



State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Sportfish Division

Nomination Form
Fish Distribution Database



Region SCN USGS Quad(s) TALKEETNA C-1, TALKEETNA D-1
 Fish Distribution Database Number of Waterway 247-41-10200-2381-3179 - 4010
 Name of Waterway Spink Creek USGS Name Local Name
 Addition Deletion Correction Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination # <u>07 488</u>	<u>[Signature]</u> ADF&G Fisheries Scientist	<u>11/2/07</u> Date
Revision Year: <u>2008</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>11/2/07</u> Date
Revision to: Atlas _____ Catalog _____ Both <u>X</u>	<u>[Signature]</u> ADNR OHMP Operations Mgr.	<u>10/17/07</u> Date
Revision Code: <u>A-2, B-1, B-2</u>	<u>[Signature]</u> FDD Project Biologist Cartographer	<u>11/19/07</u> Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
sockeye salmon	9/17/2007	<u>X</u>		X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
chum salmon	9/17/2007			X	<input type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>
					<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: Aerial observations support addition of new water body 247-41-10200-2381-3179-4010 w/chum salmon presence, adding chum salmon presence to 247-41-10200-2381-3179 (Spink Creek) and substantiates presence of sockeye salmon in 247-41-10200-2381-3179 (Spink Creek) 30 sockeye and chum salmon (23) spawning

Name of Observer (please print): Andy Barclay
 Signature: [Signature] Date: 10/10/2007
 Agency: ADF&G - CF
 Address: 333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518

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 Fish Distribution Database.

Signature of Area Biologist: [Signature] Date: 11/21/07 Revision 02/05
 Name of Area Biologist (please print): _____

Moose Creek – I flew up moose creek from Petersville Road to the end and found no sockeye. There were a lot of beaver dams blocking the creek.

Talkeetna River

Mama and Papa Bear Lakes – Mama Bear Lake had no sockeye. There were sockeye in Papa Bear Lake near the connecting stream between the lakes and the inlet stream. A light float plane could probably get in and out of Papa Bear Lake.

Sheep River – I flew up this river about 36 miles looking for sockeye. The mainstem water was too glacial to see sockeye and none of the clear streams contained sockeye. There were low clouds over the river that blocked the view for a few miles so it's possible I missed something. I checked Rainbow Lake for sockeye, but found nothing. The creek to Rainbow Lake looks too steep for sockeye to swim.

Chulitna River

Spink Creek – Spink Lake had no sockeye and the outlet stream to Spink Creek was very low. There were sockeye and chum in Spink Creek where the outlet stream from the lake entered (N62.75735 W150.21556), and a few more down stream from there. A large beaver dam (N62.77322 W150.18370) blocked the creek above the cluster of salmon. There was a large cluster of sockeye at the mouth of Spink Creek, but they were in deep water.

Tokositna River

Slim/T Creek – I saw nothing in the creek or the two lakes. The water was very tannic so I may have missed sockeye if there are some there. The creek is very narrow in places and sockeye may not be able to get to the lakes.

Bunco Creek – No sockeye were seen in Bunco Creek.

Yentna River

Granite Creek – I flew this creek from the mouth up to the glaciers at the end and saw no sockeye. The water was glacial so it was impossible to see fish in the river. I also checked some of the clear sloughs, but saw nothing.

Fourth-of-July Creek – This creek was glacial and there was a large waterfall (N62.33222 W152.03340) down stream from the 2006 radio tag coordinates (N62.33940 W152.05164). It didn't look like salmon would be able to swim up the fall, but I checked up stream past the radio tag coordinates. I didn't see any sockeye in this creek or in any of the clear sloughs and tributaries above the falls.

Fourth-of-July Creek falls



Donkey Creek – I flew the lake and the creek down stream from the lake and saw no sockeye. There were some salmon at the mouth of the creek, but I could only see ripples in the water. The lake and the creek were very tannic and I couldn't see anything in the water.

Kichatna River - There were several clear tributaries that contained sockeye and they were seen within the main stem and in sloughs. There was a largest concentrations in clear tributaries were found near these coordinates: (N62.20862 W152.30940) (N62.17141 W152.22346)

Creek near Johnson Creek – The pilot said that he had seen sockeye here so I decided to check it out. There was a cluster of sockeye and other salmon at the mouth of the creek (N62.09891 W151.59219). I didn't see anything up stream from the mouth, but I only flew upstream a mile or two.

Skwentna River

Moose Creek – I found concentrations of sockeye in this creek in a beaver pond (N62.19401 W152.72951) and half a mile upstream from the pond in the main stem (N62.19628 W152.71505). The creek water was glacial, but sockeye could be seen in shallow sections of the creek.

Hayes River – There was a clear stream flowing into the Hayes River (N61.92674 W151.88385) that had sockeye in the mouth.

