

PEAK ESCAPEMENT RECORD

Blossom River
101-55-40

DATE	PINK	CHUM	OTHER SPECIES	REMARKS
8-6-49	15,500	1		
7-30-50	6,000			
7-29-51	30,000			
7-29-52	6,900	50		
9-30-53	450	70	2 kings	
8-12-54	500			
7-31-55				
8-13-56	3,000		500 kings	
8-19-57	300		100 kings	
8-9-60		the only survey		Visibility poor. Lots of silt.
7-28-61		20		the only survey. Spread out.
7-18-62	4,100			Visibility excellent.
8-21-63	800	few	75 kings	
8-5-64	6,000	1,000		Good visibility, chums spawning, some dead.
8-18-65	1,000	500	few kings	Good visibility, chums spawning.
8-13-66	26,000	1,000	150 kings	All spawning. Fish entire length.
8-14-67	780-mixed			Visibility excellent except some shadow on lower stream. 400 @ mouth.
8-5-68	76,000	5,000		Visibility excellent. Mostly spread and spawning fish to block. 1000 @ mouth.
7-29-69	1,100	100		Good visibility.
8-6-70	58,300			Visibility excellent for this stream. Few 100 dead.
8-28-71	5,000			Visibility good. Small bunches really spread out - upper.
8-2-72	47,000			Visibility good, some glare, milky.

PEAK ESCAPEMENT RECORD

Wilson River
101-55-20

DATE	PINK	CHUM	OTHER SPECIES	REMARKS
9-14-38		5,000		Few pink. 1000 off mouth.
9-13-39	1,000			Poor. Majority of fish females.
9-13-40	6,000	2,000		Poor. 2000 off mouth.
9-18-43	30,000	5,000		Fair.
8-4-48	150,000	50,000	100 king	Excellent.
9-1-49	120,000	12,000		60,000 pink, 6,000 chum, 1000 king above marker.
8-18-50	100,000	7,000	Some coho, 10 king	Some dead chum.
7-30-51	79,600	150	60 kings	Very few fish in Smeaton Bay. 4000 above marker.
8-31-51	29,000	300	100 coho, 8 red, 25 kings	Few dead chum. Schools @ mouth.
8-8-52	72,000	400	50 kings	Few dead pink. Fish well distributed through left fork.
8-25-53	40,000			Poor. Few 1000 above forks.
8-23-54	26,500			Few chum. 6000 above marker.
9-15-55	20,000			Several 1000 at mouth.
9-3-56	100,000	5,000		
8-7-57	9,100	1,500	14 kings	
8-9-60	21,000	some		
8-9-61	10,800	some		Fresh fish moving up.
8-25-62	56,000			Good visibility. Several 100 dead.
8-8-63	40,000	10,000		Excellent visibility. Chums spawning. Pinks mostly schooled in pools. 4000 @ I.T.
9-1-64	65,000	10,000		Visibility excellent. Fish mostly spawning. 50 I.T.
8-26-65	36,000	1,500	36 kings	225 intertidally.
8-13-66	93,000	2,500	few kings	500 I.T. spawning heavily - many "C" dead. Several small schools.

Name: Blossom River Catalog No.: 101-55-40
 Latitude: 55 23' 43" WR No.: _____
 Longitude: 130 26' 18" K No.: K34-1
 Geodetic Map No.: Ketchikan C-2 Work Area: Ketchikan
 Location: Smeaton Bay, Wilson Arm, large tributary of Wilson River. Watershed Length: 23 miles
 Water Supply Type: Snowfields, glaciers, small lakes, runoff. Drainage Area: 110 sq. miles.

Trails & Survey Routes: Accessible by light skiff and outboard for about nine miles, remainder by foot, no reported trails.

Aerial Survey Notes: Easily surveyed by light plane from Keta River pass upstream, occasional strong downdrafts on SE side of valley - caution advised.

Anchorage: Large vessels anchor fair off Wilson River flats, east side. Smaller boats may enter Wilson River at high tide, anchor in pool below confluence with Wilson River.

Tide Stage when Surveyed: Second half of flood.

FISHERY RESOURCES

Commercial Fisheries: Pink, chum, king, coho - much potential for both rearing and non-rearing species.

Escapement: Hi historic: 30,000 pink (7-29-51) 4500 chum (10-5-52) 1000 coho (9-26-49) 500 king (8-13-56). Spawning area 344,000 m² (120'Wx47520'Lx65% ASA) Ave. Esc. since 1961:

Species Composition: Pink, chum, king, coho, trout 19,300

Timing: Early - July, August. Peak occurs last week of August.

