State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Division of Sport Fish

Nomination Form
Anadromous Waters Catalog

Region: Southwest

USGS Quad(s): Afognak B-3

Anadromous Waters Catalog Number of Waterway: 251-30-10020-0010

Name of Waterway: Thorsheim Lake ☐ USGS Name ☑ Local Name

☐ Addition ☐ Deletion ☐ Correction ☑ Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination # 140328		Fisheries Scientist	Date
Revision Year: 2015			
Revision to: Atlas ____ Catalog ____ Both ____		Habitat Operations Manager	Date 9/19/14
		AWC Project Biologist	Date
Revision Code: F-1		Cartographer	Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
Sockeye Salmon (50)	9/7/2014	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

During a joint AKSSF arial survey I observed about 50 sockeye salmon spawning in Thorsheim Lake (Figure 1, IDENT 358). See the attached September 5-7, 2014 trip report.

Sockeye salmon spawning previously documented in lake

Name of Observer (please print): Will Frost, Habitat Biologist

Signature: _____ Date: 9/13/2014

Agency: ADF&G, Division of Habitat

Address: 333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518

ALASKA DEPT. OF FISH & GAME
SEP 15 2014

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 05/08

Name of Area Biologist (please print):

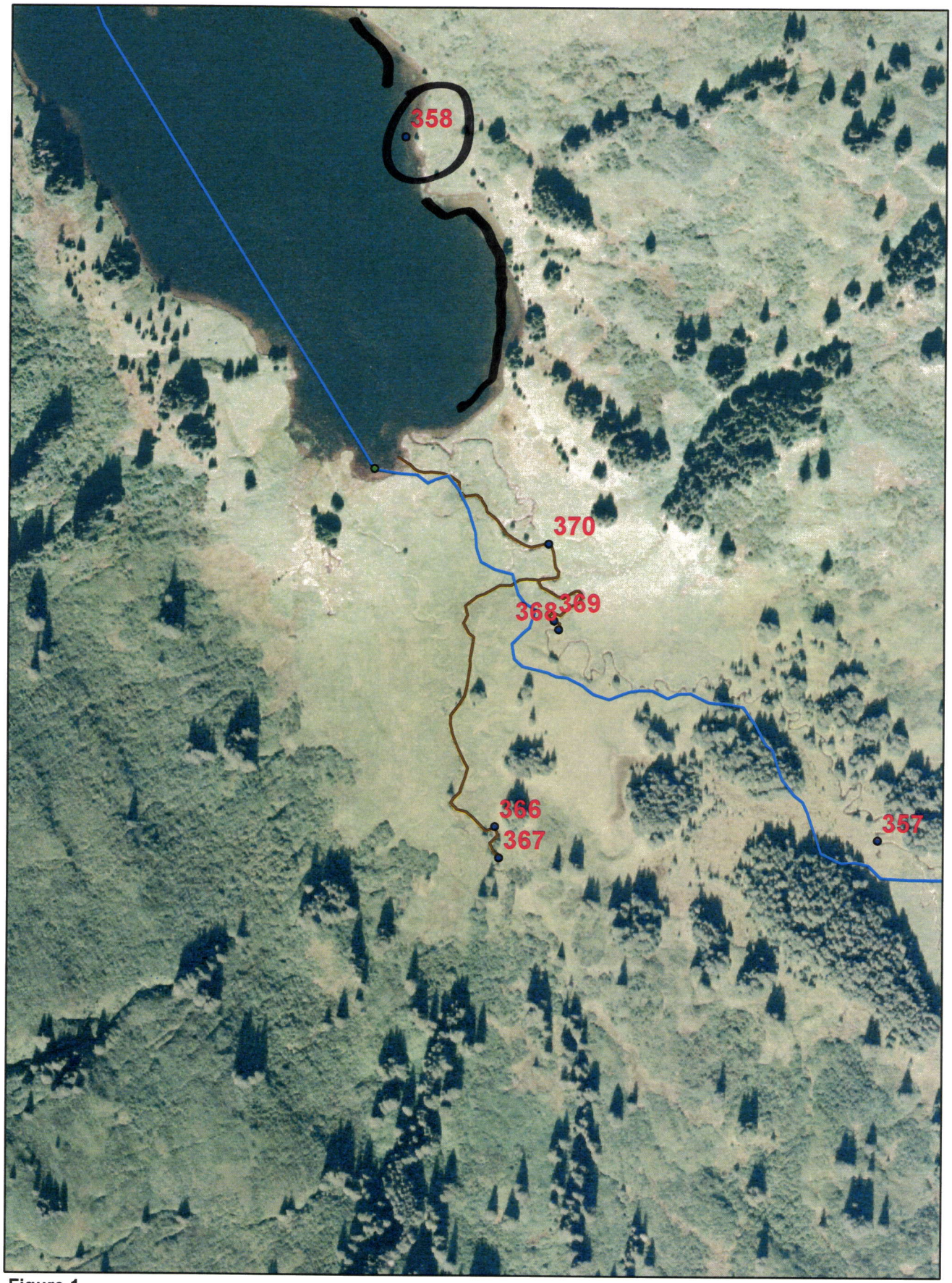

Figure 1

ADF&G

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

Department of Fish and Game
Division of Habitat

TO: Michael Daigneault
Central Region
Regional Supervisor

DATE: September 15, 2014

PHONE NO: 267-2813

FROM: Will Frost WF
Habitat Biologist

SUBJECT: AKSSF AWC Survey: Afognak Island
September 2014

On September 5 through 7, 2014, I joined Lisa Fox, Alaska Department of Fish and Game on Afognak Island for the purpose of sampling waters in the area of proposed harvest activities to document the presence of anadromous fish. The information gathered will be used to submit official nominations for inclusion in the Anadromous Waters Catalog and its companion Atlas. Inclusion in the Anadromous Waters Catalog will conserve salmon habitat by providing the 66-foot riparian retention area protection required under the Forest Resources and Practices Act (FRPA). A water body listed in the Anadromous Waters Catalog is also afforded additional protection under State law at AS 16.05.871. The weather conditions were rain and cool.