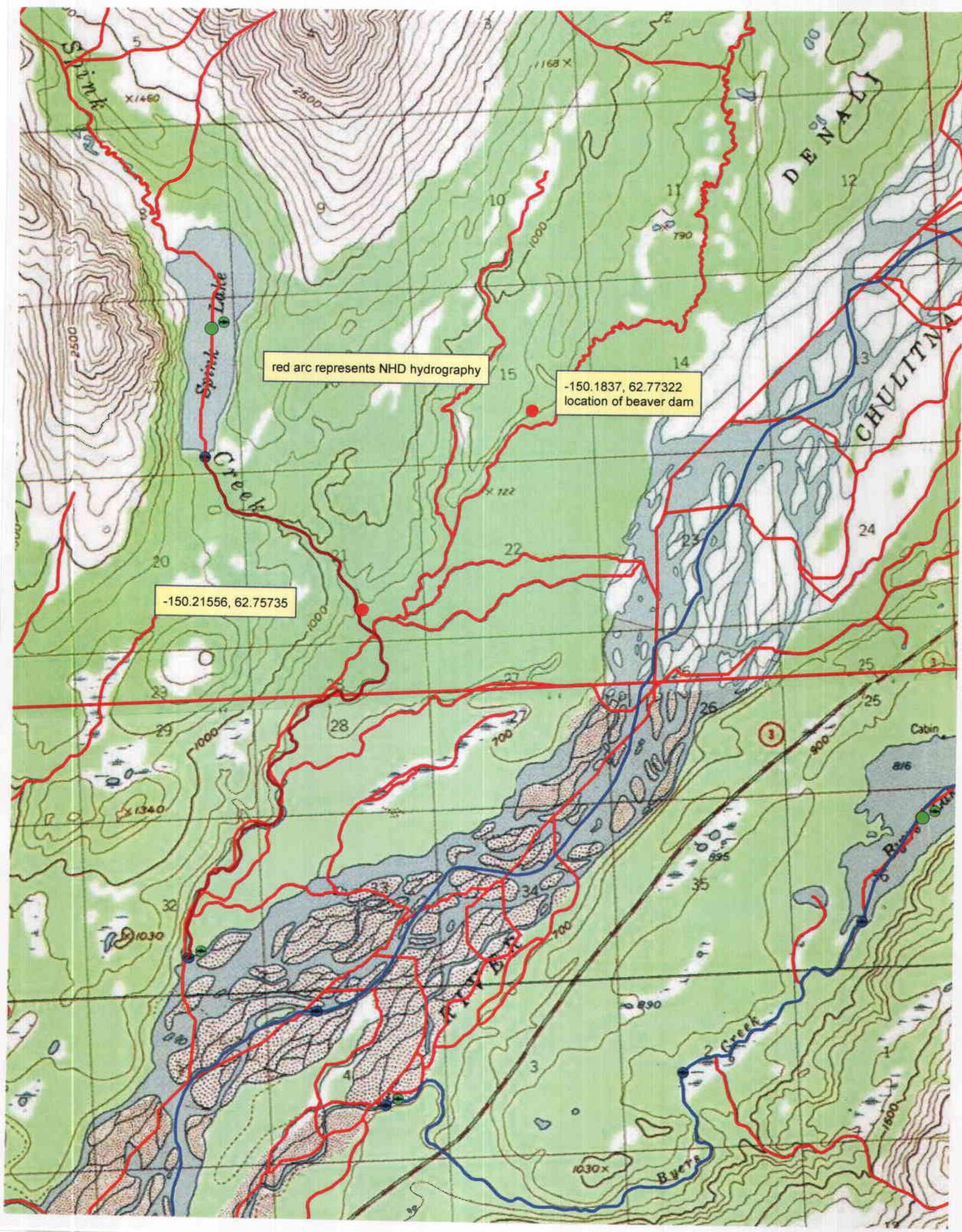
Eightmile Creek – I flew this river on the way back to Anchorage and saw a few sockeye spaced far apart. Light conditions were poor and the water was dark with weeds blocking my view.

Comments

Papa Bear Lake can be accessed by a light float plane and Birch Creek can be accessed by automobile. The easiest way to access the rest of the sites where I found sockeye is by helicopter. Moose Creek off the Happy River can be accessed by a small float plane at Moose Creek Lake at the end of the creek. However, the sockeye were located about 2.5 miles downstream from the lake and it wouldn't be an easy hike.

There were chum salmon at Spink Creek and the Kichatna River mixed with the sockeye. There didn't appear to be enough chum at either location for a full collection.