Schooling Areas: Throughout first 1.3 miles of deep, slow current.

Shellfish Potential: Dungeness, tanner and (Probably) king crab, shrimp in Wilson Arm. Fair crab production lower Wilson River flats.

Sport Fisheries: Steelhead, cutthroat, Dolly Varden, king, pink, chum, coho, halibut off Wilson River flats during salmon runs.

Land Use at Present: Recreation and mineral exploration. Important waterfowl feeding and resting area.

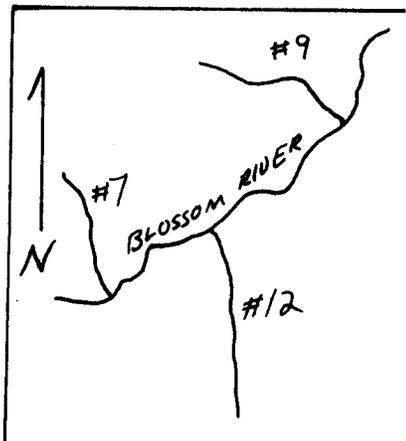
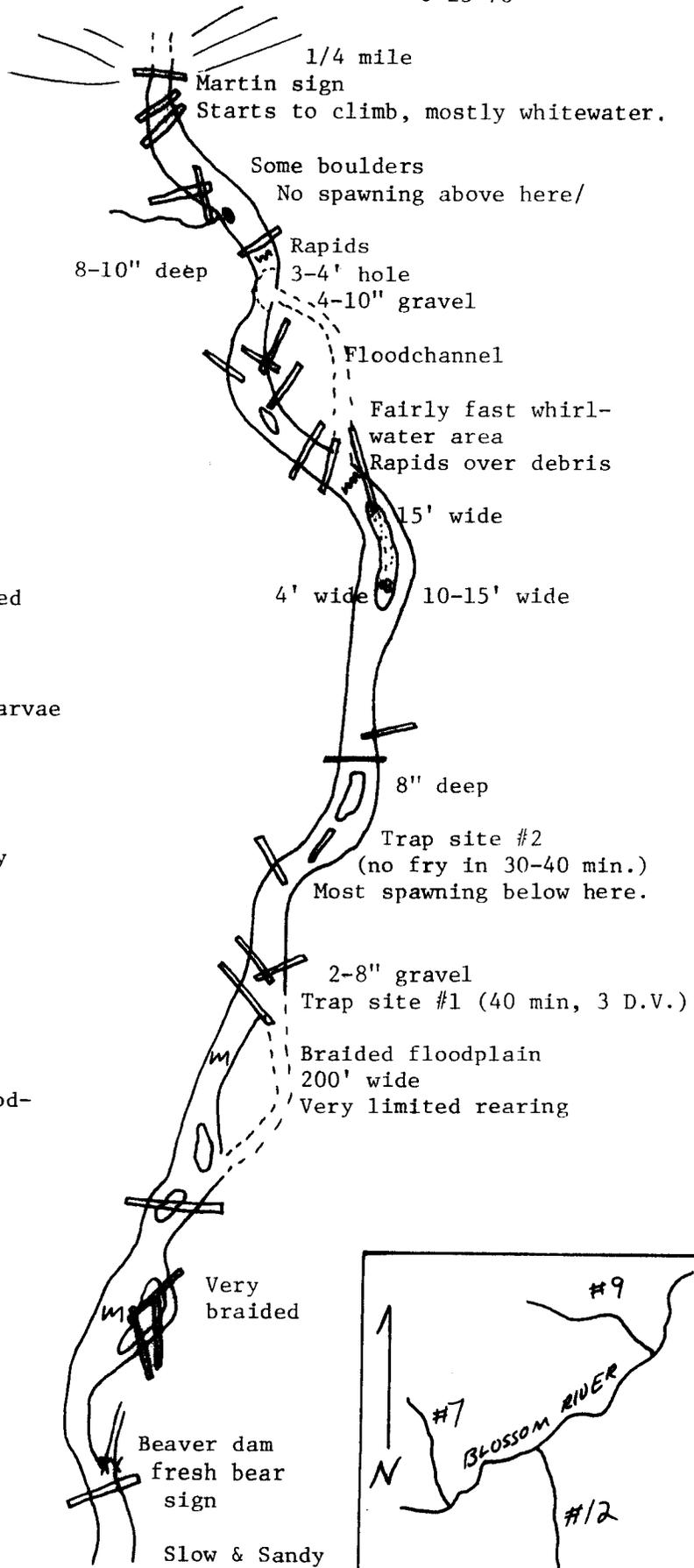
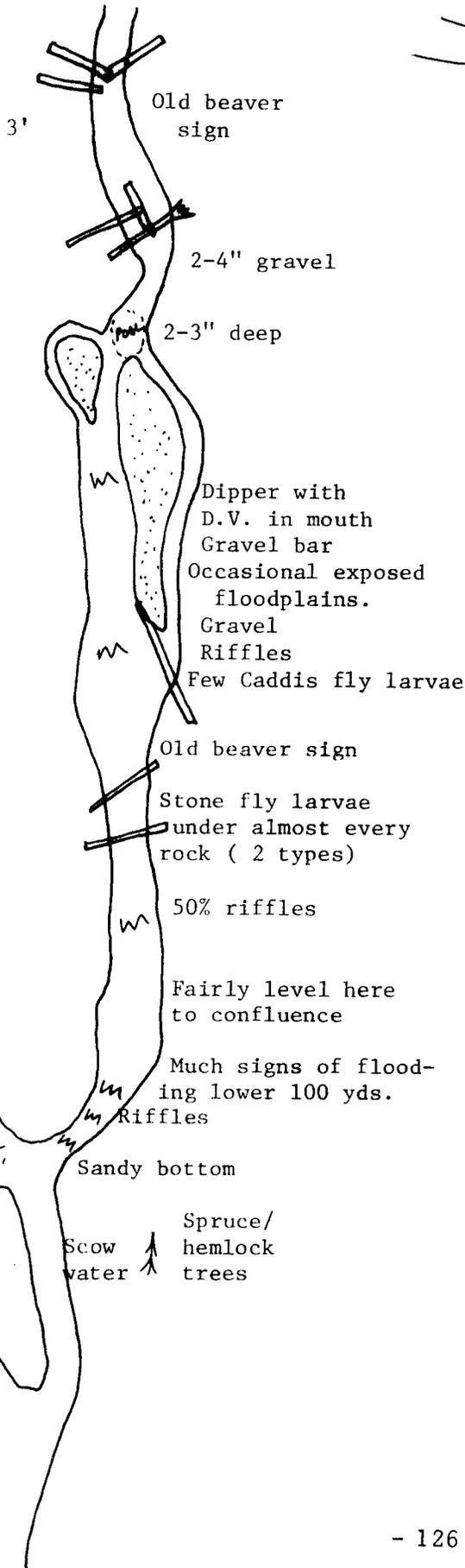
History of Land Use: Mineral exploration, some handlogging in area.

