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

Nomination Form
Anadromous Waters Catalog

Region: SOUTHCENTRAL | USGS Quad(s): SELDOVIA C-4

Anadromous Waters Catalog Number of Waterway: 241-15-10345

Name of Waterway: STONEHOCKER CREEK ☒ USGS Name ☐ Local Name

☐ Addition ☐ Deletion ☐ Correction ☒ Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination # 09-1552		
Revision Year: 2010	Fisheries Scientist	Date
Revision to: Atlas ____ Catalog ____ Both ____	Habitat Operations Manager	Date
	AWC Project Biologist	4/Nov/09 Date
Revision Code: F-1	Cartographer	Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
Coho	2001	Yes		Yes	☒
					☐
					☐
					☐
					☐

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:

Ground survey, Nicky Szarzi, see attached map.

Aerial survey (2001) attached.

Name of Observer (please print): Nicky Szarzi

Signature:

Date: 10/27/2009

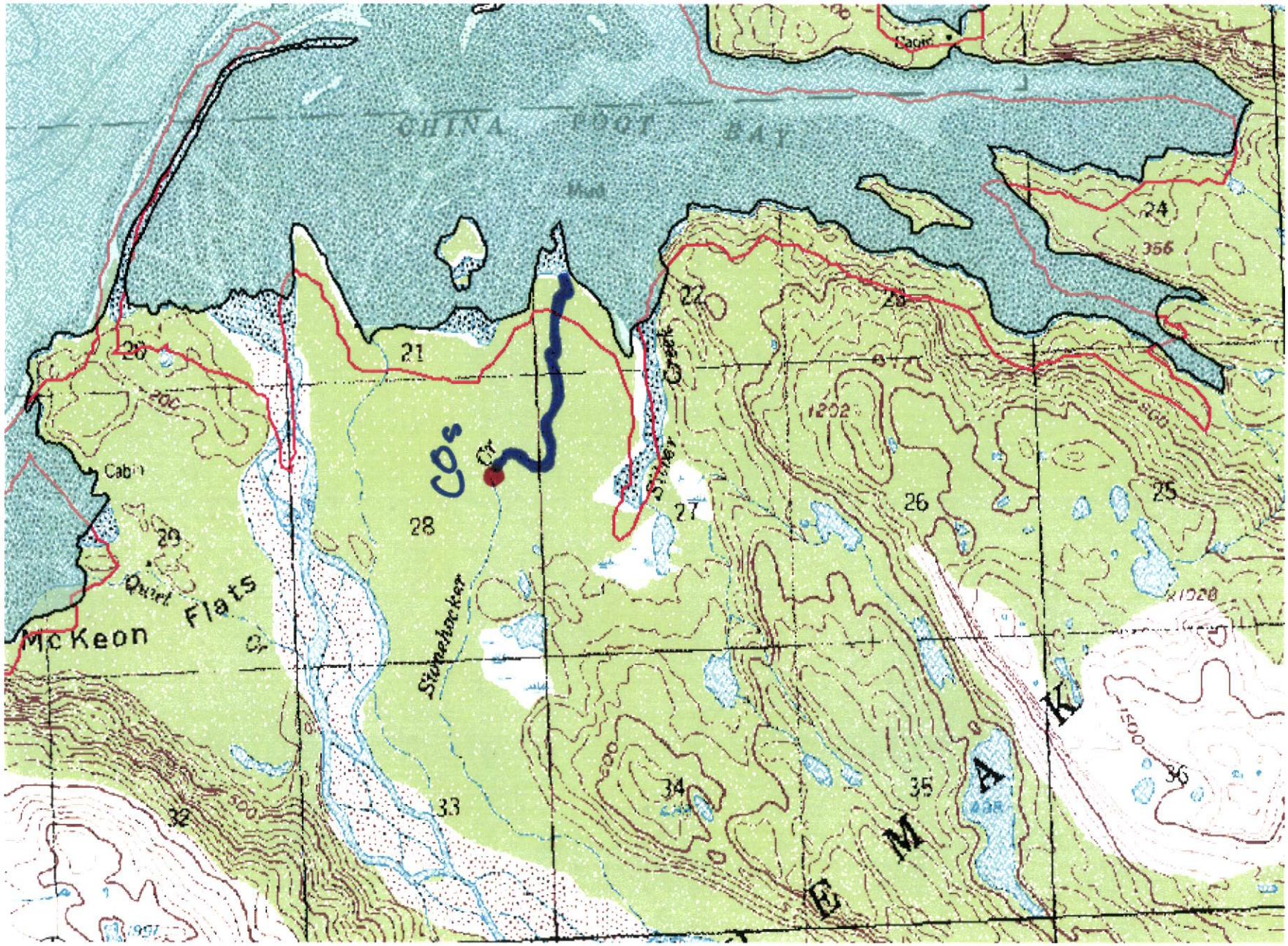
Agency: ADFG

Address: 32098 Douglas Pl
Homer, AK 99603

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: Nicole J Szarzi Date: 10/27/2009 Revision

