



State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Sportfish Division

Nomination Form
Anadromous Waters Catalog

M

Region Southeastern USGS Quad(s) Yakutat A-2

Anadromous Waters Catalog Number of Waterway 182-20-10100

Name of Waterway East Alsek River USGS Name Local Name

Addition Deletion Correction Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination #	<u>09-1072</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/30/07</u>
		Fisheries Scientist	Date
Revision Year:	<u>2010</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/30/09</u>
Revision to:	Atlas _____	Habitat Operations Manager	Date
	Both <u>y</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>6 OCT 09</u>
		AWC Project Biologist	Date
Revision Code:	<u>C-7, C-1a, C9</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>12/8/09</u>
		Cartographer	Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous

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:

Nomination to add the lower reach of the river and change the location of the mouth. See attached narrative, photo and map.
Coordinates (Lat,Long): (59.1064,-138.5192)

add lower reach to 182-20-10100 as indicated

Name of Observer (please print): Kate Kanouse
 Signature: 146.63.139.153 (Web Nomination) Date: 09/23/2009
 Agency: _____
 Address: ADF&G Habitat ADF&G Habitat
Juneau, AK 99811

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 02/08
 Name of Area Biologist (please print): _____

East Alsek River Mouth Location Change
Stream No. 182-20-10100
By: Kate Kanouse
Date of Nomination: September 23, 2009

The East Alsek River is a spring-fed waterbody east of Dry Bay and the Alsek River. The lower reach of the river is generally referred to as the “estuary area” and is not currently cataloged as part of the river mainstem. The lower reach is protected from the coast by a natural 3-mile long sediment berm that separates the river from the ocean. Three other cataloged streams (10500, 10600 and 10300) and several other uncataloged drainages also drain to the area.

By regulation at 5 AAC 30.310(2)(E), ADF&G manages a set net commercial fishery in the “East (Alsek) River and waters two miles on either side of the river mouth seaward for a distance of 500 yards...” Per 5 AAC 30.350(5), the fishery is closed to waters “upstream of the ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately one mile downstream from the westernmost tip of Steve’s Island...” Figure 1 shows the approximate location of the commercial fishing area (CFA) upriver marker and a sketch of the river course in the lower reach. The current listing of East Alsek River in the anadromous waters catalog does not accurately reflect the mouth of the river at the confluence with the ocean as 5 AAC 30.310 describes.

In 2006, National Park Service staff measured salinity in the lower reach on two occasions in attempt to map salt water intrusion on a rising tide¹. Additional interpretation of the unpublished data suggests that salt water content at low tide within the lower reach is low (<1.64 ppt), and that salt water does not inundate the area until several hours after a low tide. Therefore, the lower reach is ephemerally influenced by salt water each tide cycle.

Because salt water content in the lower reach is exceptionally low at low tide and ephemeral, the lower reach should be included and mapped as part of the river mainstem (lower extent N 59.1064 W 138.5192). This change will also accurately reflect the second-order class of other streams that drain to lower East Alsek River, and document the river mouth as described in the fishery regulation.

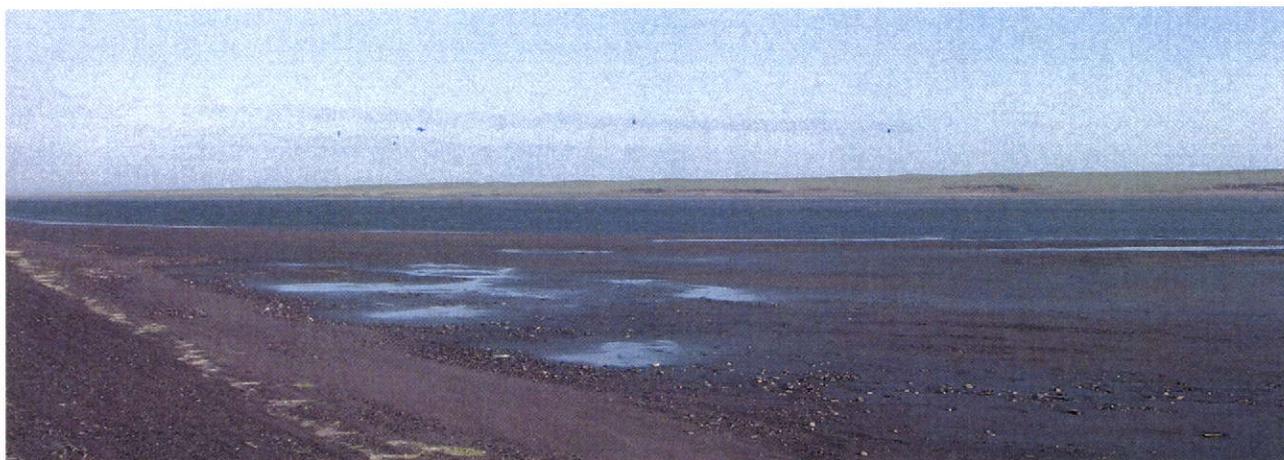


Photo 1. Lower East Alsek River, looking upstream (southeast), sediment berm in the background.

