



State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Habitat and Restoration Division

Nomination for Waters
Important to Anadromous Fish

Region SOUTHCENTRAL

USGS Quad Kenai D-2

Anadromous Water Catalog Number of Waterway Tributary to Swanson River 247-90-10020-2061

Name of Waterway Snag Creek USGS Name Local Name

Addition Deletion Correction Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination #	<u>03-244</u>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<u>22 July 2003</u>
Revision Year:	<u>2004</u>	Regional Supervisor <i>[Signature]</i>	Date
Revision to:	Atlas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Catalog	<i>[Signature]</i>	<u>16 July 03</u>
	Both <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AWC Project Biologist	Date
Revision Code:	<u>A-2</u>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<u>12/27/04</u>
		Drafted	Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
Coho salmon	6/18/2003		xxxxx		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rainbow trout	6/18/2003		xxxxx		<input type="checkbox"/>
Longnose sucker	6/18/2003		xxxxx		<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastrange sculpin	6/18/2003		xxxxx		<input type="checkbox"/>
Ninespine stickleback	6/18/2003		xxxxx		<input type="checkbox"/>

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: See attached Trip Report and list of fish species captured with backpack electrofishing gear and minnow traps.

Doug Palmer 654 9 July 11:20 1404
931 10 July 13-

ALASKA DEPT. OF
FISH & GAME
JUL 7 2003

Add new stream w/COR

Name of Observer (please print): Doug Palmer (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
Signature: *[Signature]*
Address: PO BOX 1670
Kenai, AK 99611

Date: 7/2/2003

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 Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes per AS 16.05.870.

Signature of Area Biologist: *[Signature]*

Revision 3/97

June 19, 2003

Trip Report for "Snag Creek"

Snag Creek (unnamed on USGS maps) enters the Swanson River approximately 1 mile W of Grus Lake. Approximate coordinates of stream confluence with Swanson River are N 60° 46.063 W 150° 42.693. A 3-person field crew from the Kenai Fish and Wildlife Field Office (Doug Palmer and Julie Laker) and Marathon Oil (Chic Underwood) conducted a site visit on June 18, 2003. The purpose of the site visit was to document fish species which occur in Snag Creek and examine the site of a proposed road crossing for oil and gas development.

The crew traveled to the site via a sport canoe (4 hp engine) from the Swanson River Landing at the end of Swanson River Road. Water level in the Swanson River was low and the crew encountered numerous rocks and shallow vegetated sections of river in route to Snag Creek. Travel time to the stream confluence with the Swanson River was about 2.5 hours. The confluence area can be described as a large marshy delta. The water level was too low to enter Snag Creek from the Swanson River so the crew beached the canoe and hiked along Snag Creek to the proposed road crossing site near an old seismic trail (approximately 1/3 mi N of Swanson River @ N 60° 46.283 W 150° 42.594). Substrate in the vicinity of the proposed road crossing consisted of rocks (various sizes), sand and silt. Water depths averaged about 12-24 inches but a few of the larger pools had depths of 3-4 feet. Overhanging riparian vegetation provided excellent shade and cover for fish along most of the streambank.

Two baited minnow traps and a backpack electroshocker were used to sample fish near the proposed road crossing. A section of stream approximately 250 yards in length was sampled with the backpack shocker (452 seconds of "current on" time). Species captured with the backpack shocker included coho salmon ($N=55$), rainbow trout ($N=10$), longnose sucker ($N=1$), coastrange sculpin ($N=4$), and ninespine stickleback ($N=17$). Effort with the baited minnow traps was slightly more than one hour for each trap. Species captured with the minnow traps included coho salmon ($N=1$), rainbow trout ($N=13$), and ninespine stickleback ($N=2$). All fish captured with both gear types were juveniles. Coho salmon ranged from 34-100 mm fork length and rainbow trout ranged from 70-135 mm in length.

In summary, our findings indicate that Snag Creek in the vicinity of the proposed road crossing provides high quality rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids including juvenile coho salmon. Snag Creek is not currently listed as an anadromous fish stream, but a nomination will be submitted to have it included in the catalog of waters important to anadromous fish.

