

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

1992  
 Year of Revision

Anadromous Water Catalog Volume Southeast Region I

USGS Quad Petersburg C-2

Name of Waterway \_\_\_\_\_

Anadromous Water Catalog Number of Waterway \_\_\_\_\_

108-40-10610

Change to \_\_\_\_\_ Atlas

\_\_\_\_\_ Catalog

Both

Addition  \_\_\_\_\_

Deletion \_\_\_\_\_

Correction \_\_\_\_\_

Name addition:

USGS name \_\_\_\_\_

Local name \_\_\_\_\_

~~92718~~ ALASKA DEPT. OF  
 FISH & GAME

OCT 30 1991

REGION II  
 HABITAT DIVISION

For Office Use

Nomination #	<u>92 098</u>
<u>Richard Reed</u> Regional Supervisor	<u>10/28/91</u> Date
<u>Ed Wein</u>	<u>2/20/92</u>
<u>FI</u> Drafted	<u>2/11/92</u> Date

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Migration
<u>Pink</u>		<u>X</u>		

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

USFS identified this stream as an anadromous fish stream in their Rynda Island Salvage Sale E.A. Fishery biologist Kent Russell, identified this stream as supporting spawning pink salmon in the ITZ prior to his transfer out of State

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.

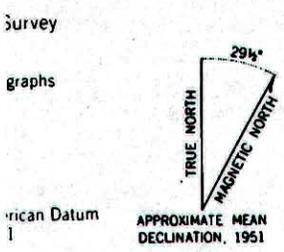
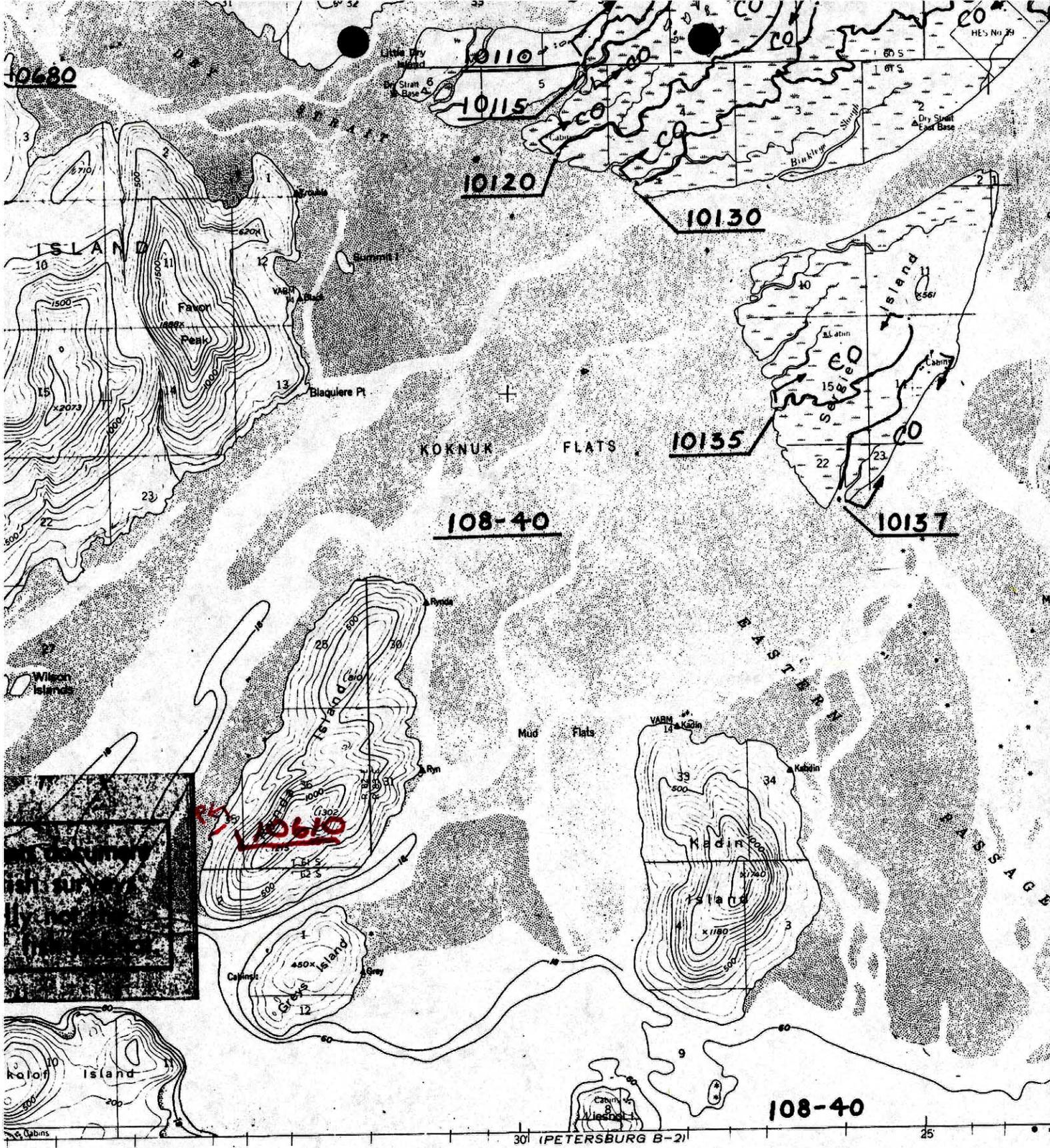
Name of Observer (please print) Kent Russell