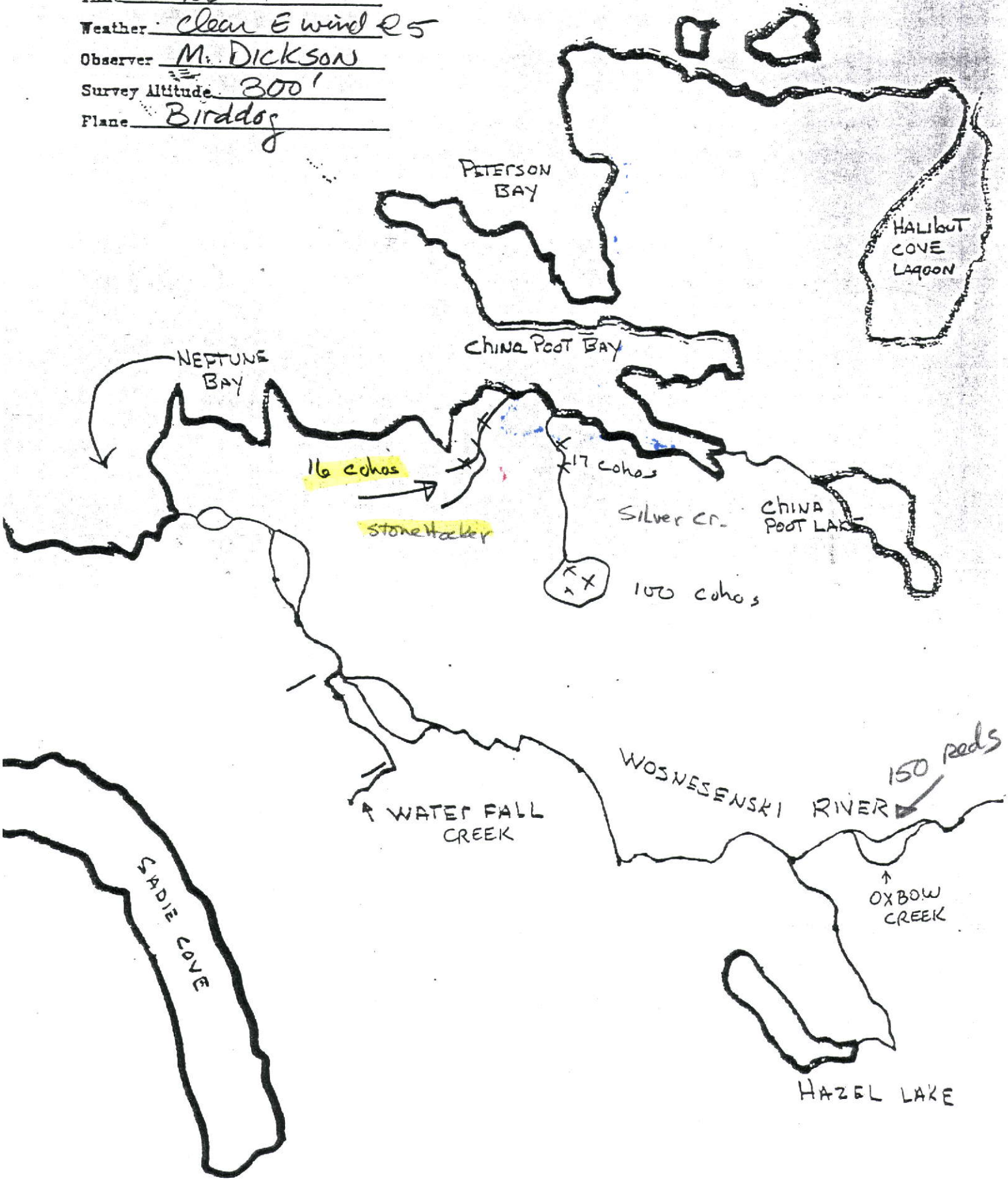
02/08


CHINA POOT BAY
Mud
Cabin
McKeon Flats
Quiet Cr
Stonehacker
Sitney Creek
COs Cr
21
22
24
25
26
27
28
29
32
33
34
35
36
356
1202
1028
500
1500
E M A K

CHINA POOT BA
Mud
COs
COs
22
21
Creek
Silver
Cr
COs
COs
27
28
241-15-10345
Stonehocker
Cr
COs
500
34
33
500
Ssr

Hazel Lake/Wosnesenski River

Date Sept 10, 01
Time 3:00 PM
Weather clear E wind 25
Observer M. DICKSON
Survey Altitude 300'
Plane Birddog



September 5, 1985

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
2355 Kachemak Way
Homer, AK 99603

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to ask the Dept. of Fish and Game to make an emergency closure of part of Silver Creek in China Poot Bay to protect the small amount of spawning silver salmon. Such closure would assure continued commercial and sport fishing in China Poot.

I have a home on Silver Creek where I have for years monitored the salmon run and watched it deteriorate almost to extinction by the constantly increasing pressure by snaggers and netters. By watching these people, I find that the most damage is done when they take their boats up into the narrow part of the stream blocking the fish moving in and out on the tides. Once they are blocked, they almost clean out the stream. The narrow part of the stream can be easily jumped and starts just upstream from our house. That part of the stream to the lake should be restricted to any taking of silver salmon by emergency closure. There is about 1/2 mile of good fishing below the house. Except to snag or dip net, there is no need to fish the narrow portion of the stream.