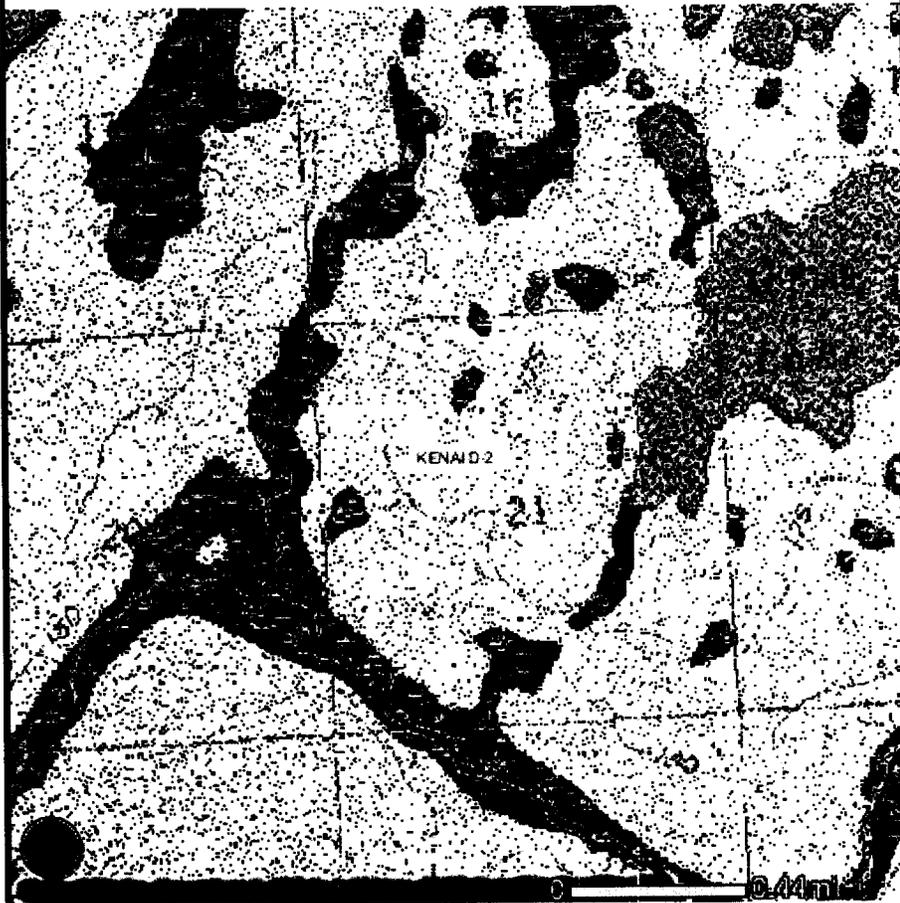
Snag Creek sampling 18 June 2003

Electrofishing (452 seconds of "current on" effort)

Species	Count	FL	Comment
Coho salmon	1	34	
Coho salmon	1	95	
Coho salmon	1	50	
Coho salmon	1	95	
Coho salmon	1	35	
Coho salmon	1	50	
Coho salmon	1	45	
Coho salmon	1	40	
Coho salmon	47		YOY fish 30-50 mm
Rainbow trout	1	115	
Rainbow trout	1	100	
Rainbow trout	1	115	
Rainbow trout	1	95	
Rainbow trout	1	95	
Rainbow trout	1	80	
Rainbow trout	1	85	
Rainbow trout	1	75	
Rainbow trout	1	70	
Rainbow trout	1	75	
Ninespine stickleback	17		
coastrange sculpin	1	40	
coastrange sculpin	1	60	
coastrange sculpin	1	55	
coastrange sculpin	1	65	
longnose sucker	1	65	

Minnow traps (Trap 1 effort = 1hr 22min; Trap 2 effort = 1hr 16min)