On the morning of September 5, Ms. Fox and I drove the 1100 Road to mile post (MP) 8.3. We used three baited minnow traps to sample an unnamed stream that flows into Stream No. 251-82-10050-2039. The stream is located on land managed by ANC. We sampled above the 1100 Road about 90 meters. A perched culvert was recently removed from the stream on the 1100 Road and a log bridge was installed in the same location. The traps soaked about four hours. We captured 10 juvenile coho salmon (70- 90 mm fork length (FL)). The unnamed stream above the 1100 Road will be nominated to the Anadromous Waters Catalog.

We drove the 1100 Road to "Little Portage Creek" (Stream No. 251-82-10050-2005) (Figure 1). Little Portage Creek is located on land managed by Koncor. We used an electrofisher to sample about 950 meters above the 1100 Road to the upper extent of the specified reach. We captured 15 Dolly Varden (50-120 mm FL) (Figure 2). We observed about 50 additional Dolly Varden. We walked downstream below the 1100 Road and located a series of falls up to 10-feet high (Figures 3 and 4). We observed about 40 pink salmon spawning below the barrier. We also observed about 10 anadromous Dolly Varden attempting to jump the lower barrier. The stream above the barrier will be sampled in October 2014 to determine if adult salmon are observed above the barrier. Pink salmon and anadromous Dolly Varden will be nominated for update to the Anadromous Waters Catalog.

On the morning of September 6, we drove to the 1100 Road near MP 7.0 and walked about one kilometer to a series of ponds that flow into Stream No. 252-33-10010-2006-3007 (Figure 5). We set one baited minnow trap in two of the ponds. The traps soaked about 2 hours. The traps

captured no fish. No fish were observed in the ponds. A single outlet from the ponds flows to Stream No. 252-33-10010-2006-3007. An abandoned beaver dam is located at the outlet of the ponds. We set one baited minnow trap in the unnamed stream below the beaver dam. The trap soaked about 2 hours. The trap captured 15 juvenile coho salmon (45-90 mm FL) (Figure 6). The unnamed stream will be nominated to the Anadromous Waters Catalog.