¹ Soiseth, C.R., C. Murdoch, D. Faber. East Alsek/Doame River Estuary Salinity Profiles and Zooplankton Sampling Results. National Park Service, unpublished data. 2009.

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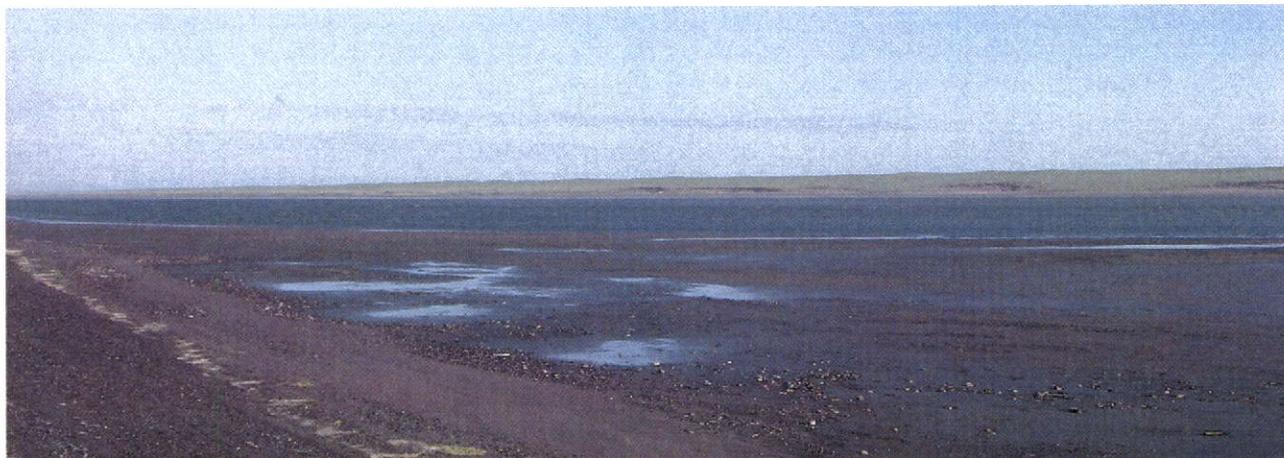


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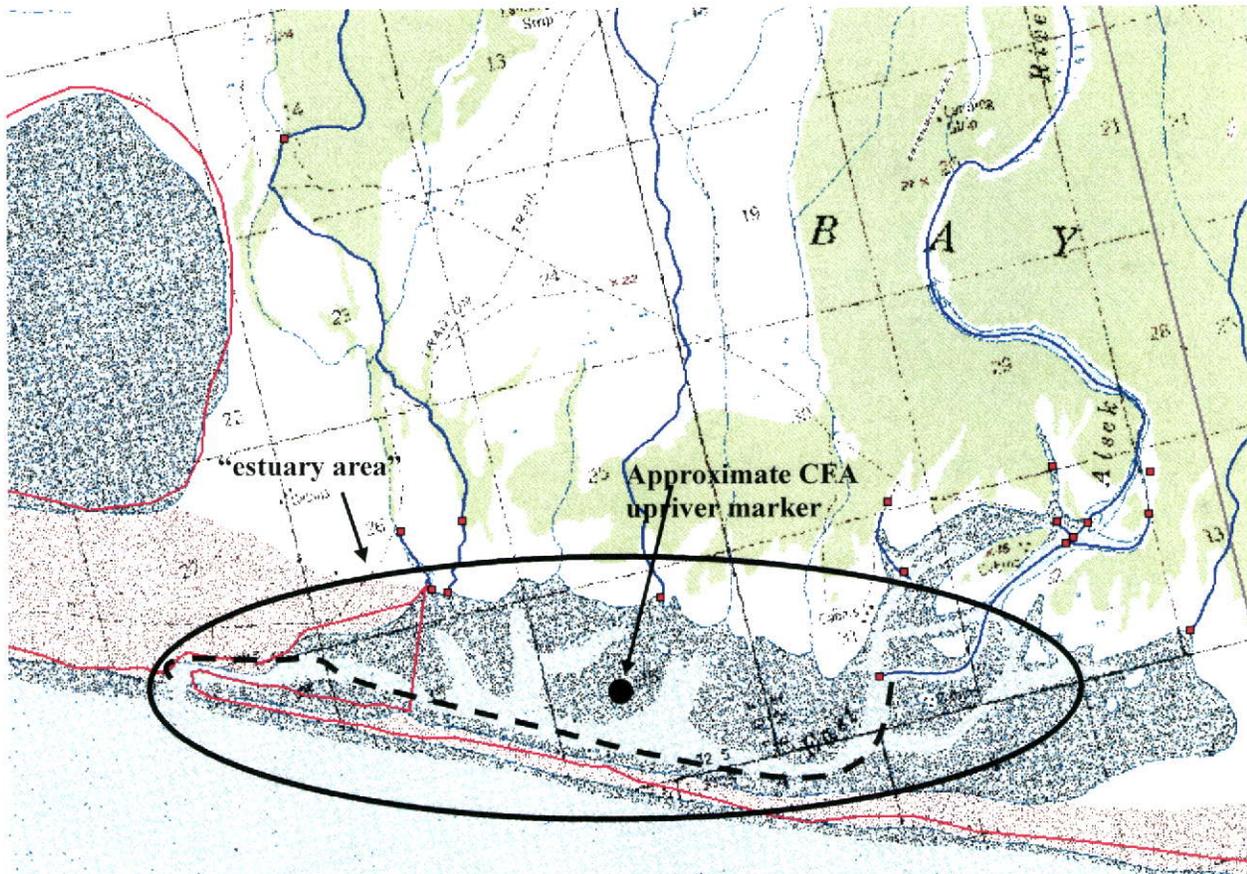