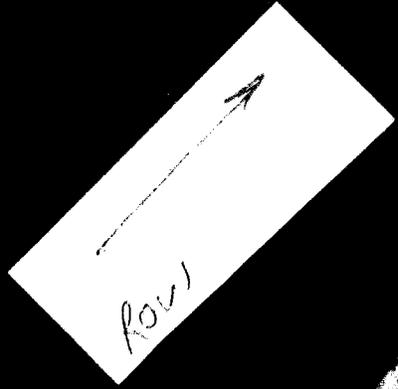
Species	Count	FL	Comment
Coho salmon	1	100	Trap 1
Rainbow trout	1	115	Trap 1
Rainbow trout	1	125	Trap 1
Rainbow trout	1	95	Trap 1
Rainbow trout	1	115	Trap 1
Rainbow trout	1	80	Trap 1
Rainbow trout	1	90	Trap 1
Rainbow trout	1	75	Trap 1
Rainbow trout	1	125	Trap 2
Rainbow trout	1	120	Trap 2
Rainbow trout	1	95	Trap 2
Rainbow trout	1	100	Trap 2
Rainbow trout	1	135	Trap 2
Rainbow trout	1	85	Trap 2
Ninespine stickleback	2		Trap 2

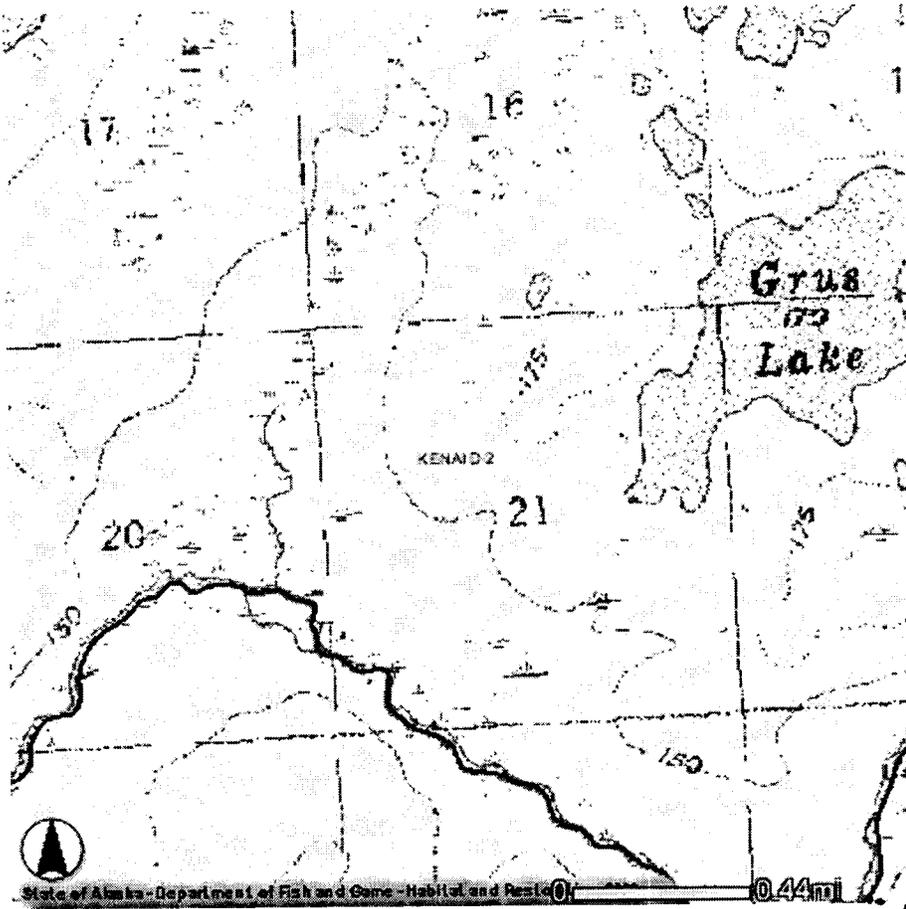




SWANSON
RIVER

ROW





J Johnson

From: Brian_Anderson@fws.gov
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 1:58 PM
To: Douglas_Palmer@fws.gov
Cc: j_johnson@fishgame.state.ak.us
Subject: Re: Snag Cr Map

Photocopy is in the mail.

