

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

1986
 Year of Revision
 86-065

Anadromous Water Catalog Volume II
 USGS Quad 52 Kenai C-4
 Name of Waterway Bishop Creek
 Anadromous Water Catalog Number of Waterway 247-90-131
247-90-10030-2041-0014

For Office Use

Change to _____ Atlas
 _____ Catalog
 Both
 Addition
 Deletion _____
 Correction _____

ALASKA DEPT. OF
 FISH & GAME

SEP 19 1985

HABITAT
 REGIONAL OFFICE

Nomination # _____	
<u>Carl Yonigawa</u>	<u>10/17/85</u>
Regional Supervisor	Date
<u>OK SJS</u>	<u>11/5/85</u>
<u>Tom Rucco</u>	<u>10-29-85</u>
Drafted	Date

Name addition:
 USGS name ?
 Local name Duck Lake

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Migration
<u>Sockeye Salmon</u>	<u>3 Sep 81, Sep 84, Sep 85</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>

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

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) Thomas E. Mears

Date: 16 Sep 85 Signature: Thomas E. Mears, CIWA

Address: Box 3819
Soldotna, AK 99669

Signature of Area Biologist: Pat Ruck

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 REGION II
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upstream from McLain Lake.

There were 3 dams on Gene Creek; two at the outlet, one about 3/4 miles downstream from the outlet. All appeared to be passable to salmon.

The entire mainstem of the Swanson River appears to be good rearing habitat for coho salmon.

Helicopter Survey May 28, 1980

There were no barriers to salmon migration in Mink Creek. Lynx Creek has one fairly large beaver dam which may be a barrier.

Stream Number	Name	Salmon Species Present
247-90-131	Bishop Creek	RS, SS, PS

Float Trip June 22, 1979 Timberlost Lake to Wassenens

The three culverts which had been placed in this area were all in their original location and orientation. No repairs had been made on any dam. The dam just above Wassenens had been washed away.

The two culverts on Bishop Creek upstream from Thompson's driveway were also in the same condition as when they had been installed. The dam furthest upstream is rapidly eroding in the vicinity of the cut through which the culvert had been installed.

Foot Survey June 25, 1979

A wooden flume placed through a dam just upstream from the pipeline off of Northwoods road had been torn loose from its supports and transported slightly downstream. The notch was not repaired. The flume was removed.

Another wooden flume installed near the campground in Captain Cook Park had been plugged with mud. The dam has largely washed away. The remains of the flume were removed.

Float Trip May 19, 1980

Bishop Lake to powerline crossing off of Taurianen Trail

The beaver dam at Bishop Lake outlet was in years past torn down. It has not yet been repaired. Easy passage for fish. Air temp = 49 F. Water temp = 44 F.

Bishop Creek is narrow and fast flowing for about 1/4 mile below Bishop Lake. There was often not enough water to float the canoe. Numerous downfalls spanned the creek necessitating numerous

portages. There were about 500 rainbow trout (8 - 14") spawning in this area.

The creek then passes through a wide marshy area that is about one mile long. There is a 3 foot high beaver dam at the downstream end of this marsh. This dam is passable because much of the water flows under tree roots on one of the banks.

A second beaver dam exists about 3/8 of a mile downstream from the one previously mentioned. There is a cut near the center where most of the water passes through. There is about a 16" drop at this point. We removed material from the cut.

A third dam exist about 200 yards below the second. Most of the water passes around the side. We cleaned some logs and sticks out of this "by-pass".

The fourth dam is about 1/4 mile above the culvert for Thompson's driveway. The cut through the dam has eroded substantially lowering the water level behind the dam by at least 10 inches. The culvert is still in lace but serves no purpose as its upstream end is out of the water.

A fifth dam is about 200 yards upstream from Thompson's driveway. The culvert was plugged with flotsam. There is no sign of recent beaver activity on this dam.

The next dam was encountered just above Wassenens property. There is a river wide channel through the dam. The culvert sits there in the middle of the channel serving no purpose.

A culvert had been placed in a large dam just downstream from Wassenen's. This dam has washed out some 15 feet away from the culvert. This culvert could be removed.

There is a small brush dam just downstream from the powerline crossing. The dam height is about 1 foot.

Foot Survey June 4, 1980 Powerline Crossing to North Road

Several old dams were observed- all breached. Coould not adequately view the creek from the bank; floating bog. Should be surveyed from a boat or airplane.

Foot Survey June 9, 1980

What had appeared from the air to be a complete blockage downstream from the Bishop Creek Bar was instead on old beaver dam on onw side of the creek and a sweeper on the other side of the creek.

