

State of Alaska
 Department of Fish and Game
 Nomination for Waters
 Important to Anadromous Fish

1985
 Year of Revision
 85-411

AWC Volume & Number Interior Region IV
 USGS Quad Charlie River A-1 Eagle A-1
 Name of Waterway TATONDUK RIVER
 AWC# of Waterway 334-45-11000-2501

Change to _____ Atlas
 _____ Catalog ALASKA DEPT. OF
 _____ Both FISH & GAME
 Addition Ø SEP 30 1985
 Deletion _____ REGION II
 Correction _____ HABITAT DIVISION

For Office Approval
 Nomination II _____
 AL: Yett 9-25-85
 Regional Supervisor Date
 OK STB 11/19/85
 TRB 10-23-85
 Drafted _____

Name addition TATONDUK RIVER
 X USGS name TATONDUK RIVER
 X Local name SHEEP CREEK

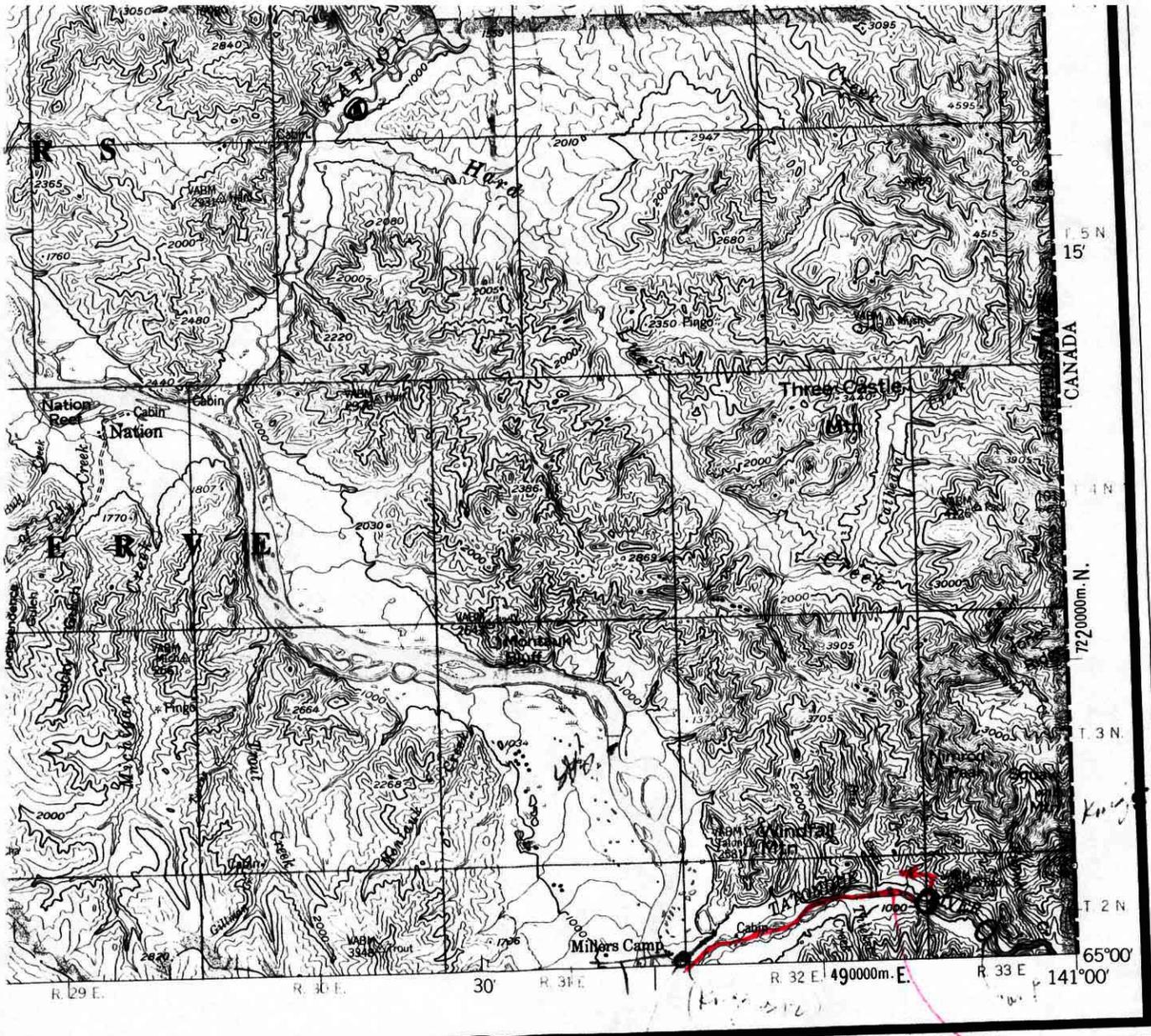
Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Migration
King Salmon	8-1-85			Ø

Comments: Provide any clarifying information, including number of fish observed, location of fish survey data, etc.

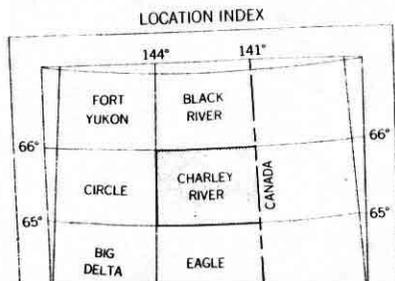
This adds new species (King Salmon) to this stream. See attached map and memo from BARTON to PARKER (page 2) dtd 8-30-85.