The fish are only able to get into the spawning lake when the tide is 19' or higher and when the creek has a heavy flow due to rains. Sometimes these fish lay in the stream up to two weeks. During this time they are often wiped out by snaggers.

In the 60's and early 70's, I also watched the decimation by snaggers and netters of the silver and pink runs in adjacent Stonehocker Creek. If the heavy pressure in the narrow parts of Silver Creek continues, the run will die like Stonehocker.

With the preservation of the Silver Creek run and the reestablishment of the pink and silver runs in Stonehocker Creek, there should be a sustained yield of salmon for commercial and sport fisheries in China Poot Bay.

I am enclosing a map showing a recommended closure sign location and the section of stream that should be considered for closing. This map also shows Stonehocker Creek.

Enclosure #2

Stonehocker Creek Summary

In the 1960's and 1970's, Stonehocker Creek had a good run of pinks and silver salmon. There are no runs now. I blame this loss on illegal set netting and commercial fishermen stretching their nets from bank to bank.

Several times I observed nets up in the Creek and also watched set seiners send two skiffs out and put a net across from bank to bank. There may well be some biological or environmental conditions about which I do not know.

I believe the runs can be reestablished by:

1. Placing silver smolts in the lake marked #6 on the map. I say this because there used to be alot of silvers jumping in the lake.