Date: 10/22/91 Signature: by Daniel A. Corneali

Address: ADFG P.O. Box 667

Petersburg AK 99833.

Signature of Area Biologist: Daniel A. Corneali



CONTOUR INTERVAL 100 FEET  
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL  
 DEPTH CURVES IN FEET-DATUM IS MEAN LOWER LOW WATER  
 SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER  
 THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 1.5 FEET



## Effects on Soil

All action alternatives were developed to minimize soil disturbance, especially in areas considered to be "High Hazard Areas" (see Map B) due to steep slopes. Areas of High Soil Hazard will have suspension and/or split yarding requirements. Material that does not meet utilization specs will be left in the units to help cushion the soil during yarding and to provide woody debris and organic matter for soil stabilization.

Alternative 1 (No Action) produces no soil disturbance. Alternative 4 would be belogged with full suspension and has no road construction associated with it and therefore will have very little soil disturbance. Alternatives 2, 3 and 5 all require 500 feet of temporary road designed on gentle slopes with little or no cut and fill needed. The increasing amounts of timber yarded with cable system respectively by Alternatives 2 (71 acres), 3 (100 acres), and 5 (161 acres) would provide increasing potential for soil disturbance, but the amount of woody debris left on site should substantially reduce soil disturbance. In all action alternatives, timber harvested on high hazard soils will be fully suspended.

## Water Resources

Water resources are discussed under the Fisheries section in this document.

## Land and Mineral Resources

All land on Rynda Island lies within the Tongass National Forest and no mineral claims or special uses exist. Areas subject to tidal fluctuation are under the administrative jurisdiction of State of Alaska.

None of the alternatives will affect the landownership or administrative situation. None of the alternatives preclude future mineral or special use activities.

## Biological Resources

### Fishery/ Water Resources

Rynda Island is located on the southwest side of the Stikine River Delta. The water surrounding the island, particularly Grey's Pass off the southeast shore of the island, is an important migration route for all five species of Pacific salmon returning to the Stikine River to spawn. None of the proposed alternatives will have any effects on salmon migration.

The Aquatic Habitat Management Handbook (Forest Service Handbook 2609.24) breaks down stream habitats into three classes based on their sensitivity to development and importance to fish. All the streams on Rynda Island are Class III, non-fish, except for a 500 foot portion of the mouth of the stream that empties north of the LTF, which is Class 1, anadromous (see Map H).

