight;
   e. Name and weight of escort (if any) who will ride along in the medivac;
3. As an alternative to waiting for a medivac to arrive, if the accident occurred during daylight hours and an aircraft is available, coordinate with State Troopers to fly the victim to the nearest or most appropriate hospital (likely Dillingham or Anchorage). Contact the hospital emergency room at the contact number advised by the trooper ASAP to provide the ETA and to request an accepting physician.
4. Contact base camp personnel. Base camp personnel will contact the Field Supervisor. The Field Supervisor (or base camp personnel, if Field Supervisor cannot be reached) will contact victim’s emergency contact(s) listed on the project contact sheet.

This guidance is commensurate with material contained in the following aviation safety documents:

- Federal Aviation Administration – AC 61-13B - Helicopter Handbook.
- Federal Aviation Administration – AC 91-32B – Safety In and Around Helicopters
- United States Government – Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide

APPENDIX G

Appendix G1.–Anadromous Waters Catalog Nomination Form.

State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Division of Sport Fish

Nomination Form
Anadromous Waters Catalog

Region ______ USGS Quad(s) ______

Anadromous Waters Catalog Number of Waterway ______

Name of Waterway ______ ☐ USGS Name ☐ Local Name

☐ Addition ☐ Deletion ☐ Correction ☐ Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination # ______	______ Fisheries Scientist ______ Date
Revision Year: ______	______ Habitat Operations Manager ______ Date
Revision to: Atlas ______ Catalog ______ Both ______	______ AWC Project Biologist ______ Date
Revision Code: ______	______ Cartographer ______ Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
					☐
					☐
					☐
					☐
					☐

IMPORTANT: Provide all supporting documentation that this water body is important for the spawning, rearing or migration of anadromous fish, including: number of fish and life stages observed; sampling methods, sampling duration and area sampled; copies of field notes; etc. Attach a copy of a map showing location of mouth and observed upper extent of each species, as well as other information such as: specific stream reaches observed as spawning or rearing habitat; locations, types, and heights of any barriers; etc.

Comments:

Name of Observer (please print): ______

Signature: ______ Date: ______

Agency: ______

Address: ______

______

This certifies that in my best professional judgment and belief the above information is evidence that this waterbody should be included in or deleted from the Anadromous Waters Catalog.

Signature of Area Biologist: ______ Date:______ Revision 02/08