2. Pinks should be placed in the stream marked #7. I used to see them in the brackish water sections of the creek.

I recommend that a planting be done in 1986. I'll be glad to make observations for Fish and Game by the use of my aircraft, boat or on foot.

James C. Manley

I would be happy to assist the Fish and Game Department in any way possible.

I would deeply appreciate an emergency closure of the part of the stream above my house. I am sure both commercial and sport fishermen would both benefit from the closure.

Sincerely,

James C. Manley

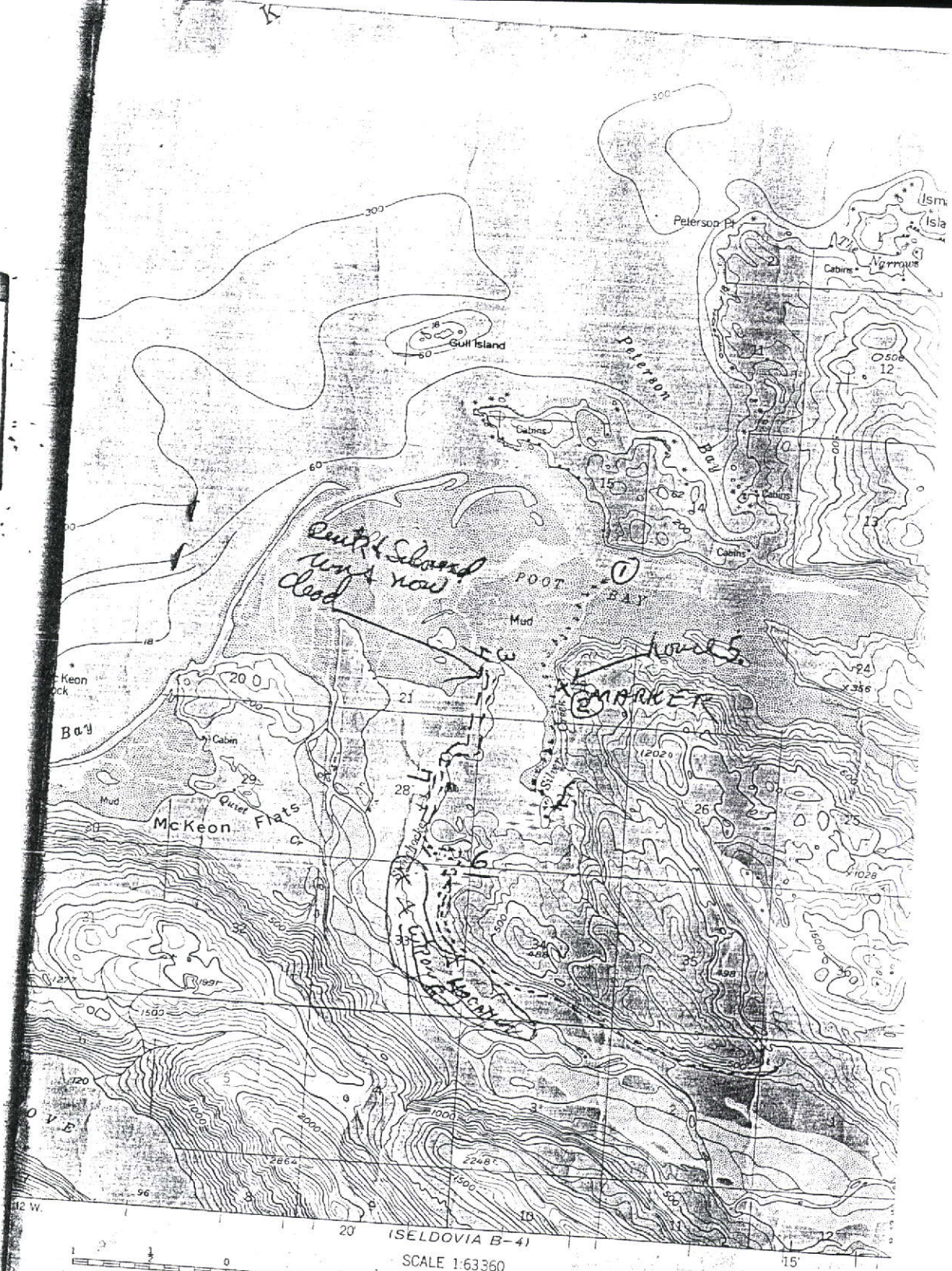
JAMES C. MANLEY

JCM/ps

encls: 1. Map
2. Stonehocker Creek Summary

original: Dave Nelson

CC. Tom Schroeder
Dave Daisy
Nick Dudiak
Tom Balland



CONTOUR INTERVAL 100 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES IN FEET-DATUM IS MEAN LOWER LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 16 FEET

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Tom B

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

P.O. BOX 3150
SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669-3150

September 16, 1985

James C. Manley
Homer, AK 99603

Dear Mr. Manley:

Thank you for your letter of September 5 requesting an emergency closure of Silver Creek to protect that stream's coho salmon stocks. After discussing the status of the run with Tom Schroeder of the Homer office and a review of the information presented in your letter, I do not believe an emergency closure is warranted at this time. The reasons for this determination are as follows:

1. You refer to "snaggers and netters" which have contributed to declining runs in Silver Creek. I assume this refers to illegal fishing activity. If, in fact the decline of that stock is related to illegal fishing, closing that stream would only affect the legal sport angler. Anglers which utilize illegal gear would probably not be deterred from fishing in closed waters by issuance of an emergency closure. I will, however, forward a copy of your letter and this correspondence to the Homer Office of Fish and Wildlife Protection so that local enforcement personnel may be apprised of the situation you describe at Silver Creek.

