State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Sportfish Division

Nomination Form
Fish Distribution Database

Region: Southeast Region I

USGS Quad: Juneau D-4

Fish Distribution Database Number of Waterway: 115-10-10800

Name of Waterway: Endicott River ☑ USGS Name ☐ Local Name

☑ Addition ☐ Deletion ☐ Correction ☐ Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination #	04 088	Fisheries Scientist	5/13/04 Date
Revision Year:	2005	FDD Project Biologist	04/07/04 Date
Revision to: Atlas ____ Catalog ____ Both X		Drafted	10/14/04 Date
Revision Code:	B-1		

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
eulachon	April 2003	X			☑
					☐
					☐
					☐
					☐

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: The Endicott River is included in the list of SE Alaska streams with documented eulachon runs. It was an oversight that this species was not included in the catalog. Jamie Womble, a graduate student with UAF observed eulachon related activity in early April this year.

Add Eulachon to Endicott R.

Name of Observer (please print): Randolph Ericksen

Signature: _____ Date: 11/28/03

Address: ADFG - Div. of Sport Fish
PO Box 330, Haines, AK 99827

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: _____

Name of Area Biologist (please print): Randolph P. Ericksen

Revision 04/03

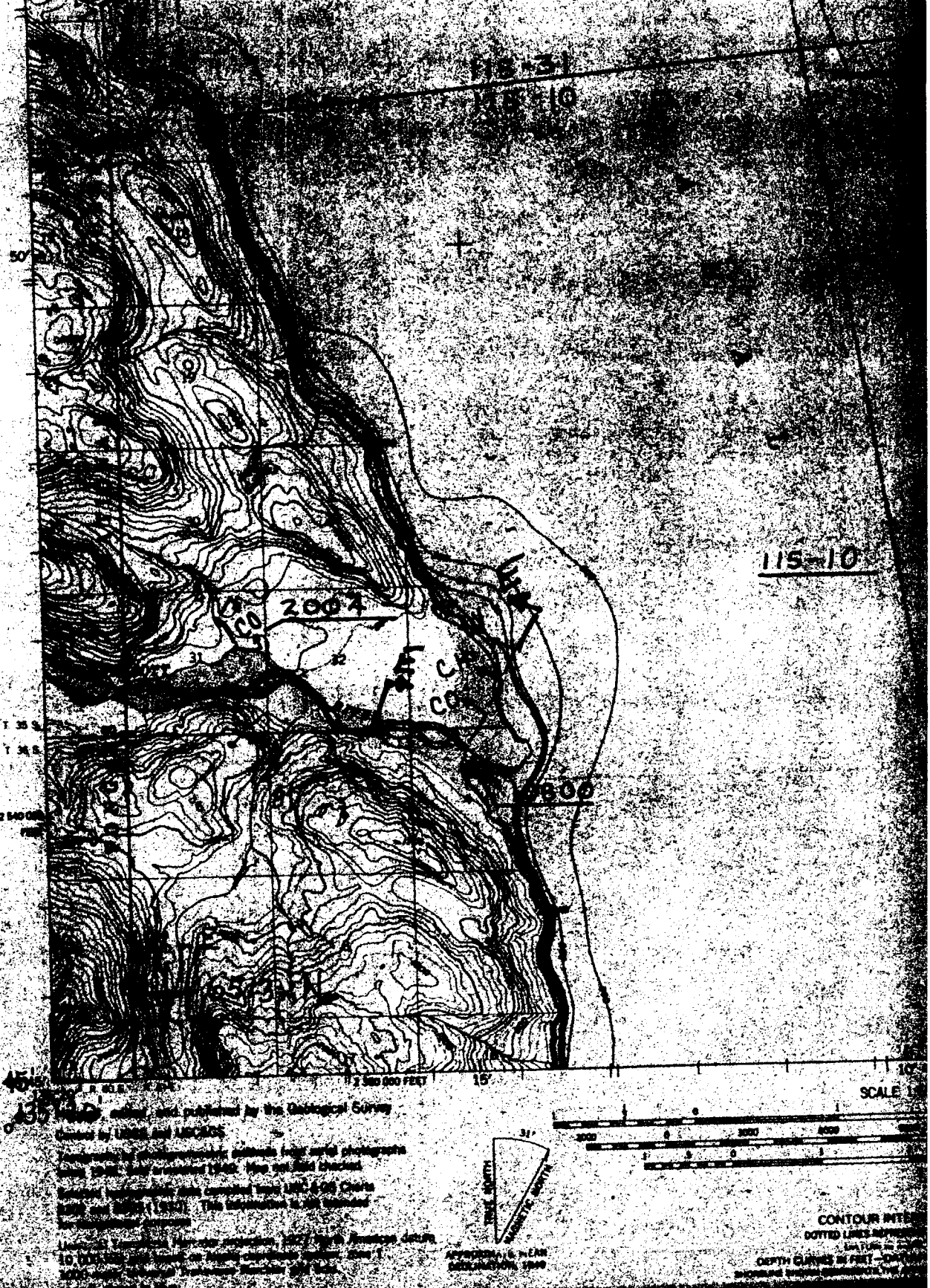
32

Add OUP to 115-10-10800

RIVER

OUP

OUP



DV Dolly Varden

* Migration upstream b

APPROVED ERL 4-83

MAP TITLE

Goes w/ Ericksen noms

Randy Ericksen

From: Randy Bachman [Randy_Bachman@fishgame.state.ak.us]
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2003 11:42 AM
To: 'Randy Ericksen'; 'Ben Kirkpatrick'
Subject: Inclusion of eulachon in the anadromous stream catalog

Eulachon included in anadromou...

