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

Nomination for Waters Important to Anadromous Fish

Region: SOUTHEAST

USGS Quad: Craig C-2 T.72S, R84E, Sec. 35

Anadromous Water Catalog Number of Waterway: 102-60-?????

Name of Waterway: Tributary to Mills Bay "Mills Creek"

☐ USGS Name ☑ Local Name

☑ Addition ☐ Deletion ☐ Correction ☑ Backup Information

		For Office Use	
Nomination #	01 524		12/21/01
Revision Year:	2001	Regional Supervisor	Date
Revision to: Atlas / Catalog / Both	N/A		2/28/02
		AWC Project Biologist	Date
Revision Code:	F-2		
		Drafted	Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
coho	4/13/00		X	1	☑
cutthroat	4/13/00		X	2	☐
Dolly Varden	4/13/00		X	2	☐
					☐
					☐

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:

An electrofisher was used to determine the presence of coho salmon, cutthroat trout, and Dolly Varden char in "Mills Creek" on April 13, 2000. This stream is located at the head of Mills Bay on the south side of Kasaan peninsula, is approximately 6 to 7 feet wide, and is made up of a series of pools and riffles with a gravel/cobble substrate and vegetatively controlled banks. One coho juvenile was identified 30 feet upstream from saltwater. Two cutthroat trout and 2 Dolly Varden char were also identified . See attached map and field report by Moira Ingle, Area Habitat Biologist.

ACTION: Based on the presence of a coho juvenile and stream characteristics, **ADD MILLS CREEK FOR A DISTANCE OF 600 FEET TO THE CATALOG OF WATERS IMPORTANT FOR THE SPAWNING, REARING AND MIGRATION OF ANADROMOUS FISHES FOR COHO REARING.**

Name of Observer (please print): Moira Ingle

Signature: Moira Ingle

Date: 12/6/01

Address: ADF&G Habitat

P.O. Box 668, Craig, AK 99921-0668

ALASKA DEPT. OF FISH & GAME
DEC 26 2001
REGION II
HABITAT & RESTORATION DIVISION

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: Moira Ingle

Revision 3/97

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

TO: Pat Palkovic
Forest Practices Forester
Department of Natural Resources
Ketchikan

DATE: August 2, 2000

FILE NO:

PHONE: 826-2560

FROM: Moira A. Ingle
Habitat Biologist
Habitat and Restoration Division
Craig

SUBJECT: Fish Inspection Report
Mental Health Trust Sales
Mills Bay/Thorne Bay

On April 13, 2000, I conducted a fish habitat inspection with Greg Staunton (then representing Silva Engineering) at lands on the Kasaan Peninsula, near Thorne Bay, that are planned to be offered for timber harvest by the Mental Health Trust Land Office. After driving to Kasaan, we skiffed from Kasaan to Mills Bay, where we trapped and electro-shocked two streams to determine whether they are anadromous. The weather was sunny, with temperatures in the mid-50s. Both streams are located in Section 35 (T. 72 S., R. 85 E).

The first stream, "Muskeg Creek," is located in the center of the section, approximately ¼ down from the section line. The stream is approximately 4 to 5 feet wide at ordinary high water (OHW), and consisted of a series of pools and riffles with a gravel and cobble substrate and vegetatively controlled banks; gradient averaged less than 4% for the length of the stream. We shocked one two-year-old coho in a pool approximately 50 feet upstream from saltwater, and set a baited minnow trap a short distance upstream. We then proceeded upstream, where we set two more minnow traps, separated by about 200 feet, and continued shocking. After soaking for intervals of up to 2 hours, the traps contained a total of 4 cutthroat trout and 3 Dolly Varden char.

The stream originates in a muskeg system, approximately 1200 feet upstream, and is very narrow and choked with vegetation as it exits the muskeg area. No barriers (as defined in the Forest Practices Regulations Anadromous Fish Blockage table) were seen, but based on the characteristics of the stream channel, I called the upper extent of anadromous habitat at approximately 1000 feet from the mouth of the creek.

