



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

Nomination Form  
Anadromous Waters Catalog

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Region Southcentral USGS Quad(s) Tyonek, C-3

Anadromous Waters Catalog Number of Waterway ~~32110-10030-2014~~ 247741-10200-2015-3035

Name of Waterway Lower Sucker Creek  USGS Name  Local Name

Addition  Deletion  Correction  Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination #	<u>11-344</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/14/11</u>
Revision Year:	<u>2017</u>	Fisheries Scientist	Date
Revision to:	Atlas <u>    </u> Catalog <u>    </u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/14/11</u>
	Both <u>X</u>	Habitat Operations Manager	Date
Revision Code:	<u>B-2</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>9/16/11</u>
		AWC Project Biologist	Date
		<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>11/16/11</u>
		Cartographer	Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

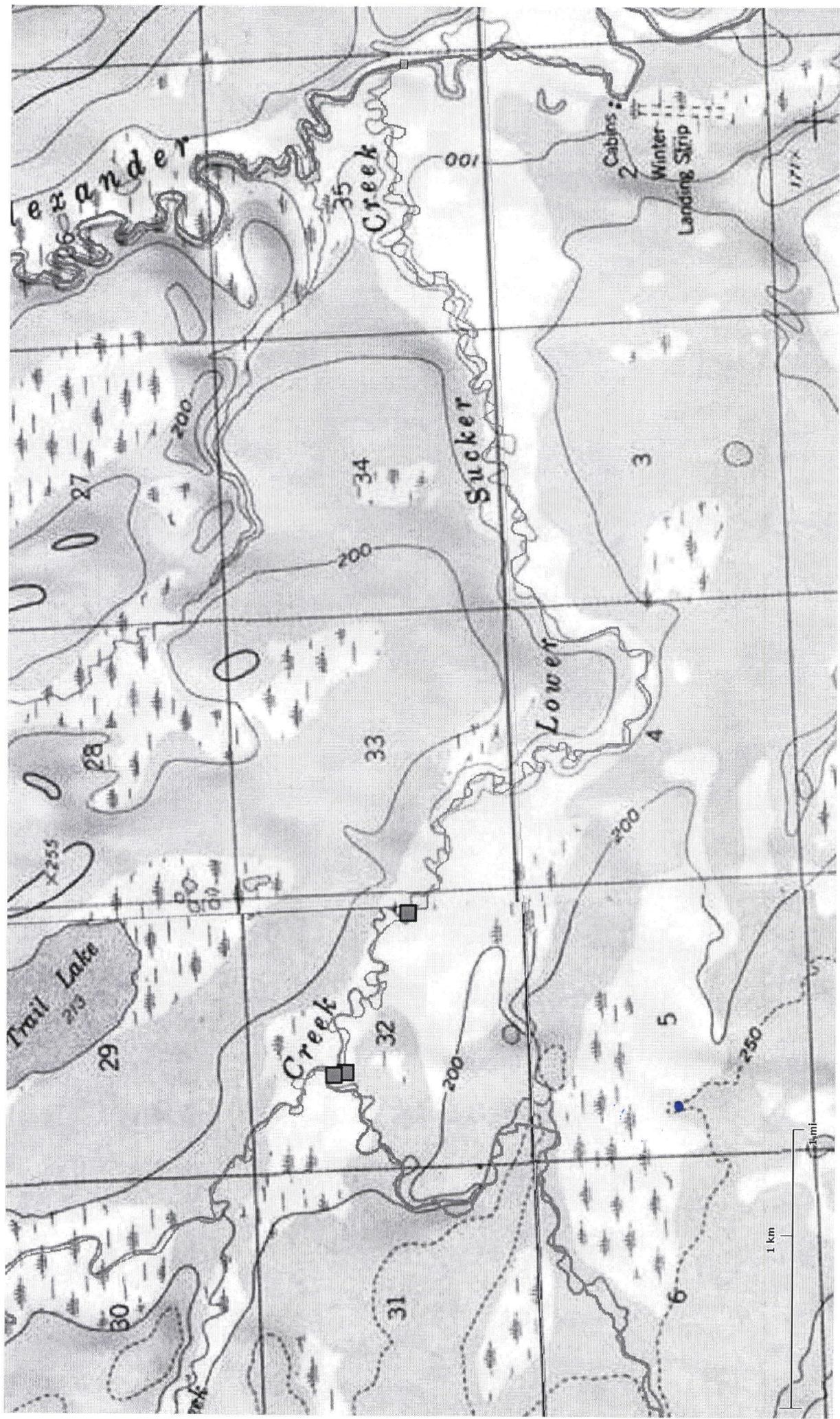
Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
Chinook		Y		Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>