On the morning of September 7, Ms. Fox and I flew with Maritime Helicopters of Kodiak to Thorsheim River (Stream No. 251-30-10020) on Afognak Island. The stream is on land managed by Uyak Natives Inc. (Uyak). We used a helicopter to access the river because the nearest road to the river is about 12 kilometers away over uneven and steep terrain. We landed in the lower river and walked to an unnamed tributary that flows into the Thorsheim River estuary. We used an electrofisher to sample about 430 meters of the stream. We captured 10 Dolly Varden (45-100 mm FL). We observed 5 adult pink salmon in the stream. The unnamed stream will be nominated to the Anadromous Waters Catalog.

We walked across the Thorsheim River and sampled an additional stream that flows into the Thorsheim River estuary (Figure 7). We sampled 463 meters of the stream and captured 8 juvenile coho salmon (70 - 95 mm FL). A tributary was observed flowing into the sampled stream. Because of time constraint, the tributary was not sampled. The unnamed stream will be nominated to the Anadromous Waters Catalog.

We flew to two unnamed streams that flow into Paramanof Bay. The streams were blocked by barriers near the tidally influenced portion of the streams. No riparian retention area will be required for the streams.

We flew to Thorsheim Lake and observed about 50 sockeye salmon spawning in the littoral zone of the lake. We landed adjacent to the upper Thorsheim River that flows into Thorsheim Lake. We walked 427 meters up an unnamed tributary to the stream (Figure 8). We captured 6 juvenile coho salmon (55-90 mm FL) and 6 Dolly Varden (65-250 mm FL) (Figure 9). We observed an additional 40 Dolly Varden. The unnamed tributary will be nominated to the Anadromous Waters Catalog.

We sampled 446 meters of Thorsheim River. We captured 4 juvenile coho salmon (55-90 mm FL) and observed 6 pink salmon spawning and 6 sockeye salmon were present. The additional salmon species will be nominated for update to the Anadromous Waters Catalog.

The ADF&G is currently planning on returning to Afognak for a sampling effort in October 2014.

Figure 1. Little Portage Creek. View looking upstream.

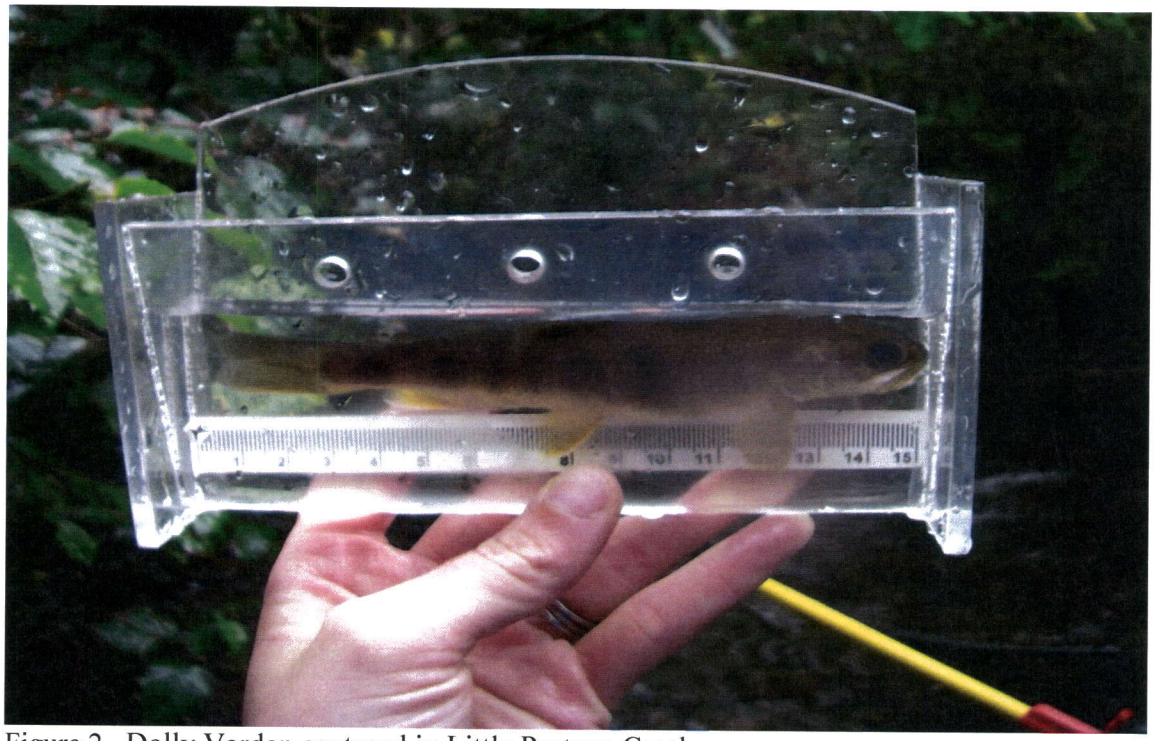

Figure 2. Dolly Varden captured in Little Portage Creek.

