

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF SPORT FISH
STREAM SURVEY SUMMARY

103-60-29

STREAM STEELHEAD CREEK

LOC. Big Salt Lake
Prince of Wales Island

MAP REF. Craig C-3 LAT. 55°38' N LONG. 132°57'30" W

TRIBUTARY TO Big Salt Lake MAIN DRAINAGE Big Salt Lake

ORIGIN Flats and mountains north and west of Big Salt Lake. LENGTH _____ WATERSHED AREA _____

1. FLOW RANGE _____ cfs VELOCITY rapid AVG. WIDTH 17 meters AVG. DEPTH 11 inches
FLOOD HEIGHT _____ COLOR/TURBIDITY brown color/slightly turbid

2. ACCESSIBILITY By road from Hollis, Craig, by boat (see remarks), plane.

3. ACCESS STATUS South Tongass National Forest.

4. SECTION SURVEYED Lower 2 miles.

TRIBUTARIES Numerous small trib. One major trib 1 3/4 mi. upstream, 11 m wide, 9" deep, gravel bottomed.

5. BOTTOM TYPE Rubble 60%, gravel 20%, sand 20%, STREAM GRADIENT _____ %
Occa's bedrock and boulder in upper stream.

6. POOLS - DESCRIPTION & FREQUENCY Pools are at greatest frequency in lower areas to 50% of stream becoming fewer to less than 25% of stream above fork 1 3/4 mile upstream. Pools usually result of deadfalls and change of stream flow or deepened channel in river bend. Pools greater than width of stream (cont.)

7. BARRIERS No complete barriers to fish passage, but several large log jams exist in the stream.

8. SPAWING AREA Excellent spawning area from 1/2 mi. to tributary 1 3/4 mi upstream. Tributary has excellent spawning facilities. Rest of stream (cont.)

9. BANK COVER Partially shaded to open. Alder, hemlock-spruce, salmonberry, devils club. Very thick cover in lower 1/2 mile. Above stream can be (cont.)

10. WATERSHED TYPE Spruce-hemlock coastal forest, flat and muskeg areas in lower 1 1/2 miles, above mountain drainage.

11. FISH SPECIES Dolly Varden, cutthroat, pink salmon, chum salmon, silver salmon, sculpin, and reported steelhead.

12. FISHING HISTORY _____

13. FISHING INTENSITY Light, will undoubtedly be increased by road opening in fall of 1973

14. INVERTEBRATES _____

ABUNDANCE Sparse. Surber taken.

15. AQUATIC VEGETATION Black & green mosses common, green filamentous algae common, higher plants sparse.

16. WATER USE None.

17. POLLUTION None.

18. REMARKS Access by boat to Big Salt Lake through the South Entrance should only be attempted at high slack water. Consult locals. An ADF&G "Test Section" was marked off about 1 mile up Steelhead Creek. Could be of interest.

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SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

NAME STEELHEAD CREEK

LOCATION Big Salt Lake
Prince of Wales Is.

- 6. POOLS - DESCRIPTION & FREQUENCY good cover in those formed by logs, others no cover (scour basins).
- 8. SPAWNING AREA surveyed fair. Undoubtedly good areas above also.
- 9. BANK COVER waded and gravel bars are present.

WATER

Air °C 13.5 color - brown
 Water °C 11.0 slightly turbid
 overcast, rain
 pH 6.8 Tot. hardness 2 grains/gal = 34.2 mg/l CaCO₃
 CO₂ < 5 mg/l Tot. alkalinity 2 grains/gal = 34.2 mg/l CaCO₃
 DO 13 mg/l

MINNOW TRAPS 16 trap hours

<u>Sculpin</u>			<u>Silver Salmon</u>					<u>Dolly Varden</u>
8.2	9.7	10.3	8.9	7.2	4.6	7.8	4.8	11.5
9.1	10.9	7.5	8.0	8.1	7.4	8.0	4.7	11.0
9.9	9.5	8.7	9.8	7.2	8.3	7.3	4.4	10.3
7.8	9.2	7.5	11.0	7.7	7.6	5.4		12.3
9.7	8.1	7.0	9.4	8.4	7.8	4.2		9.8
9.5	9.3	9.5	8.3	4.8	8.5	5.5		11.6
9.4	9.6	9.1	9.6	7.6	8.2	5.0		9.1
9.6	7.5		9.9	7.7	8.1	5.9		8.8
9.9	9.9		6.8	7.5	8.0	5.4		
10.4	11.0		7.6	7.7	8.2	4.6		

Cutthroat 14.5, 14.3, 10.3

BY Short-Behr

DATE August 4, 1973