The second stream, "Mills Creek," is located at the head of Mills Bay. It is similar to the first stream, but slightly larger: approximately 6 to 7 feet wide at OHW, consisting of a series of pools and riffles, with vegetatively controlled banks. The substrate is gravel and cobble, and the gradient is less than 4%. At saltwater, I observed one unidentified salmonid fry. We shocked one two-year-old coho in a pool approximately 30 feet upstream from saltwater. As we moved upstream, I shocked a total of 2 cutthroat trout and 2 Dolly Varden char.

The stream splits into two branches about 1200 feet upstream. Upstream of the split, the gradient increased to approximately 6 percent on both branches, and stream width, number of pools, and water flow decreased markedly, with increasing quantities of skunk cabbage and other vegetation in the stream course. Although no barriers (as defined in the Forest Practices Regulations Anadromous Fish Blockage table) were seen, based on the characteristics of the stream channel, I called the upper extent of anadromous habitat at approximately 600 feet from the mouth of the creek.

We then skiffed back to Kasaan and I drove back to Craig. I plan to nominate these two streams for inclusion in the *Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing and Migration of Anadromous Fishes.* Although only one coho was captured in each creek, I believe that fry of the year would be captured if the stream were trapped or shocked later in the year. Conditions for capturing fish were not ideal, because it was more than a month prior to emergence of fry, and the stream temperature was still fairly low (although I did not measure the temperature onsite, temperatures measured in other streams the following week were only 5 degrees C).

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me.

cc: Bill Hanson, ADF&G, Douglas*
Kevin Hanley, DEC, Juneau*
Gabriel Scott, Cascadia Wildlands Project, Cordova
Greg Staunton, DNR, Ketchikan*
*e-mail