## Effects on Fish and Water

None of the alternatives propose harvest activity near the Class I stream, with the closest proposed unit in alternatives 4 and 5 approximately 2000 feet away. The amount of Class III streams that could be affected for all alternatives is shown in the table that follows. "Inside Units" refers to streams within harvest unit boundaries. "Outside Units" refers to streams outside of harvest units, but within 150 feet of unit boundaries. The cumulative effects to fish habitat and water quality from any of the proposed action alternatives would be minimal.

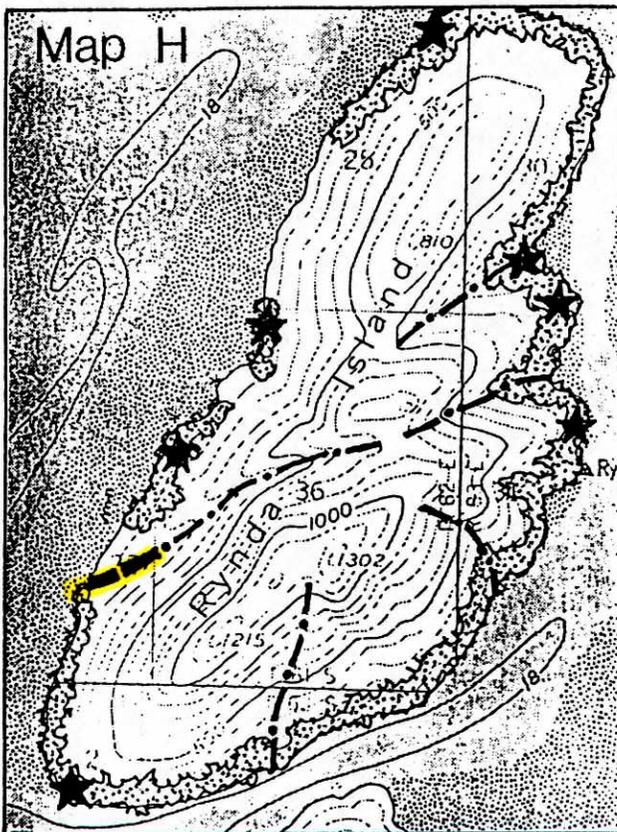
forage and hiding cover is present, but not as contiguous as closed canopy; and *open areas* where light produces abundant forage, but hiding cover is absent. From a wildlife standpoint, the existing vegetative diversity with a mix of canopy cover is desirable as long as large areas of mature, closed canopy habitat are maintained on the island. Partially blowdown areas have green standing trees in them which will provide for vertical diversity within stands and future snag and woody debris recruitment. Before the recent storm and blowdown, Rynda Island was considered low in snag quantities.

**Effects on Wildlife**

The following table compares the effects of the alternatives on the amount of closed canopy, partial canopy, and open areas. Alternative 1 is equivalent to the existing condition.

Effect of Alternatives on Habitat Diversity

Type of Habitat	Alt. 1	Alt.2	Alt. 3	Alt. 4	Alt. 5
Closed Canopy (Acres)	1327	1327	1327	1327	1226
Partial Canopy (Acres)	82	82	45	76	15
Open (Acres)	297	297	334	303	465



Five (5) Bald Eagle nest trees have been recorded on the west side of the island (see Map H). Survey's conducted 10/23/90 and 4/23/91 verified 4 of the 5 nest locations. The beach fringe area is especially important eagles as well as other wildlife. Alternatives 4 and 5 propose to harvest blowdown in close proximity to nest #20 (unit 1). A 330 foot buffer around the eagle tree is required, within which no standing trees may be cut. Timing restrictions for helicopter operations near the nest site will be required to harvest Unit 1. None of the alternatives harvest any standing beach fringe habitat. All action alternatives will harvest some beach fringe trees which have blown down.