Brian Anderson
Division of Natural Resources
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Anchorage, Alaska
(907) 786-3379, Fax (907) 786-3905

Douglas Palmer
07/10/2003 01:46
PM

To: j_johnson@fishgame.state.ak.us
cc: Brian L Anderson/R7/FWS/DOI@FWS
Subject: Re: Snag Cr Map

Jay,

I hope you get this email - I tried to send earlier but had problems with the correct email address.

Brian Anderson in our Anchorage Regional Office will mail you a photocopy of an aerial photo that shows the seismic trails and section of stream that we sampled. Our electrofishing sample was collected between the two seismic lines. One minnow trap was fished in this area and the second minnow trap was fished approximately 200 yards downstream from the southern-most seismic line. Call if you have any additional questions or contact Brian if you need to see the original aerial photo. Brain - Please mail the photo to J. Johnson at ADF&G on Raspberry Road. Thanks.

Doug Palmer, Senior Fishery Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Kenai Fish & Wildlife Field Office
P.O. Box 1670
Kenai, AK 99611
(907) 260-0127

----- Forwarded by Douglas Palmer/R7/FWS/DOI on 07/10/2003 12:49 PM -----

Brian L Anderson
07/10/2003 11:53
AM

To: Douglas Palmer/R7/FWS/DOI@FWS
cc:
Subject: Re: Snag Cr Map(Document link:

Douglas Palmer)

Doug:

I was afraid of that. I think the photocopy is reasonable, and certainly shows the seismic lines and stream channel. I'd be happy to mail it to Jay

if you like, and we could offer to have him look at the photo here if he needs to. Let me know.

Brian

Brian Anderson
Division of Natural Resources
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Anchorage, Alaska
(907) 786-3379, Fax (907) 786-3905

Douglas Palmer

07/10/2003 11:27
AM

To: Brian L Anderson/R7/FWS/DOI@FWS
cc:
Subject: Snag Cr Map

Brian,

The FAX is very poor quality. The seismic line is not visible and the stream is barely visible. How did the photo copy of the aerial photo look? If it is decent quality showing the stream and seismic lines, we could mail a copy to Jay which he could attach to the anadromous nomination. Otherwise, I will let him know that you have an aerial photo which shows the details of the stream and proposed stream crossing.

Doug

J Johnson

From: Douglas_Palmer@fws.gov
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 1:46 PM
To: j_johnson@fishgame.state.ak.us
Cc: Brian_Anderson@fws.gov
Subject: Re: Snag Cr Map

Jay,

I hope you get this email - I tried to send earlier but had problems with the correct email address.

Brian Anderson in our Anchorage Regional Office will mail you a photocopy of an aerial photo that shows the seismic trails and section of stream that we sampled. Our electrofishing sample was collected between the two seismic lines. One minnow trap was fished in this area and the second minnow trap was fished approximately 200 yards downstream from the southern-most seismic line. Call if you have any additional questions or contact Brian if you need to see the original aerial photo. Brain - Please mail the photo to J. Johnson at ADF&G on Raspberry Road. Thanks.

Doug Palmer, Senior Fishery Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Kenai Fish & Wildlife Field Office
P.O. Box 1670
Kenai, AK 99611
(907) 260-0127

----- Forwarded by Douglas Palmer/R7/FWS/DOI on 07/10/2003 12:49 PM -----

Brian L Anderson
07/10/2003 11:53
AM

To: Douglas Palmer/R7/FWS/DOI@FWS
cc:
Subject: Re: Snag Cr Map(Document link:

Douglas Palmer)

Doug:

I was afraid of that. I think the photocopy is reasonable, and certainly shows the seismic lines and stream channel. I'd be happy to mail it to Jay if you like, and we could offer to have him look at the photo here if he needs to. Let me know.