4/7 ENSIGN, CARSON DOCKS

WINDY, INTERMITT RAIN 40s

LOOKED @ PROPOSED DOCK SITE

BEACH = GRAVEL, SMALL COBBLE

SMALL BAND OF ROCKWEED

2 PATCHES OF EELGRASS ~ 50'

EITHER SIDE OF ℄ OF PROP. DOCK

PILING SUPPORTED, SEASONAL

SMALL INTERTIDAL PINK STREAM

~300+ FEET TO E; LARGER

STREAM ~500+ TO WEST

FRED SAYS IT HAS SPAWNING

→ DISCUSSED NO PILE-DRIVING IN MAY

CARSON

- SMALL, SEASONAL FLOAT, 2 PILES

CONTEMPLATED WALKWAY

(W/ OR W/O LEGS), BUT TOO LONG

GRAVEL, SMALL COBBLE

GOOD BAND OF ROCKWEED

FAIRLY SHALLOW

4/13/00 MENTAL HEALTH - KASPAN

GREG STAUNTON SUNNY 50s

MUSKEG CREEK 4-5' WIDE

GRAVEL / COBBLE

1150 Ø FISH 1 COHO ~50' US

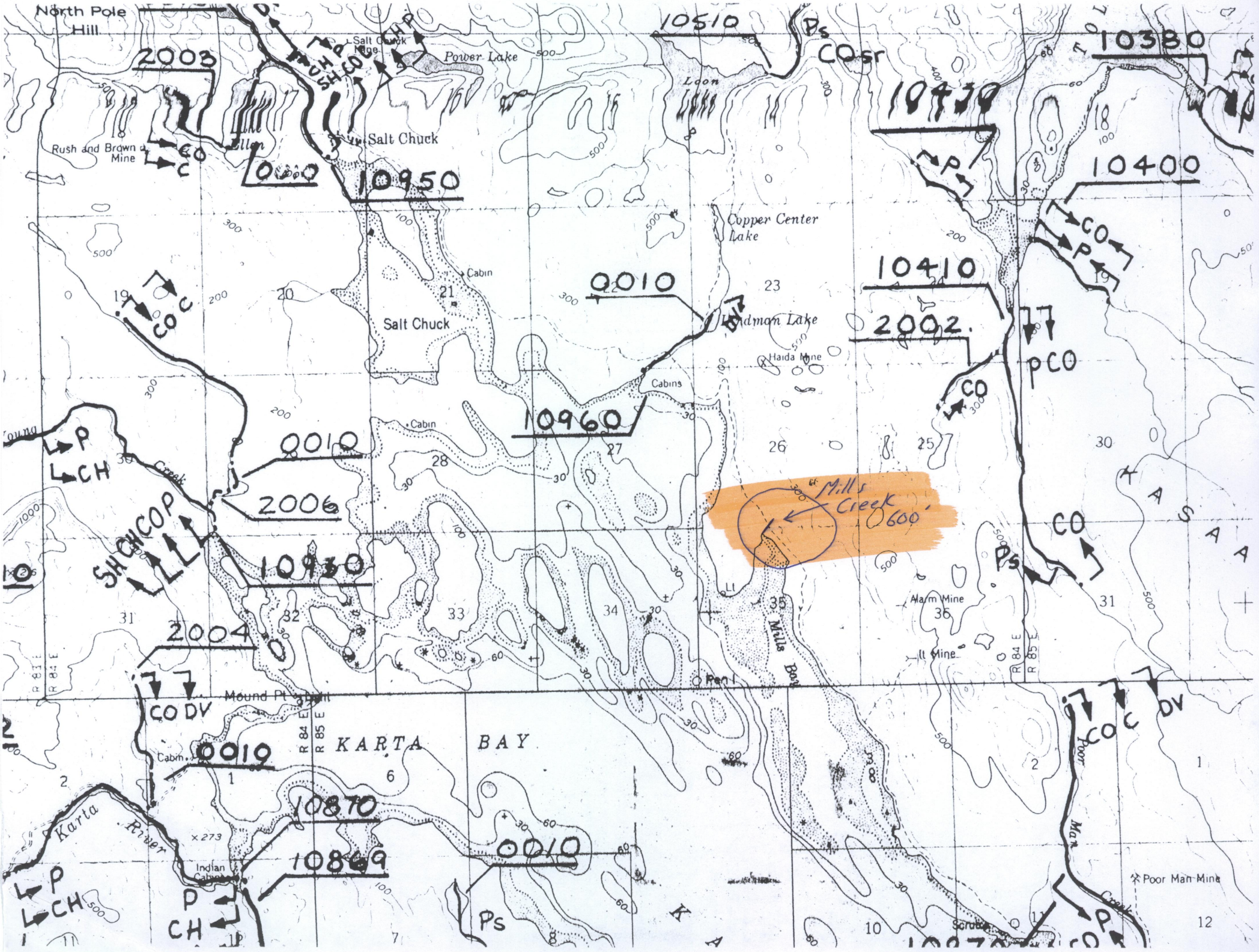
1250 4 CT

1300 3 DV

MILLS CREEK

SHOCKED 1 COHO

2 CT, 2 DV


North Pole Hill
Salt Chuck Mine
Power Lake
Salt Chuck
Rush and Brown Mine
Loon Lake
Copper Center Lake
Cabin
Salt Chuck
Hindman Lake
Haida Mine
Cabins
Cabin
Mills Creek
Mills Bay
Alarm Mine
It Mine
Mound Pt
KARTA BAY
Karta River
Indian Cabin
Poor Man Creek
Poor Man Mine
Scrubs
Pen I
R 84 E
R 85 E
2003
10510
10380
10430
10400
10950
10410
0010
2002
10960
0010
2006
10930
2004
0010
10870
10869
0010
Mills Creek 600'
CO
P
CH
SH
CO
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Ps
PCO
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P CH
Ps