Randy here are some of my observations and results from contacting the USFWS and Jamie Womble on their observations. They both mentioned that the Taku River, Mendenhall River and Speel River all have had eulachon runs in recent years.

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Inclusion of eulachon in the anadromous stream catalog;

Berners Bay streams
Antler (115-20-030), Lace (115-20-020) and Berners River (115-20-010).
USFWS has been doing stock assessment in these three river systems since 2002. Eulachon are present in these river systems from mid-April into June. No eulachon observed in the Gilkey River.

Chilkat River-(115-32-025)
The 2003 run began April 28 and lasted into June with evidence of fish present in the system into late July. Important subsistence resource.

Chilkoot River (115-33-030)
The 2003 run began May 6 and lasted approximately 1 week. The run can last into late May. Important subsistence resource.

Ferebee River (115-33-065)
April 7, 2001, Eulachon were observed migrating into the river. Large numbers of sea mammals in Taiyasanka harbor and bird activity observed upsteam to 1-mile from the mouth of the Ferebee River.

Endicott River (115-10-080)
Anecdotal information from Jamie Womble (UAF graduate student). Observations of marine mammal activity in the Endicott River estuary in early April. Bird activity during this time indicating eulachon present in this river.

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

TO: File

DATE: September 15, 2003

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FILE NO.:

THRU:

TELEPHONE NO: (907) 225-5195
FAX NO: (907) 225-3756

FROM: Scott Walker
Fisheries Biologist
Commercial Fisheries Division
Ketchikan Office

SUBJECT: 2003 Eulachon Summary in Southeast Alaska

The eulachon fishery in Southeast Alaska occurs from March 2 through May 15, of each year and is managed by registration permit. There are three open areas where commercial harvest occurs and all three areas have a guideline harvest level (GHL) which was established by the Board of Fisheries (Table 1). All harvesters must complete a registration permit by March 1 at which time the GHL is divided equally among those meeting the deadline.

The department did not open the 2003 eulachon commercial fishery due to the lack of biomass information on the eulachon stocks in Southeast Alaska.

Due to the lack of customary and traditional use documented on the Stikine, Bradfield, Unuk and Chickamin Rivers, the only fishery open under state regulation was a personal use fishery open to residents of Alaska. Regulation 5 AAC 77.001(f) states that ..."personal use fishing" means the taking...by an individual for consumption as food or bait by that individual or his immediate family. According to this regulation, it is illegal for personal use harvesters to give eulachon to any one but their immediate family.

A federal subsistence fishery by rural Alaskan residents occurred on the Unuk River which was managed by the United States Forest Service (USFS).

The United States Forest Service (USFS) had a crew on the Unuk River during the entire run of eulachon and collected federal subsistence harvest information along with spawning and migration behavior.

ADFG biologists traveled up the Stikine River to monitor eulachon several times during the season.

In February of 2003, the Board of Fisheries created a State of Alaska subsistence fishery for the Unuk and Chickamin Rivers that will come into effect for the 2004 spring fishery.

Table 1. 2001 Southeast Alaska Eulachon Harvest Summary

Fishery	GHL (lbs)	Commercial Harvest (lbs)	Personal Use Fishers (# fishers)	Pounds Harvested (Personal use)	Federal Subsistence Fishers (# groups)	Pounds Harvested (Federal Subsistence)	Total Pounds Harvested
Unuk / Chickamin Rivers	25,000	0	unknown	unknown		5,000	5,000 +
Bradfield River	5,000	0	unknown	unknown	0	0	Unknown
Stikine River	5,000	0	unknown	unknown	0	0	Unknown

Table 4. 2003 Southeast Alaska Eulachon Systems Summary

System	Fish Activity	Comments
1. Akwe River	No Information	
2. Alsek River	No Information	
3. Antler River	No Information	
4. Berners River	No Information	
5. Blossom River	No Information	
6. Bradfield River	No Information	Comm Fishery Closed
7. Chickamin River	No Information	Comm Fishery Closed
8. Chilkat River	Fair Run	Peak April 28/29
9. Chilkoot River	Fair Run	Fish Seen May 6
10. Eagle River	No Information	
11. Endicott River	No Information	
12. Eulachon River	No Information	Comm Fishery Closed
13. Ferebee River	No Information	
14. Grant Creek	No Information	
15. Klahini River	Good Run	Comm Fishery Closed
16. Lost River	No Information	
17. Lace River	No Information	
18. Mendenhall River	No Information	
19. Situk River	No Information	
20. Skagway River	No Information	
21. Speal River	No Information	
22. Stikine River	Good Run	Comm Fishery Closed
23. Taku River	No Information	
24. Taiya River	Good Run	
25. Unuk River	Good Run	Comm Fishery Closed
26. Whiting River	No Information	
27. Wilson River	No Information	

Table 3. Southeast Alaska Commercial Eulachon Historical Harvest.