*odd stream
w/ CHP*



red arc represents NHD hydrography

-150.1837, 62.77322
location of beaver dam

-150.21556, 62.75735

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Spirit

Spirit Lake
Creek

DENALI

CHULTNA

BETA

Cabin

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1030

1800

X1460

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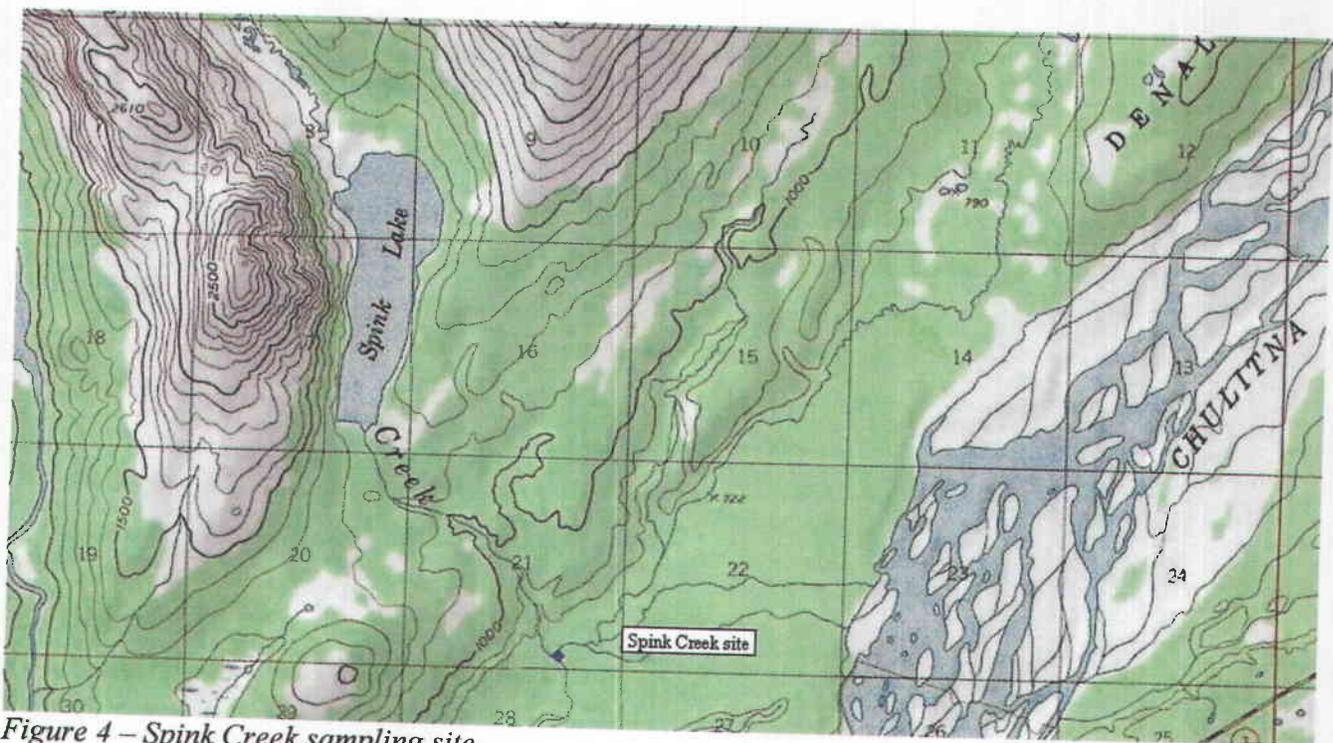


Figure 4 – Spink Creek sampling site.

We landed at the Talkeetna airport on the way back to get more fuel at Hudson Air. I met Jay Hudson who would be flying me out to Papa Bear Lake the next day. We were back at Pollux Aviation around 21:30.

Comments

It would be easy to go back and increase the sample size for the Kichatna River. We could have sampled sockeye at the place where we turned around, but we just didn't have the time or the nerve to hike through the alders with bear sign all around. If a crew had more time they could find a better way to get to where the sockeye are. If there is a need for a chum baseline collection on the Kichatna River it wouldn't be hard to get one. There were many chum in shallow sloughs that could be seen from the air.

We may have been a little early at Spink Creek. It looked like many of the sockeye where we sampled were fairly fresh. The group of sockeye at the mouth of Spink Creek might have been waiting for the water level to increase. I observed this in creeks on the Skwentna River where I saw fish in the mouth one week and a couple of weeks later the fish had moved up the river. There were chum salmon spread throughout Spink Creek, but the highest concentration was in the pool where we collected sockeye. It would be possible to get a larger chum collection from this creek if a sampling crew were to do little hiking.