Rehabilitation Potential: None feasible.

Soils: Relatively stable in broad lower reaches, narrow valley and steeper gradient with associated slides and erosion further upstream.

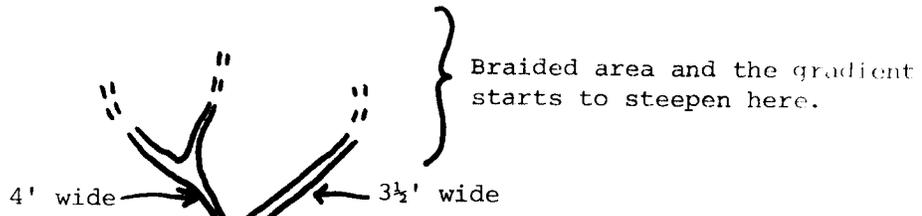
GAME RESOURCES

Bear -----	Fish carcasses or bones (old or fresh) on banks, estimate	_____
	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Sets of tracks.	<u>2</u>
Geese -----	Number seen on tide flats	<u>65</u>
	Number seen up creek	<u>14</u>
	Number of broods seen	_____
Mallards ---	Number seen on tide flats	<u>10</u>
	Number seen up creek	_____
	Number of broods seen	_____
Mergansers -	Number of broods seen	<u>36</u>
Bald Eagles-	Number seen along creek	<u>2</u>
	Number of nests seen and location	_____
Seals -----	Number seen at mouth	<u>6</u>
		<u>2</u>
Tide flats -	Estimate length along beach	<u>100 yds.</u>
	Estimate depth out from beach	_____
	Eel grass present on what percent of flats	<u>2%</u>



Blossom River
 Smeaton Bay
 Stream #8
 6-22-76
 Larson, Wood, Downey

|| } Stream comes back to one channel here but has steepened considerably and is the end of any fish utilization.



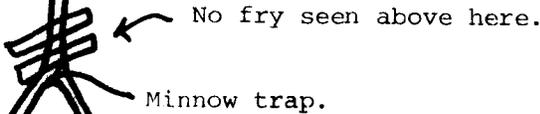
MINNOW TRAP DATA:

Upper trap put in for 15 minutes and caught 0 fry. Middle trap put in for 35 minutes and caught 4 coho fry. Lower trap put in for 40 minutes and caught 0 fry.