2. Annual returns of coho salmon to small systems such as Silver Creek display appreciable numerical fluctuations. This is a natural phenomona and is not necessarily related to fishing activity or the lack thereof. The Sport Fish Division has worked extensively with wild coho stocks in Resurrection Bay. Annual spawning ground surveys in this area have documented these fluctuations since the 1960's. I am sure these seemingly random fluctuations also apply to small coho salmon producing streams in Kachemak Bay.

3. Coho salmon production is related only secondarily to numbers of fish in the parent year spawning escapement. Again, referring to Resurrection Bay, research conducted there indicates that coho salmon production is more closely related to water flow and temperature during the spawning, incubation and rearing period than it is to the number of spawning adults. Large returns may be produced by relatively small spawning escapements. The converse may also be true.

4. You noted in your letter that the Silver Creek run is only able to enter the lake on 19 foot or higher tides. From September 14 through 19 tides are in excess of this height. Salmon holding in the stream at present

should therefore be able to pass through the narrow section of creek and enter the lake during this period. Seven days later begins another high tide series which will fascilitate the migration of these fish. These high tides should minimize the sport harvest as the fish will not hold as long in the stream.

The map showing the corrected route of Stonehocker Creek is appreciated as are you comments regarding the status of that stream's pink and coho salmon stocks. Although I can not make a commitment at this time, it is my intention to discuss with Tom Schroeder of the Commercial Fish Division and Nick Dudiak of the Division of Fisheries Rehabilitation and Development the feasibility of enhancing this stream.

Again Mr. Manley, thank you for your comments on the above mentioned streams. Although an emergency closure is not warranted at this time, please be assured that the Department of Fish and Game shares your concern for the perpetuation and enhancement of the resource. To that end, both streams will be discussed this winter with Department Staff for possible remedial/enhancement action to the problems you outlined in 1986.

Sincerely,

David C. Nelson
Acting Area Biologist

cc: Homer Office, FWP
P. Krasnowski, ADF&G Anchorage (SF)
T. Schroeder, ADF&G Homer (CF)
N. Dudiak, ADF&G Homer (FRED)
T. Balland, ADF&G Homer (SF)