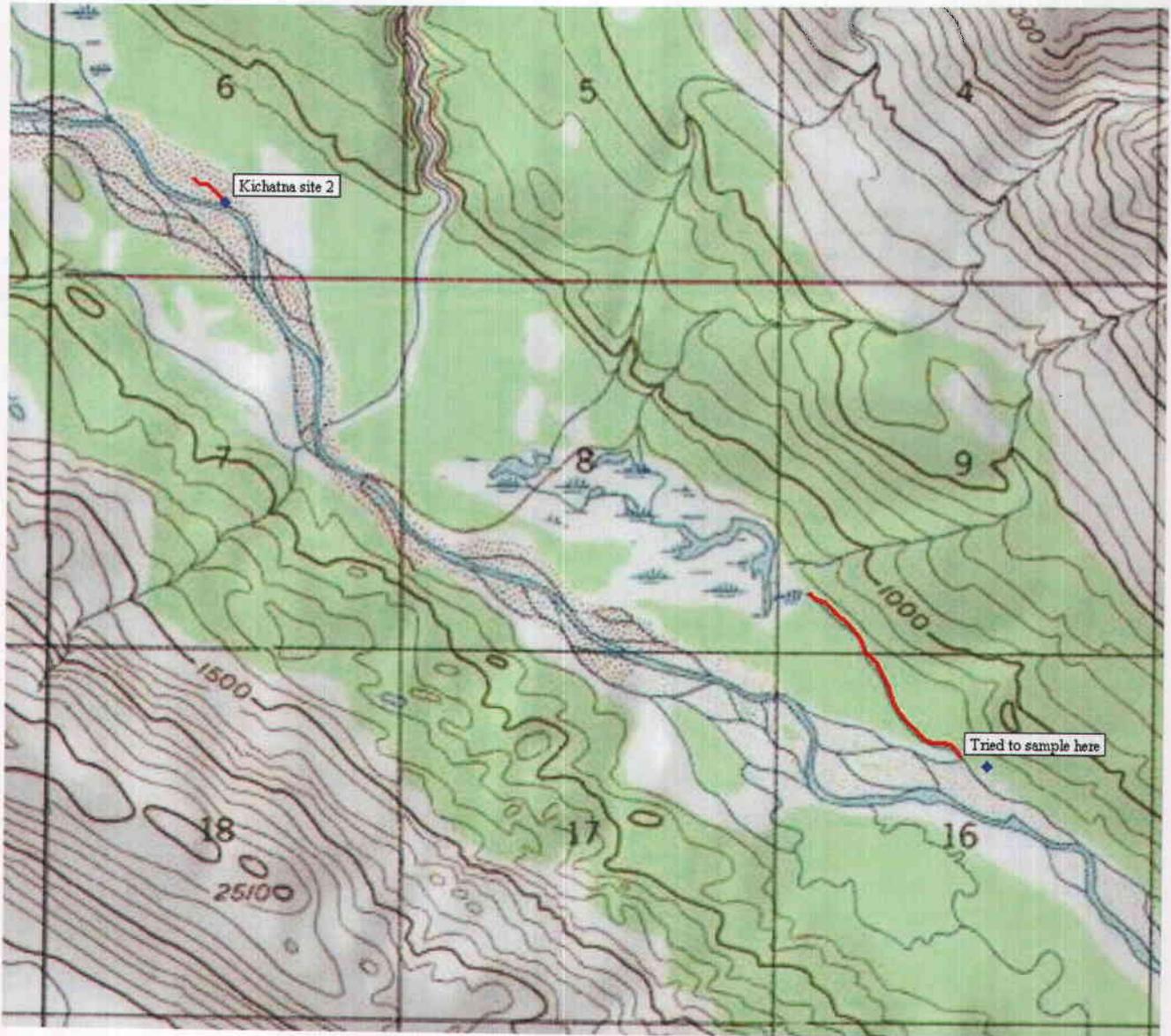


Figure 3 – Map of sampling site 2 and where we tried to sample, red lines indicate where sockeye were seen.

We arrived at Spink Creek about 18:45. There was a large group of sockeye and chum in a deep pool where the creek comes down from Spink Lake and intersects the eastern branch of Spink Creek (N62.75588, W150.21450) (Fig. 4). We sampled both sockeye and chum here until we kept getting the same individuals in our net. We didn't see sockeye down stream or upstream from the sampling site, however, there was a large group of sockeye at the mouth of Spink Creek on the Chulitna River. There were some sockeye spawning just below the pool but none in the pool were spawning. We caught a couple of sockeye in the pool that had just started to turn red. The creek to Spink Lake was too dry for sockeye to swim up so maybe they were waiting for more water before moving into the lake. I didn't see any sockeye in the lake on my scouting trip the week before. At 19:45 we decided to call it a day because we had to get back to Wasilla before became dark. We collected 30 sockeye and 23 chum samples at this creek.

Add new water body
247-41-10200-2381-3179-4010

w/sockeye salmon spawning

at chum salmon place, add chum salmon place to 247-41-10200-2381-3179