**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:**  
lower Sucker creek at wolverine  
  
(61.60551,-150.75285)  
Furthest point surveyed downstream of camp. Below camp Chinook were encountered in small groups of 5 or less.  
Approximately 5 Chinook were sampled using exclusively snagging gear  
  
spawning chinook found in lower sucker creek

Name of Observer (please print): Chase Jalbert  
Signature: [Signature] Date: 9/13/2011  
Agency: Alaska Department of Fish and Game- Genetics  
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 Anadromous Waters Catalog.  
  
Signature of Area Biologist: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Revision 05/08  
Name of Area Biologist (please print): \_\_\_\_\_



Sucker Creek Chinook Sampling Trip July 21-23, 2011

Staff: Paul Kuriscak and Eric Newland

July 21:

Departed Coal Creek, via two Enstrom helicopters operated by Talaheim Air, and travelled to the confluence of Wolverine Creek and Sucker Creek. An aerial survey was conducted from the confluence of Wolverine Creek and Sucker Creek downstream to the mouth at Alexander Creek. Poor visibility resulting from the tannic stained water and shadows made enumerating from the air challenging. However, the largest concentration of Chinook appeared to be located at the mouth of Wolverine Creek and at a series of small dark holes immediately below. Only a few small groups were seen scattered below this confluence area. A landing/camping site was located a few river bends below the Wolverine Creek confluence area, and personnel and gear was dropped off (61.60913, -150.76585). Travelling by foot upstream approximately 60-70 Chinook were found in the hole below the mouth of Wolverine Creek (61.60909, -150.76991) and another group of 40 Chinook immediately upstream at the mouth (61.60970, -150.77014). Continuing up Wolverine Creek several river bends abundance decreased dramatically and only one small group of approximately 4 Chinook were encountered in a small hole (61.61026, -150.77092). Attempts at fishing with bait/gear resulted in one sample collected from Wolverine Creek and the crew returned to the confluence to target the concentrated area employing snagging gear. The Wolverine Creek confluence area was fished first and then the holes immediately downstream. This area was fished for approximately 7.5 hours yielding 41 Chinook samples for the day. As daylight faded it became increasingly more difficult to target unmarked/unsampled fish and we decided to try the same area the following day with better lighting conditions. The crew returned to landing/campsite for the evening.

July 22:

Camp was departed, returning upstream by foot to the Wolverine Creek confluence area. An additional 7.25 hours were spent snagging in the confluence area, before approximately 90% of the group had been sampled. Snagging such a high percentage of available fish required patience and accuracy to keep recapture rate extremely low. An additional 45 Chinook were sampled from this area. Satisfied with the effort spent on the area, the crew returned to camp to make arrangements for a helicopter pickup the following morning with Talaheim Air. Continuing by foot the crew headed downstream of camp finding only a couple small groups with individual fish sparsely scattered between. The lowest point surveyed downstream was (61.60552, -150.75285). An additional 5 Chinook were sampled in a 3 hours. Upon arriving at the campsite, it had been presumably visited by a bear which had broken into the cooler and eaten much of the contents and bit into the rolled up canoe puncturing a tube and the bladder in multiple spots.

July 23:

The gear was packed and made ready for pick up by Talaheim Air. The two Talaheim Air Enstrom helicopters transported gear and personnel to the Talaheim Lodge. The gear was then transferred to a C-180 wheeled aircraft operated by Talaheim Air and crew returned to Anchorage landing at the Lake Hood strip.

Recommendations for future trips: Better camping practices, such as placing food above ground, could possibly have helped to avoid or limit the bear damage to camping gear. However, it seemed impractical to continually move all the gear by boat to and from the sample locations which were located in such close proximity to the campsite.