The culvert at the DANIELS CREEK PIPELINE CROSSING is 36" diameter, 30' long and drops 2" in 30 feet. Water depth is 24" from the lower lip of the culvert. Discharge as measured by float

method is 4.55 cfs. Air temp = 65 F. Water temp = 58 F. Observed about 1500 salmonids (apparently sockeye smolt) 4 inches long holding in the pool above the culvert. Several hundred were observed in the pool below the culvert.

DANIELS CREEK BRIDGE- HALIBOUTY ROAD this old timber bridge is caving into creek on upstream edge. No passage problem yet but bridge will need to be fixed or replaced within a few years. Observed about 1000 more sockeye smolt. Water temp = 58 F.

DANIELS CREEK AT LAKE OUTLET old beaver dam at lake outlet has not yet been rebuilt. Saw no smolts. Six rainbow trout (10-14") were in the culvert under the road. Water temp = 60 F.

Daniels Creek Pipeline Crossing August 6, 1980

Discharge measured by float method was 2.83 cfs

Helicopter Survey September 3, 1981

Lower Bishop Creek- Upstream limit is the junction of a lake connecting stream (T8N,R10W,Sec 31). There are several marginally passable beaver dams in this reach. The dam adjacent to the park outhouses is currently impassable.

Nameless Lake (T8N,R10W, Sec 31)- shallow, acid water lake. Lilly pads cover virtually the entire surface. No fish were observed.

Nameless Lake (T8N,R11W, Sec 36 and T7N,R11W, Sec 1)- The connecting creek is very narrow and may be seasonally unpassable. No fish were observed either in the creek or around the perimeter of the lake.

Middle Bishop Creek- Upstream limit is the confluence with Daniels Creek. Several breached beaver dams exist in this area. No barriers to fish migration exist. No fish were observed.

Timberlost Lake and Creek- No barriers to migration were observed. The lake is very shallow and floating and emergent vegetation is abundant. Two sockeye were observed in this lake.

Daniels Lake and Creek- No barriers exist in Daniels Creek. A perimeter survey of the lake revealed approximately 2000 sockeye spawning near the lake shore. There were several schools of sockeye which had not yet moved to shore to spawn. Approximately 1% of the fish had spawned and died.

Upper Bishop Creek (Daniels Creek to Bishop Lake)- There is one beaver dam roughly 1 mile downstream from Bishop Lake which should be examined from the ground in the spring. No fish were observed in this area.

Bishop Lake- Saw about 150 sockeye in this lake. Roughly 1/3 were dead, the remainder were spawning near the lake margin.

There is a nameless shallow weedy lake adjacent to Bishop Lake on its south side. There were about 20 sockeye spawning in this lake.

Parsons Lake and Creek- No fish were observed in this system. Local residents report that this area was an important spawning grounds in past years. No barriers to migration were observed.

Helicopter Survey July 6, 1983

Beaver activity was common to the entire drainage. At least 21 dams were counted on Bishop Creek and the tributary to Timberlost Lake. Several others were noted on Daniels Creek. Of the 21 blockages, three were noted as potential barriers to adult salmon movement. The worst was 1/4 mile from Cook Inlet. Five other old dams were observed between Cook Inlet and the culvert under the North Kenai Road. The next major blockage was in T8N, R10W, Section 30 DA. The furthest upstream barrier was near Stan Thompson's homestead. Removal and or breaching was recommended for the three problem dams. Approximately 100 fishermen were observed at the confluence of Bishop Creek and Cook Inlet. Numerous sockeye adults were being snagged at the time of observation.

Alterations July 9, 1983

Ron Aho and Jim Rodgers traveled to Bishop Creek near Captain Cook Recreational Area by vehicle. They were instructed to walk out Bishop Creek from the culvert to the downstream dam. The observed six potential obstructions all of which were passable.

The largest dam was one which CIAA crews had breached in 1982 and was still passable. Debris was removed from the foot and top of the dam to facilitate upstream movement of fish. Tide was at low stage and no sockeye adults were observed during the period of hiking or debris removal.

Alterations July 10, 1983

Tom Mears and son Jason revisited the site and found no additional beaver activity. They also drove to the pipeline crossing on the outlet stream from Daniels Lake. They observed very little flow (approximately 1/10 cfs) but found no obstructions.

Alterations July 12, 1983

Ron Aho and Jim Rodgers were recruited to remove the middle dam and float the Creek from the confluence of Daniels Creek to the North Kenai Road. They floated a small portion of Bishop Creek and returned. No obstructions were noted in this effort. Approximately 50 sockeye adults were counted. They later traveled to Daniels Creek and noted 150 sockeye adult migrants.