1-3" gravel throughout with a little clean looking sand mixed in. Looks like good spawning gravel.

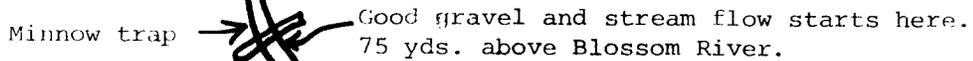
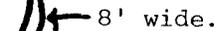
Spruce predominates with some alder.

Not much pool and rearing area - probably average for this size stream, pools 2' deep.

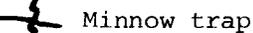


Banks are flat and stable, gray current bushes predominates the smaller vegetation.

Bluff which sits back from the stream 50 yds. This is a steep area with some slumpage - unstable.



Slough and beaver dam area - slow moving water - most coho fry observed were here.



Grassy lilly pad banks.

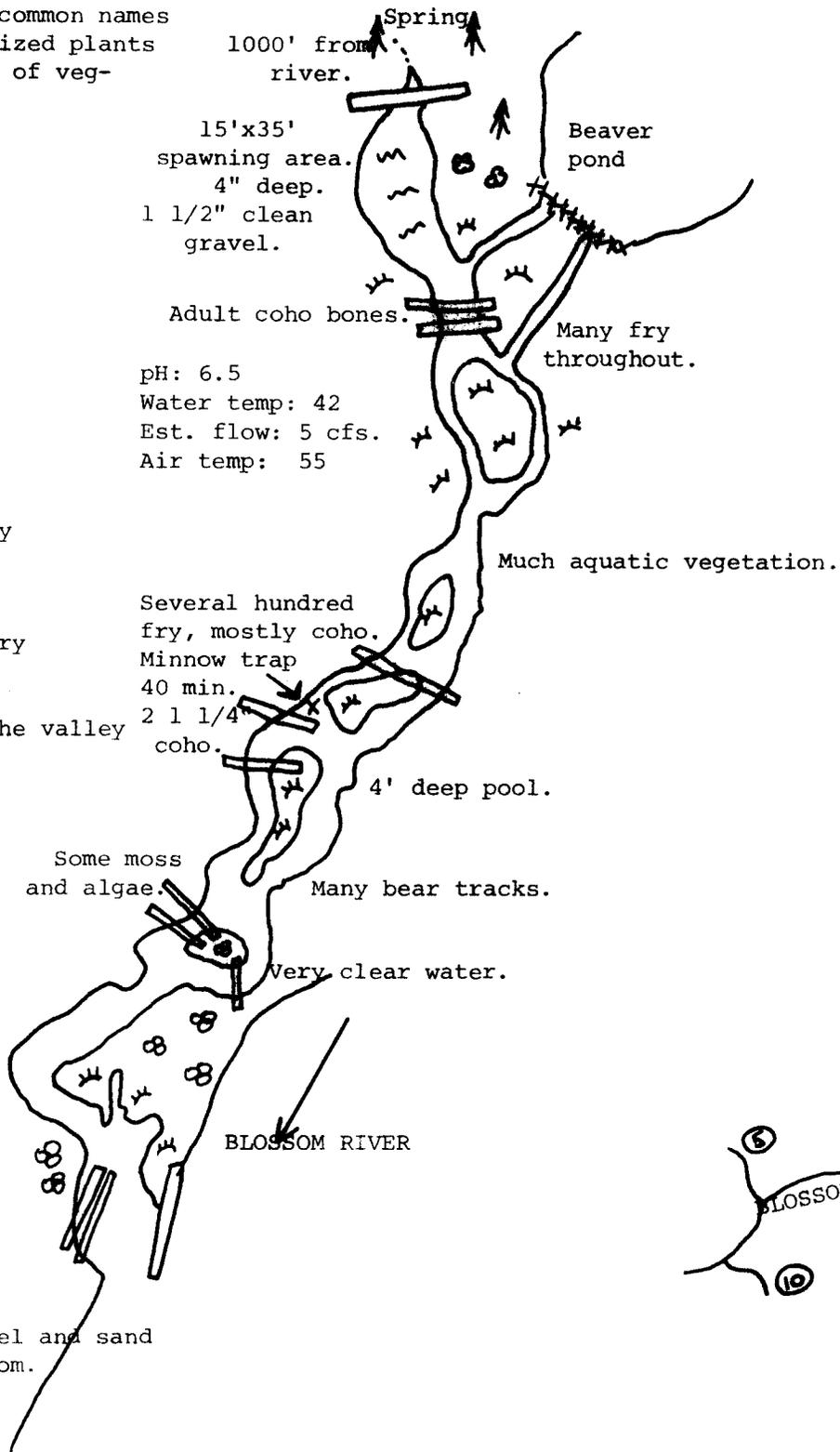
One of the most productive small streams examined in this system. Spawning area at head should be given complete protection.