Brian

Brian Anderson
Division of Natural Resources
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Anchorage, Alaska
(907) 786-3379, Fax (907) 786-3905

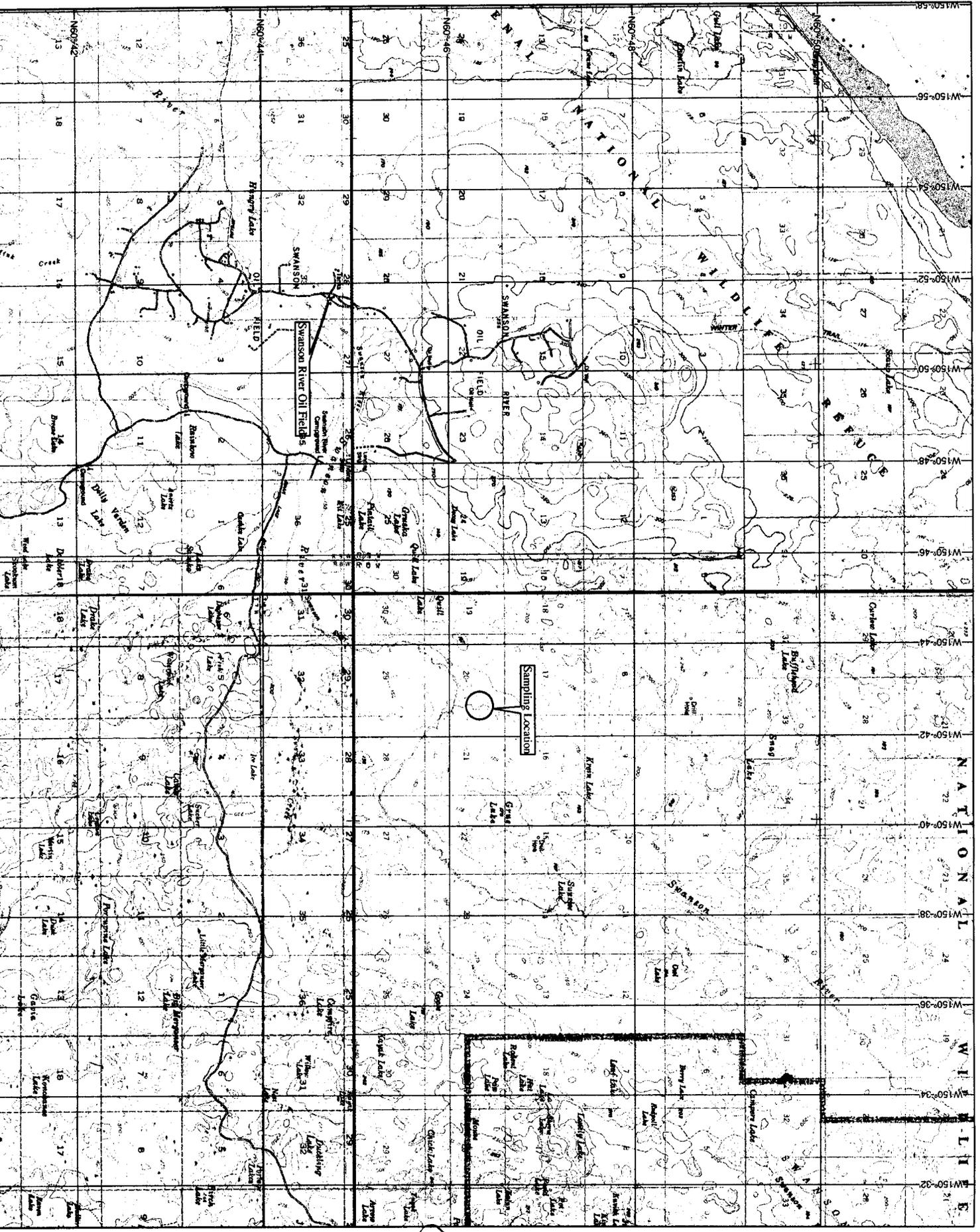
Douglas Palmer
07/10/2003 11:27
AM

To: Brian L Anderson/R7/FWS/DOI@FWS
cc:
Subject: Snag Cr Map

Brian,

The FAX is very poor quality. The seismic line is not visible and the stream is barely visible. How did the photo copy of the aerial photo look? If it is decent quality showing the stream and seismic lines, we could mail a copy to Jay which he could attach to the anadromous nomination. Otherwise, I will let him know that you have an aerial photo which shows the details of the stream and proposed stream crossing.

Doug



2061

2061

Add 247-90-10020-2061 w COR

5 COR

21

20

KENNA 02

15

0.34mi