	Unuk River				Stikine River				Bradfield Canal[a]	
Year	Permits Issued	Permits Fished	Individual Allotment (lbs)	Total Pounds Harvested	Permits Issued	Permits Fished	Individual Allotment (lbs)	Total Pounds Harvested	Permits Issued	Individual Allotment (lbs)
2003[d]	0	0		0	0		0	0		0
2002[d]	0	0		0	0		0	0		0
2001[d]	0	0		0	0		0	0		0
2000	12	0	2,083	0	5		1,000	0	3	1,667
1999	10	5	2,500	10,200	6		1,250	0	0	0
1998	10	0	2,800	0	6		833	0	6	833
1997	4	4		15,000	3			0		
1996	6	2		8,000	4	1		65		
1995	4	4		19,700				0		
1994	3	3		28,000		1		530		
1993	4	3		27,000		1		300		
1992	3	0		0		1		200		
1991	3	3		20,800		3		1,200		
1990	3	3	10,000[c]	31,000		1		146		
1989	0	0		0		1		106		
1988	0	0		0				0		
1987	0	0		0				0		
1986	0	0		0		1		8,000		
1985		2		15,000				0		
1984		3		34,900				0	1	
1983		3		16,746				0		
1982		2		14,400				0		
1981		2		8,000				0		
1980		1		3,200				0		
1979		0		0		1		9,000		
1978		0		0		2		37,865		
1977		0		0		2		15,832		
1976		1		720		3		29,492		
1975		1		3,120		3		23,851		
1974		1		2,100		2		36,115		
1973		3		14,207		2		8,580		
1972		0		0		2		4,400		
1971		0		0				-		
1970		0		0				-		
1969		2		15,800				-		
Prior to 69		[B]								

[a]=There is no harvest on record for the Bradfield Canal (Dick Bishop claims he harvested 25,000 pounds in 1984) 2,204 on fish tickets.
[B]= 1940 (100 pounds)
[c]= 10,000 pound boat limit
[d] = Commercial fishery was closed

MEMORANDUM

STATE OF ALASKA
Department of Fish and Game

To: J. Johnson
Habitat Biologist
Anchorage

Date: November 28, 2003

From: Randy Ericksen
Fishery Biologist
Haines

Telephone: 766-3638

Subject: Anadromous Fish Stream nominations

I am sending you a packet of stream nominations. Included are nine nominations to include eulachon in various streams in Lynn Canal. All of these streams have been documented as having runs of eulachon (see attached memo from Scott Walker). It was an oversight that eulachon were not included in these streams.

The remaining streams should be self explanatory. Feel free to contact me if you need more information.

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Randy Eriksen
Haines/Skagway Area Biologist
Alaska Dept of Fish and Game
Haines, AK.

December 8, 2003

Randy Eriksen,

R. E. - Eulachon (*Thaleichthys pacificus*) presence in the Berner's River, Lace River and Antler River

This information is based on my personal recollection of U.S. Forest Service data collecting events in the spring of 2002 and 2003 within the Berner's/Lace and Antler River systems. The forthcoming U.S. Forest Service reports should include accurate details and results of these studies (Rob Spangler, Region Fisheries Biologist, Chugach National Forest).

Antler River
Sampling for adult Eulachon was conducted from approximately April 14, 2002 to June 1, 2002 and April 10, 2003 to June 10, 2003. Adult eulachon were captured by various techniques including beach seine, passive upstream trap, and dip net. The run was intensely seined and trapped in relation to tidal cycles on the Antler River for CPUE determination. The first spawning adults were recorded on April 19th of both years. Spawning adults were captured into early June by the passive trap, when increasing flow conditions limited sampling success and justified trap removal. Radio telemetry studies (fixed station and manual tracking) showed concentration of adults primarily using the lower 2.5 miles of the Antler River. Additional studies included: life history data collection, conducting mark and recapture studies and larval out-migration studies.

Berner's River
Sampling for adult Eulachon was conducted from April 14, 2002 to June 1, 2002 and April 10, 2003 to May 28th. Schools of adult eulachon were readily observed in this clear water stream. School size estimates were conducted with airboat surveys. Schools were noted in the lower Berner's for only a brief (days) period in mid-May.

Lace River
Due to the glacial (shallow and wide) nature of the Lace River, it is difficult to sample and document the duration and intensity of the run. However, eulachon presence was noted by airboat surveys and intense foraging of gulls up to ~6 miles upstream until late May.

Sincerely,

Andrew Eller, seasonal Fisheries Technician, crew leader eulachon project