Alterations July 19, 1983

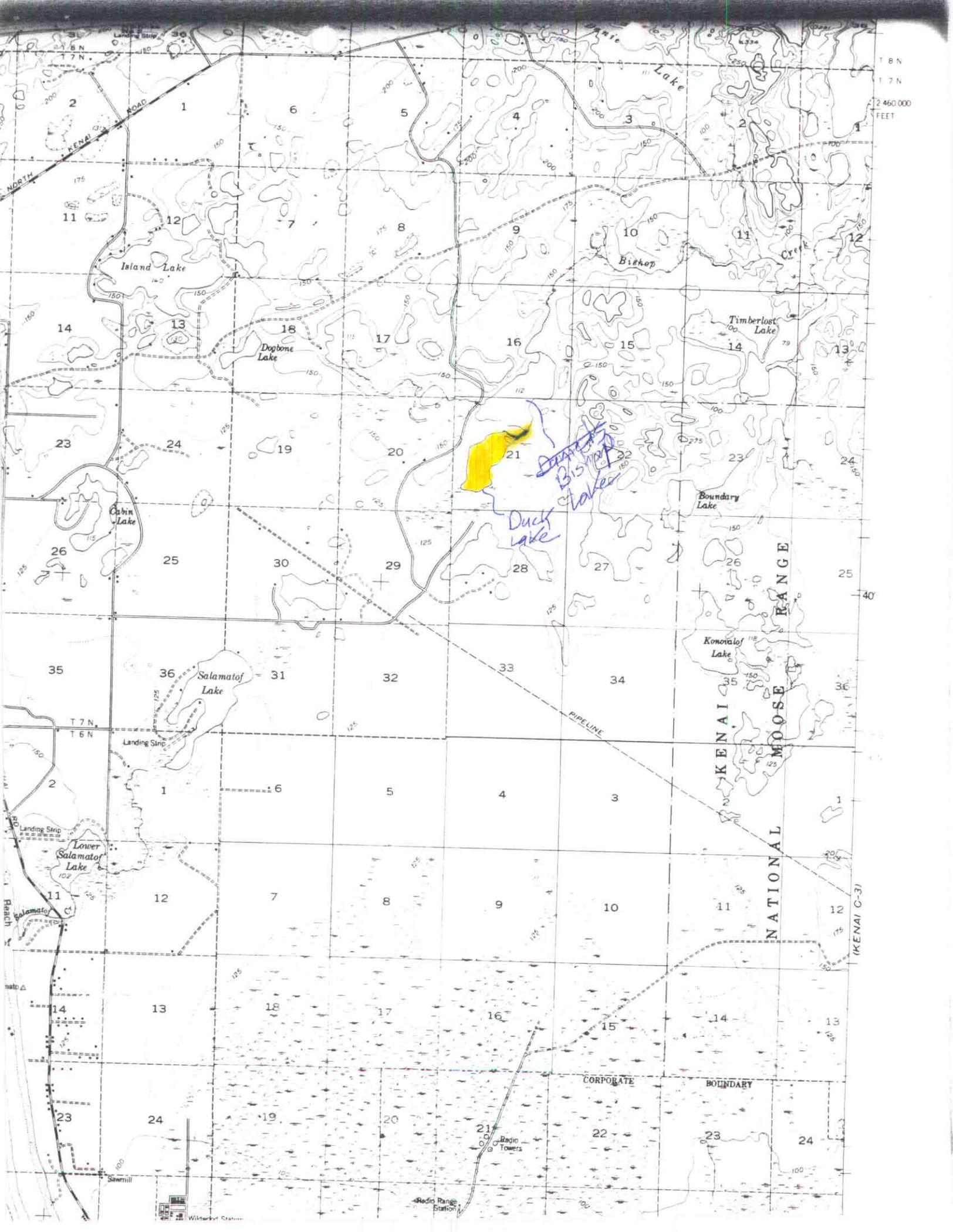
Marcuson and Aho traveled to Bishop Creek in the vicinity of Stan Thompson's homestead. Two dams were worked. The first dam was right at the old homestead proper at T7N, R11W, S. 11 CA. This one was once the site of a CIAA culvert installation which was no longer performing as a fish passage route. Little work was required, only minor clearing and management. No concentrations of adult salmon were obvious above or below this dam. Dolly Varden were common.

A major obstruction was located on up the drainage. This was an old dam that had collected masses of rooted vegetation and floating debris. Migrating salmon would need to flip across the surface of the dam to proceed upstream. Apparently some had, as 30 sockeye adults were concentrated near the dam. The area was an obvious bear feeding site with partially eaten carcasses scattered along the face of the dam.