Blossom River
 Tributary #5
 6-23-76
 R.Larson, Jackinsky

Gradient increases.

Partial list of common names of easily recognized plants to show lushness of vegetation only:

- Huckleberry
- Willow
- Equisetum
- Violets
- Salmon berry
- Fiddleneck fern
- Wood fern
- Yarrow
- Kantchacka lilly
- Sea angelica
- Red alder
- Several grasses
- Several sedges
- Watermellon berry
- Pushky
- Water hemlock
- Marsh marigold
- Highbush cranberry
- Current
- Elderberry
- False lilly of the valley
- False hellebare



- 20'W.
- 1st 50 feet:
- 2 king fry
 - 6 Dolly Varden
 - 20 coho
 - 50 unidentified.

Gravel and sand bottom.

STREAM #3

June 23, 1976

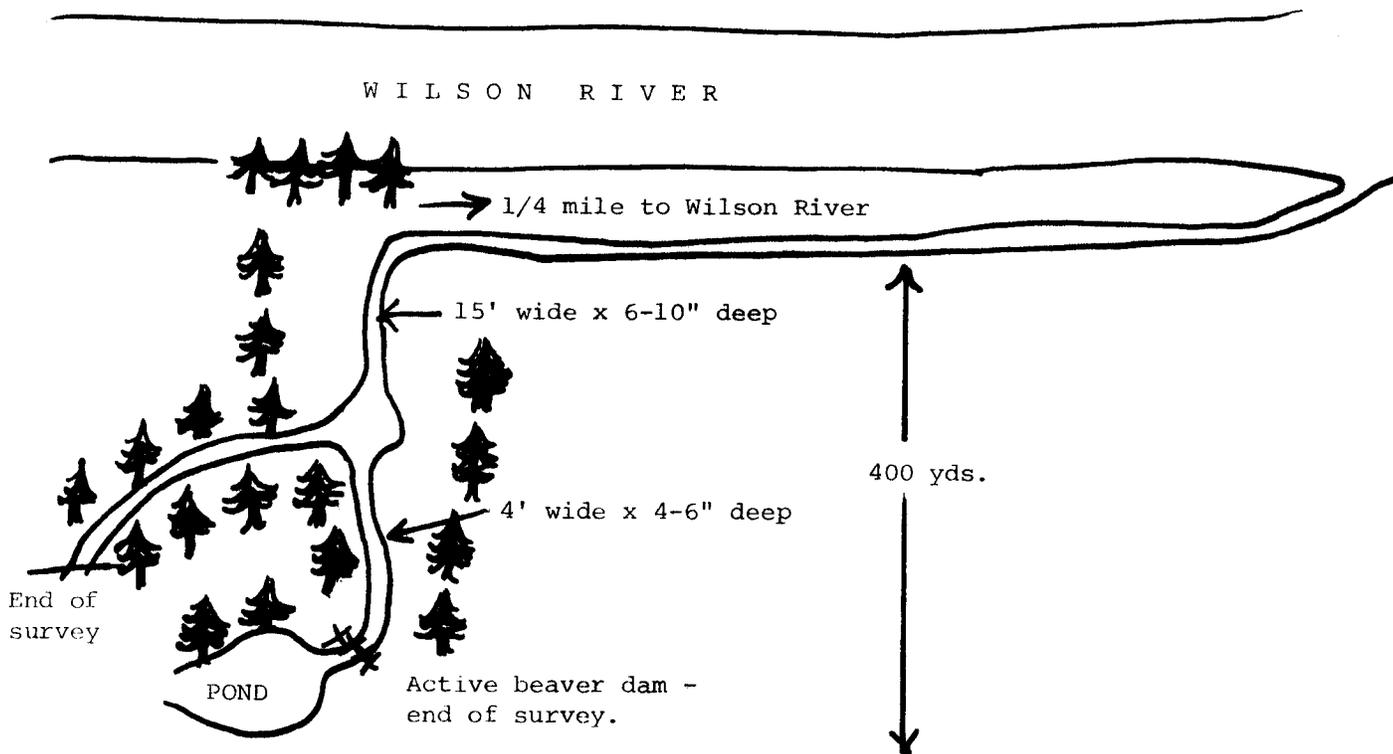
Surveyors: P.Larson, G.Downey, B.Woods

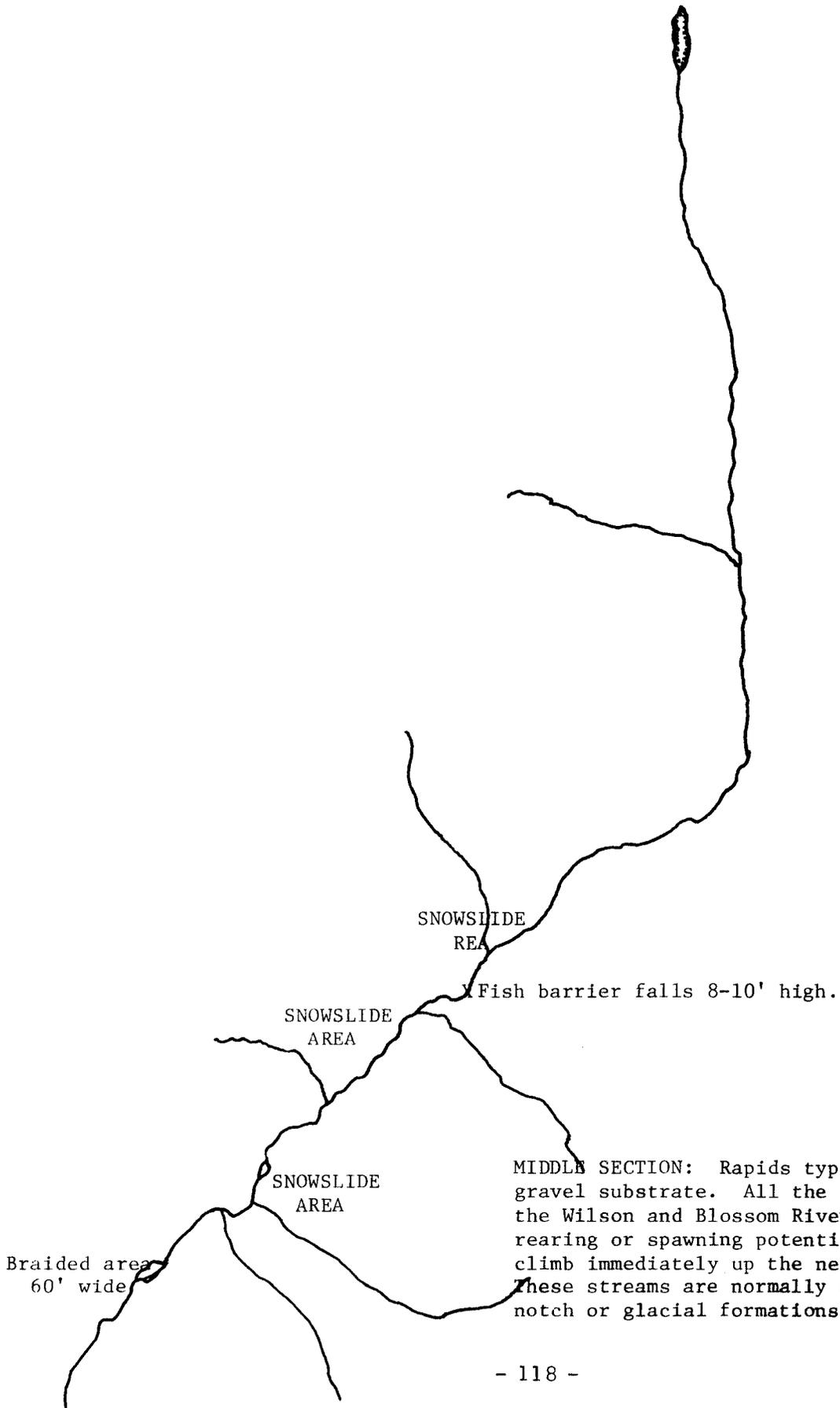
This stream is located on the western side of the Wilson River about 1/2 mile below it's confluence with the Blossom River.

The stream is slow moving; however, it is believed that flow is maintained throughout the summer season. The bottom consists of a mixture of sand and softer silty material. Some gravel is present, but it is not well suited for salmon spawning. Extensive grass flats and a variety of flowering plant species are present on both sides of the stream.