Figure 1. Lower East Alsek River "estuary area", stream course, and commercial fishing area (CFA) upriver marker.



* Head of Shangin Bay (on Shuyak Is.)
 just west of ~~253-31-10050~~

251-82-10022

New slough with Coho in it.

~~we are here~~

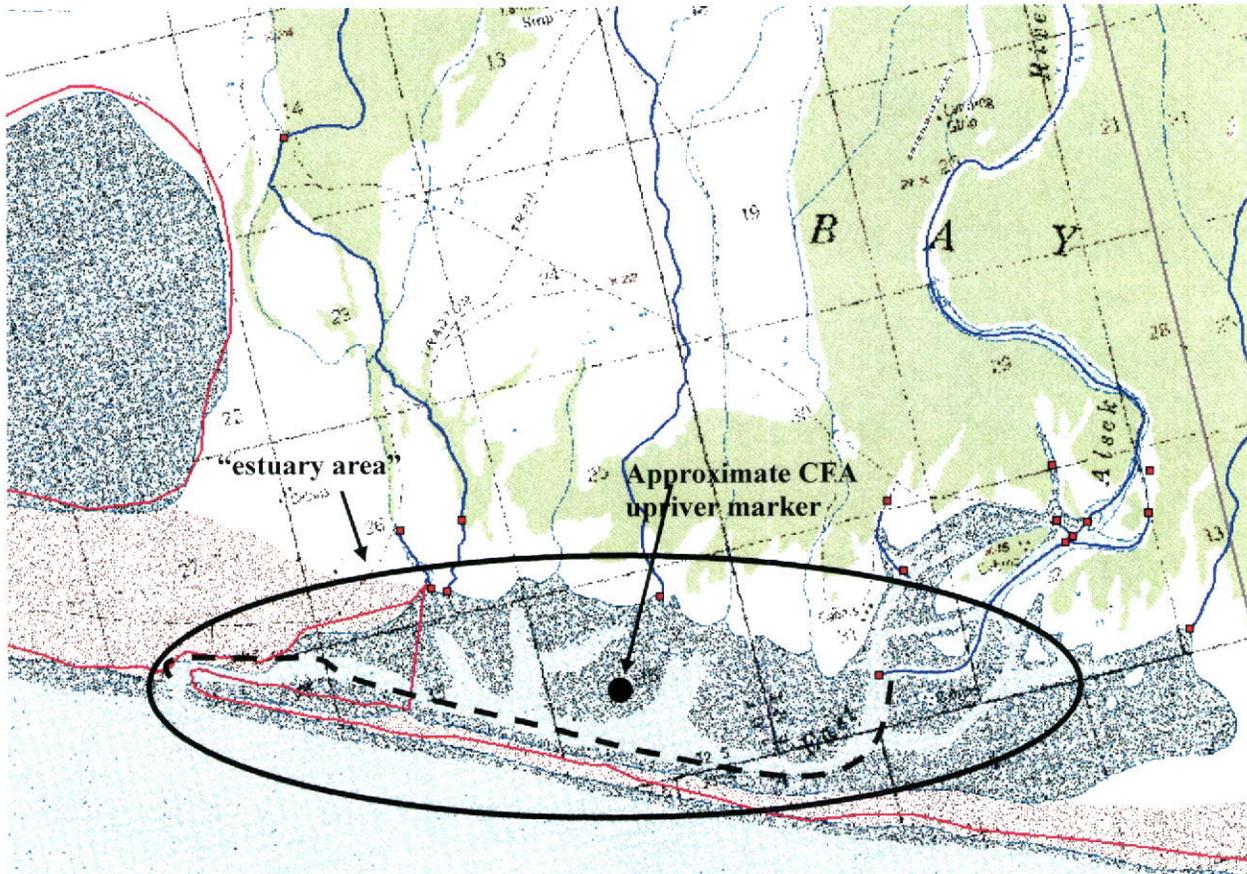


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