Attach a copy of a map showing location of mouth and upper points of each species, specific stream reaches identified for spawning or rearing, locations of barriers, such as falls. Attach a copy of the fish survey data, if available.

Name of Observer (please print) CALVIN FIELD
 Date: 9-25-85 Signature: (Lamin H. Barton / personal interview via phone)
 Address: Ret. BLM employee



7/31
8/10/85



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

LIGHT-DUTY UNIMPROVED DIRT =====

CHARLEY RIVER, ALASKA
N6500-W14100/60X180

King Salmon migration
NEW SPECIES ADDITION

MEMORANDUM

BARTON
State of Alaska

TO: Kenneth P. Parker
Director
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Juneau

THRU: Ronald I. Regnart
AYK Regional Supervisor
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Anchorage

FROM: Louis H. Barton *LHB*
Upper Yukon Research Project Leader
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Department of Fish and Game
Fairbanks

DATE: August 30, 1985

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 456-4286

SUBJECT: Outside Trip Report 1985
Salmon Surveys, Yukon
Territory, Canada

August 19

I departed Fairbanks on August 19 with Bill Lentsch of Tamarack Air Ltd to survey several Canadian streams in the upper Yukon River drainage for king salmon escapements. All surveys were flown in a Super Cub and results are summarized in the attached tables. I first examined four rivers in Alaska prior to arriving in Whitehorse, Canada at 10:00 p.m. local time. The four rivers examined were the Charlie, Kandik, Nation, and Tatonduk.

A fair survey of the Charlie River from the confluence of Crescent Creek, downstream, resulted in one live king salmon being seen approximately 5 to 6 rivermiles upstream from the Yukon River. Water conditions were very clear in most of the river with occasional glare resulting from cloud cover in the upper portion. The lower 8 to 10 miles was very dark brown in color and thus more king salmon may have been present.

The Kandik, Nation, and Tatonduk rivers were all extremely high and dark brown in color. Poor surveys resulted on all three of these rivers. Live salmon would have been extremely difficult to see, and as a consequence, only a few carcasses were observed along gravel bars. The Kandik River was surveyed from its mouth upstream to the township line separating T8N and T9N (approximately 45 rivermiles). A single king salmon carcass was observed approximately 5 miles upstream of the confluence of Easy Moose Creek. What appeared as two vacant king salmon redds were also observed in Johnson Gorge.

A total of five king salmon carcasses were observed in the Nation River on a survey from the mouth to the confluence of Jungle Creek. The farthest upstream carcass was seen approximately 2 miles upstream of the confluence of Hard Luck Creek. No salmon were observed in the Tatonduk River downstream of the U.S./Canadian border.

Before proceeding on to Whitehorse, we landed in Eagle to refuel. While there, Mark Lynch of Tatonduk Air Service, informed me that a contractor by the name of Bush and Gudgeon did some cadastral survey work on the Tatonduk River in early August for BLM. I contacted the Anchorage BLM office that directed me to Mr. Calvin Fifield. Mr. Fifield, a retired BLM employee, assisted in the survey work and on August 1 he observed approximately 12 adult king salmon moving upstream in a shallow riffle at the mouth of the Tatonduk River. He also observed one or two other adult king salmon moving upstream in the Tatonduk River on August 1 at the township line separating R32E and R33E (approximately 7-8 rivermiles upstream).

August 20

I met with Sandy Johnson, Tim Young, and Pat Milligan at the Whitehorse DFO office to discuss my aerial survey plans for the coming week. I learned that the Dawson commercial catch was approximately 12,000 king salmon. Tim Young said they should have the final catches in about two more weeks. In addition, approximately 1,300 tags had been applied to king salmon captured in three test fishwheels in the Dawson area. It is interesting to note that Pat said a few chum salmon were also captured in the test fishwheels during the period of king salmon tagging studies.

Sandy Johnson informed me that 135,000 king salmon fry had been released in Michie Creek from last year's egg take at the Whitehorse fishway (of which 95,000 were coded-wire-tagged). I failed to ask if any had been fin-clipped, but Jim Raymond (FRED Division - Fairbanks) informed me that in all probability the adipose fin was also removed due to international agreements. Sandy Johnson said they plan to take between 350,000 and 500,000 eggs again this year from king salmon at the Whitehorse fishway.

I departed Whitehorse and surveyed the Big Salmon River. Survey conditions were poor. Much glare from a heavy cloud cover and slightly turbid water conditions from high water level were the major problems. Deep pools were obscured and salmon could only be seen in shallow areas or on redds thus, my counts can be considered conservative. A total of 347 kings were seen upstream of the weir of which 115 were seen in the index area between Scurvy Creek and Big Salmon Lake. Most were observed on or near redds; this may have been a function of visibility conditions. A total of 41 more were observed below the weir to Souch Creek and an additional 125 (in more of a fly-over) between Souch Creek and the South Big Salmon River. Again, most were associated with redds.

Pete Etherton told me (on August 22) that their adult salmon weir was completed on the Big Salmon River the evening of August 19. The first 24-hour count was 120-130 fish. Pete said that a few kings passed while construction was taking place. The weir is located approximately 4 to 5 rivermiles upstream of the confluence of Bat Creek.