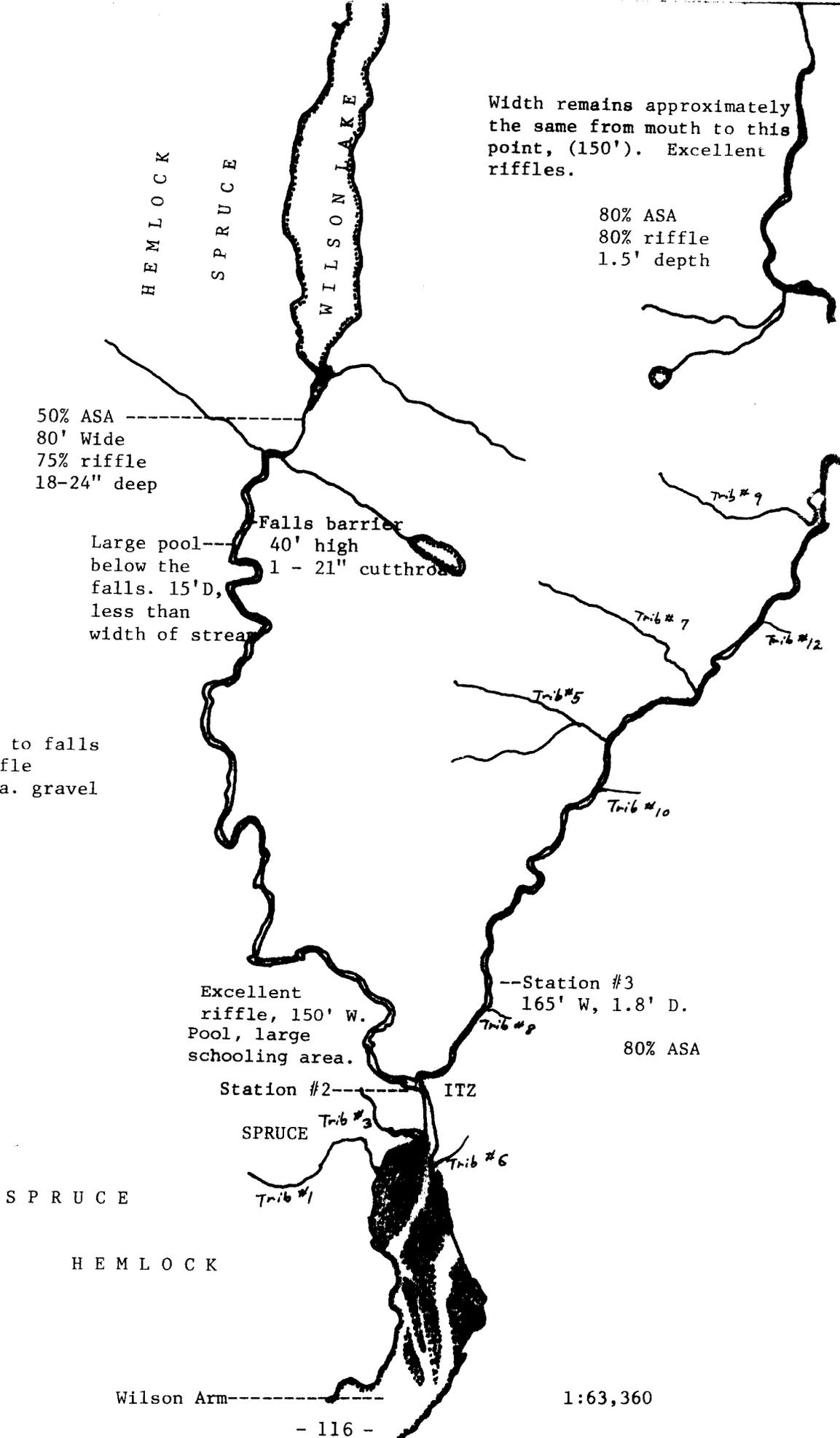
Numerous fry were observed throughout the length of the survey. A considerable amount of overhanging grass banks are present. This appears to be a good rearing stream. Collected about 10 fry, at different locations along the stream, and all were coho. Fry trapping was unsuccessful; however, no great effort was put into it because of numerous fry observed and ample samples were collected by other means.

An active beaver dam was located on the left fork of this small stream. The dam is about 20' across. No beavers were seen; but, fresh cuttings were noted in the dam structure. The stream survey ended here. The survey was stopped on the right fork after some 200 yds as the flow diminished. The section of the stream that parallels the Wilson River consists of a series of deeper holes and slow moving water. This stream might better be termed a slough.





MIDDLE SECTION: Rapids type mixed with rubble, gravel substrate. All the tributaries on both the Wilson and Blossom Rivers have little or no rearing or spawning potential, as these streams climb immediately up the neighboring mountains. These streams are normally associated with V-notch or glacial formations.



Width remains approximately the same from mouth to this point, (150'). Excellent riffles.

