

MEMORANDUM

101-90-029
FROM IDT FILE

TO: Steve Haavig
Habitat Biologist
Habitat Section
Ketchikan

DATE August 29, 1977

FROM: Robert C. Larson 
Fishery Biologist
Land Use Monitoring
Ketchikan

SUBJECT: Traitors Cove IDT

The upper forks of Traitors River were walked and mapped on August 24, 1977 as part of the ID Team's evaluation of the proposed cutting units for the LPK '79-'84 five year plan. Myself, Gary Freitag and Steve Haavig from ADF&G accompanied Rich Grits, Cathy Rose, and Steve Hales of the U.S. Forest Service. The maps of the sections walked are attached. Identified hazard areas and recommendations are as follows:

- I.
 1. The south fork has a 50-60' falls approximately 600' from the main stream.
 2. Fill from the road above the main bridge appears to have entered the stream and caused it to be muddy.
 3. The bridge over the main stream shows erosion on the east bank with possibly an erosion hazard during flood stage.
 4. The area adjacent to the junction of the main stream is very marshy.
 5. The south fork above the falls is probably not temperature sensitive whereas the main stream and the lower sections of the south fork are.
- II.
 1. The proposed bridge site on the main stream near the Forest Service proposed unit #4 crosses an old beaver dam complex on the north side of the stream and a 120' wide floodplain. An alternate bridge site was advised approximately 600' further downstream.
 2. The road route connecting unit #4 with the upper valley looks as though it rests on the floodplain of the main stream, a possible erosion hazard may exist by displacing floodwaters to other areas. I suggest a F.S. hydrologist examine the situation.
 3. Much of the stream is quite braided with many old beaver dam complexes. The lower portion of unit #5 may extend into this area. Suggest altering the unit boundary to exclude these areas. The entire floodplain and beaver pond areas should be excluded from future sales unless total suspension can be attained.
 4. The road and the upper part of unit #4 may be encroaching on critical slopes. Suggest the soils scientist examine this area for erosion potential.

cc: Edgington

TRIP REPORT

TRAITORS RIVER SURVEY, 8-24-77

The Traitors River was walked and mapped on the following route (see map). The main stream channel had many rearing pools and a small amount of spawning area. The major part of the streambed was mud and sand with few gravel areas. Banks of the main stream were generally unstable with undercutting of the soil banks along most of the stream. Approximately 500' to the west of where the stream intersects the road a large muskeg area exists and is probably a result of beaver activity in that area.

The fork was surveyed from a 50' to 60' falls down to the main stream channel. This is a distance of approximately 600'. From the falls to about 200' downstream, the banks are bedrock, steep and provide shading to the estuary. The bottom is composed of large boulders which create many pools and small cascades. A minnow trap set for approximately one hour caught a 5" cutthroat. Further downstream the stream becomes braided and develops into two major stream channels, the bottom changes to gravel and sand. Pools develop under blowdown and the channels get narrow in places. The banks become covered with brush and are moderately stable. At the point where the stream reaches the existing road, it is bent toward the mainstream and the two channels join together. Fill for the road appears to have entered the stream at this point and caused the stream to slow down and become very muddy. The bottom is mud from this point to where it meets the main stream. This is the most unstable portion of the fork.

It was also noted that the bridge over the main stream shows erosion on the east bank. During high water levels severe erosion may result due to an unstable mud bank.

101-90-29
Traitors River

