

THAYER CREEK

Water body name: Thayer Creek

Water body number: 112-17-10500

Watershed: Fishery Creek-Frontal Chatham Strait

Findings: The lower section of Thayer Creek is gravel and cobble substrate. We had visual observations of several adult pink and one chum salmon in the stream. There is a series of water falls approximately 1250' upstream from the mouth of the creek that we determined are anadromous fish passage barriers. We caught four rearing coho salmon downstream of the waterfalls and saw several pink and one pair of sockeye salmon swimming in the plunge pool below the falls. Upstream of the waterfall the creek flows through a bedrock gorge for approximately one mile then opens up to a low gradient stream with gravel and cobble substrate. We surveyed a tributary in this area and caught resident cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden char.

Recommendations: Correct the anadromous section of Thayer Creek in the AWC to represent the actual extent of anadromy. Add rearing coho salmon and sockeye salmon presence to the AWC.

CORRECTION

Survey date: 8/6/2014

Species & Lifestage: CHp, Pp

MTR: C049S067E **Quad:** Sitka C-2

Table 1.-Thayer Creek survey data.

Waypoint	Latitude	Longitude	Notes	Sample Effort	Sample Results
837	57.5935	-134.6217	Tributary on river right. This tributary provides the most water to Thayer Creek.		
845	57.5939	-134.6178	Stopping here, habitat continues.		
846	57.5931	-134.6165	Mouth of tributary.		
849	57.5929	-134.6227	Small tributary into gorge.		
850	57.5776	-134.6275	Mouth of Thayer Creek.	HN	2 CO, 10 CT
851	57.5785	-134.6276		EF, Visual	2 CT, 1 CH
852	57.5785	-134.6273		EF	3 CT, 1 flat fish
853	57.5795	-134.6263		EF	1 CO ~ 75 mm
854	57.5799	-134.6251		EF	3 CT
855	57.5798	-134.6244		EF	1 CO ~ 80, 2 CT
856	57.5803	-134.6236	16 yds away from base of a series of three waterfalls. Too deep and steep to get any closer. The first fall is approximately 12 ft. with at least 20 ft. deep plunge pool. Visual of salmon trying to jump the falls with no success. The second fall is the approximately 14 ft. bedrock substrate, no plunge pool, and higher velocity. We did not have a visual of the third falls but there is confirmation it exists.	Visual	2 adult S, several adult P



Figure 1.—Coho salmon caught below waterfall in Thayer Creek.



Figure 2.—First 12' waterfall with 20' deep plunge pool.



Figure 3.—Second 14' waterfall with no plunge pool.



Figure 4.—Rick Hoffman walking upstream from the mouth of Thayer Creek.

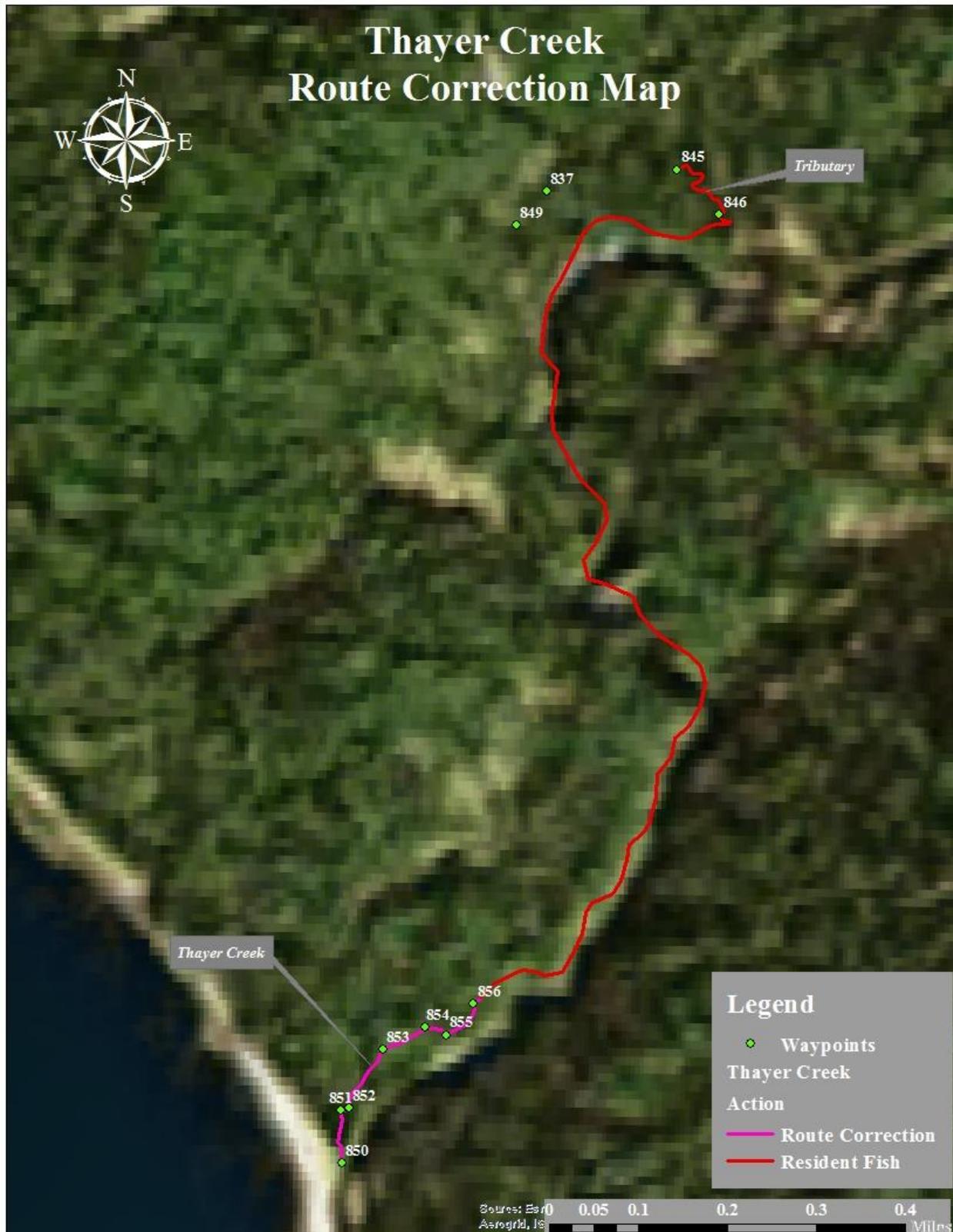


Figure 5.– Thayer Creek route correction map.