80% ASA
80% riffle
1.5' depth

50% ASA
80' Wide
75% riffle
18-24" deep

Falls barrier
40' high
1 - 21" cutthroat
Large pool---
below the falls. 15'D,
less than width of stream

80% ASA to falls
75% riffle
2-4" dia. gravel

Excellent riffle, 150' W.
Pool, large schooling area.
--Station #3
165' W, 1.8' D.
80% ASA

Station #2--- ITZ

SPRUCE

HEMLOCK

Wilson Arm-----

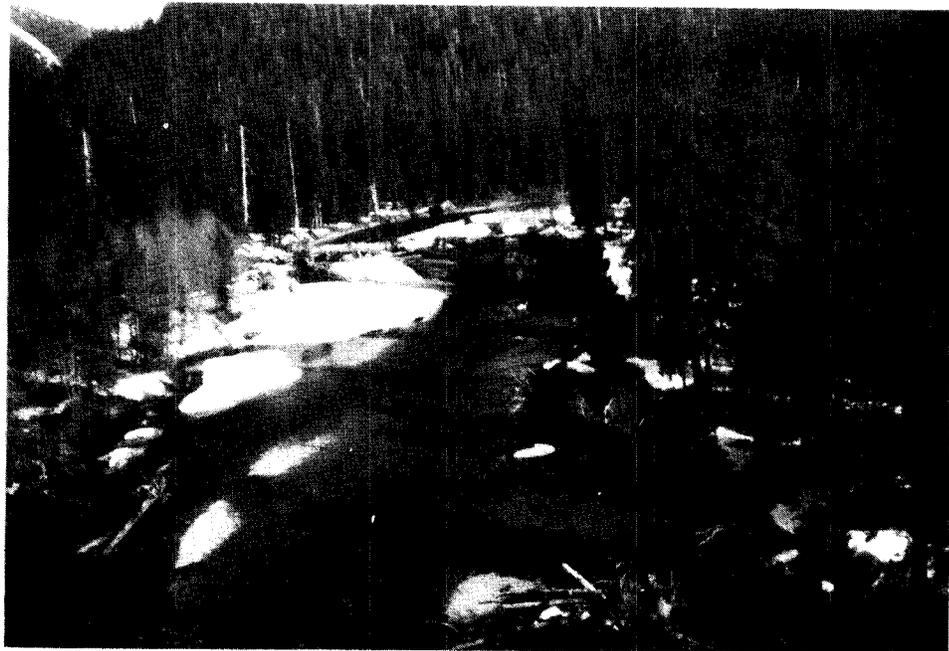
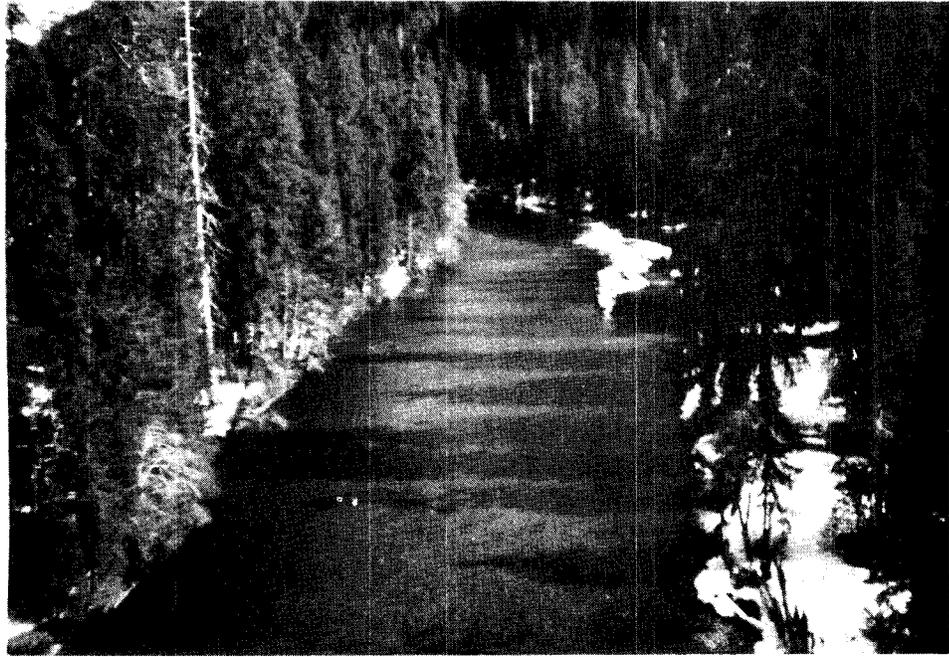
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WILSON LAKE



Head creek on
WILSON LAKE



Wilson River
above ITZ