Figure 3. Barrier in Little Portage Creek. View looking upstream.

Figure 4. Barrier in Little Portage Creek. View looking upstream.

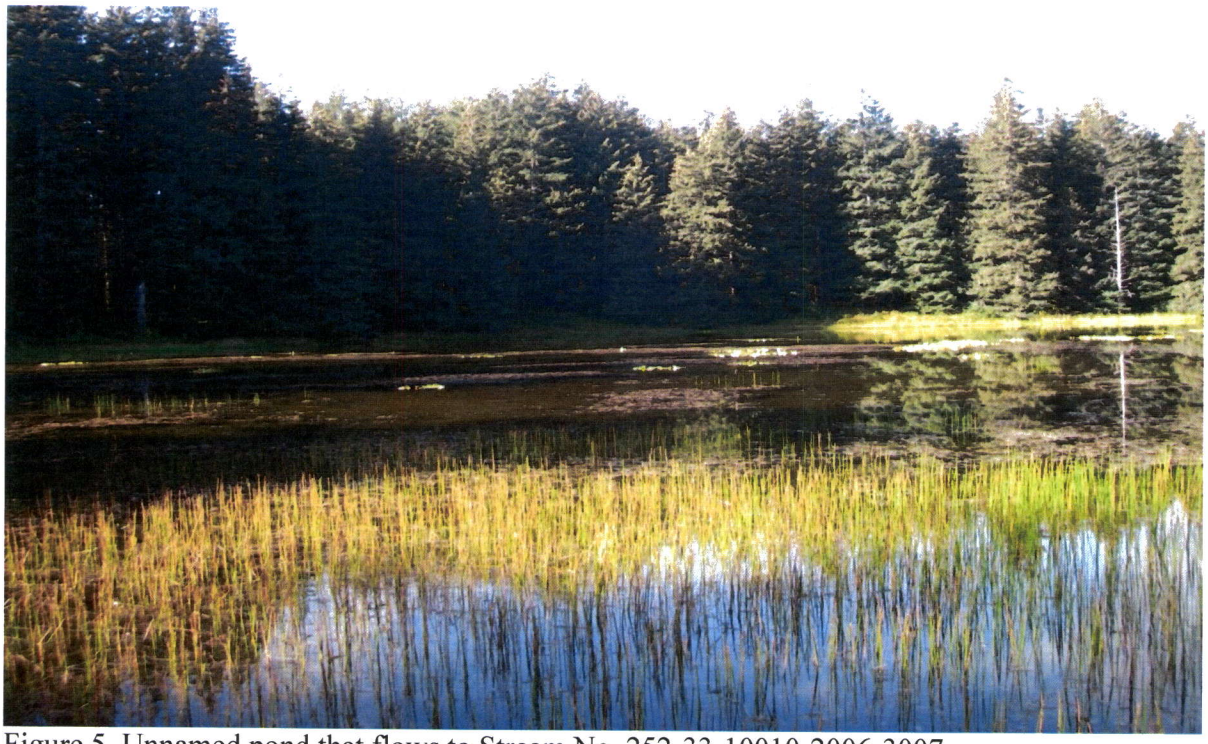

Figure 5. Unnamed pond that flows to Stream No. 252-33-10010-2006-3007.

Figure 6. Juvenile coho salmon captured in stream that flows to Stream No. 252-33-10010-2006-3007.

Figure 7. Mr. Frost sampling unnamed tributary to Thorsheim River. View looking upstream.

Figure 8. Unnamed tributary to Thorsheim River.

Figure 9. Dolly Varden captured in unnamed tributary to Thorsheim River.

cc: S. Schrof, ADF&G
N. Svoboda, ADF&G
D. Tracy, ADF&G
A. Ott, ADF&G
C. Curtis, ADF&G
K. Hanley, ADEC
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