Upon removal of approximately 10 feet of obstruction, 30 additional sockeye moved on up Bishop Creek. This site should remain clear until reinvaded by beaver.

On this same date, 7/19/83, Daniels Creek was reexamined. Conditions of low flow prevailed, no salmon were observed.

The large beaver dam between the north Kenai Road and Cook Inlet was revisited. One hundred and seventy-five red salmon were observed below the dam while fish filed over the opened portion. Passage did not appear to be hindered.

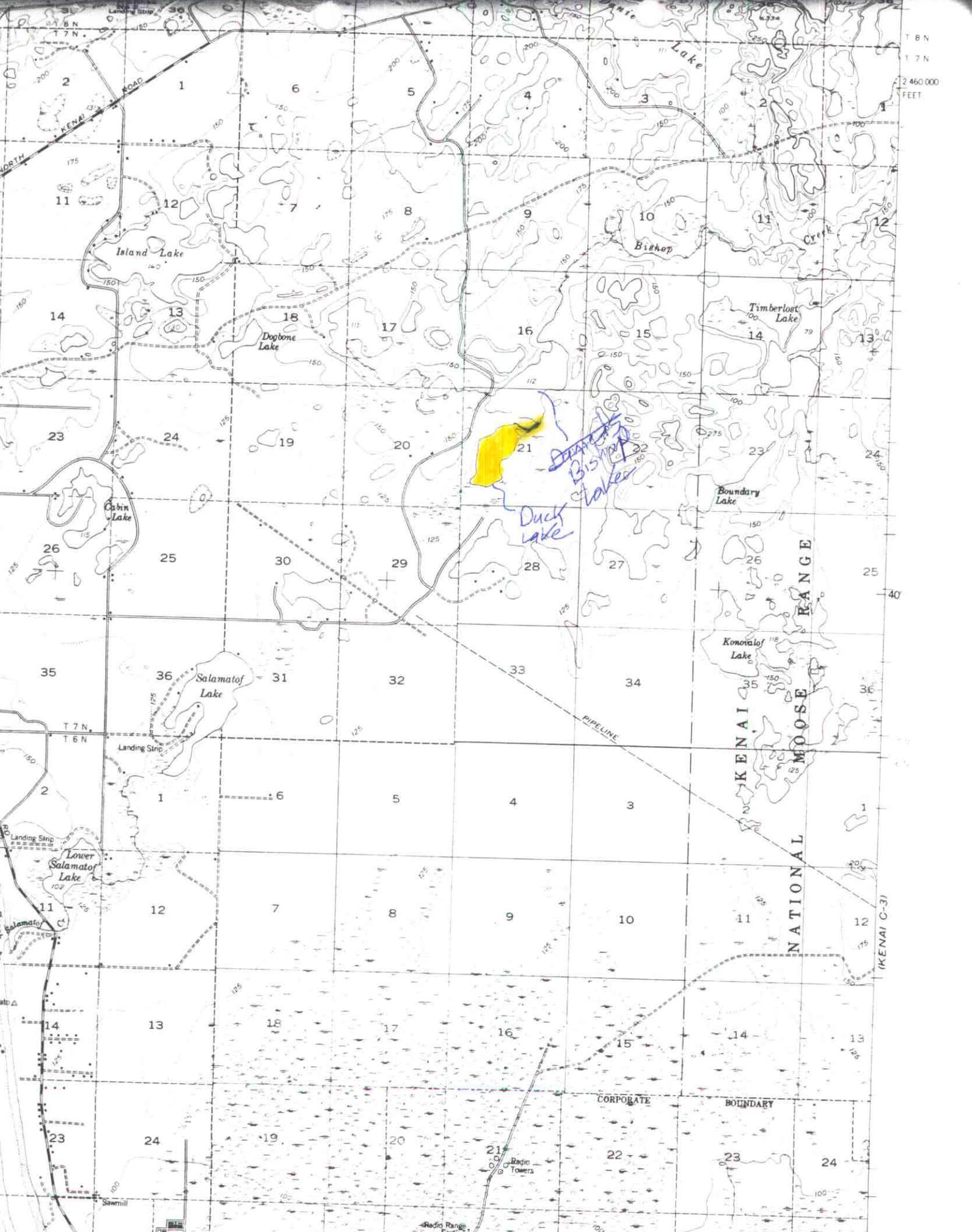


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FEET

Duck Lake
Bishop lakes

KENAI MOOSE RANGE
NATIONAL

(KENAI C-3)



ROAD

NORTH

KENAI

Island Lake

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