State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Sportfish Division

Nomination Form
Anadromous Waters Catalog

Region: Southeast

USGS Quad(s): SKAGWAY A-1

Anadromous Waters Catalog Number of Water Body: 115-34-10220-2011

Name of Water Body: *Mink Creek ☐ USGS Name ☑ Local Name

☑ Addition ☐ Deletion ☑ Correction ☑ Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination #	24-526	Adam Kerr	5-1-2024
		Fisheries Scientist	Date
Revision Year:	2025	Habitat Operations Manager	5/1/2024
			Date
Revision to:	☑ Atlas		
	☑ Catalog	AWC Project Biologist	10 April 2024
			Date
Revision Code:	D-1, C-9, B-6	GIS Analyst	5/23/24
			Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
cutthroat trout	07/25/2023		✓		✓
Dolly Varden	07/25/2023		✓		✓
coho salmon	07/25/2023		✓		✓

~SHORTEN upper reach of existing AWC Stream #115-34-10220-2011 "*Mink Creek" down to outlet side of Mud Bay Road Culvert.

~UPDATE/ADJUST hydrography and corresponding stream points of existing AWC Stream #115-34-10220-2011 "*Mink Creek".

~EXTEND upper reach of CUTTHROAT trout REARING to new UPPER AWC Stream Point of existing AWC Stream #115-34-10220-2011 "*Mink Creek".

Comments:

A culvert was removed from Mink Creek to improve fish passage on 8/7/2020. Trapping was conducted to monitor efficacy of this restoration project on 7/25/2023. Cutthroat and Dolly Varden were captured in the uppermost trap. A culvert with a 0.5' outfall height at medium stream flow passes under Mud Bay road, downstream of where cutthroat and Dolly Varden were captured. While this red rated culvert is likely inadequate for fish passage, it is not a full barrier to Dolly Varden and cutthroat trout.
Therefore, the upper reach of anadromous stream#115-34-10220-2011 should be extended to 59.153275, -135.362997 for Dolly Varden and cutthroat trout.
Please see attachments for more information regarding trapping effort, # of fish captured, etc.
Coordinates (Lat,Long): Upper(59.153275,-135.362997) Lower(59.157381,-135.358671)

Name of Observer (please print): Stacie Evans

Signature: 64.186.123.185 (Web Nomination) Date: 12/05/2023

Agency:

Address: PO Box 1331

Haines, AK 99827

*Information & observations in this and previous nominations (#14-681; #18-520; #22-611) offer inconclusive evidence that anadromous species have access to the habitat above the culvert under Mud Bay Road. Observerations in Nom #14-681 & #18-520 both described the culvert as perched and likely blocking anadromous fish passage. Discussion's with SEA Habitat Section staff concurred with this information from their own observations (enclosed). The current upper extent of this stream is likely in error and without conclusive evidence that anadromous species (and not resident) actively use the stream above Mud Bay Road, this stream upper extent should be shortened to the culvert under Mud Bay Rd. The culvert under Mud Bay Road has been identified for replacement to improve fish passage at which time additional sampling results could result in extending the water body in the AWC.

Takshanuk Watershed Council

HC 60 Box 2008
Haines, Alaska 99827
info@takshanuk.org
TAKSHANUK.ORG
(907) 766 - 3542

Trip Report: Mink Creek

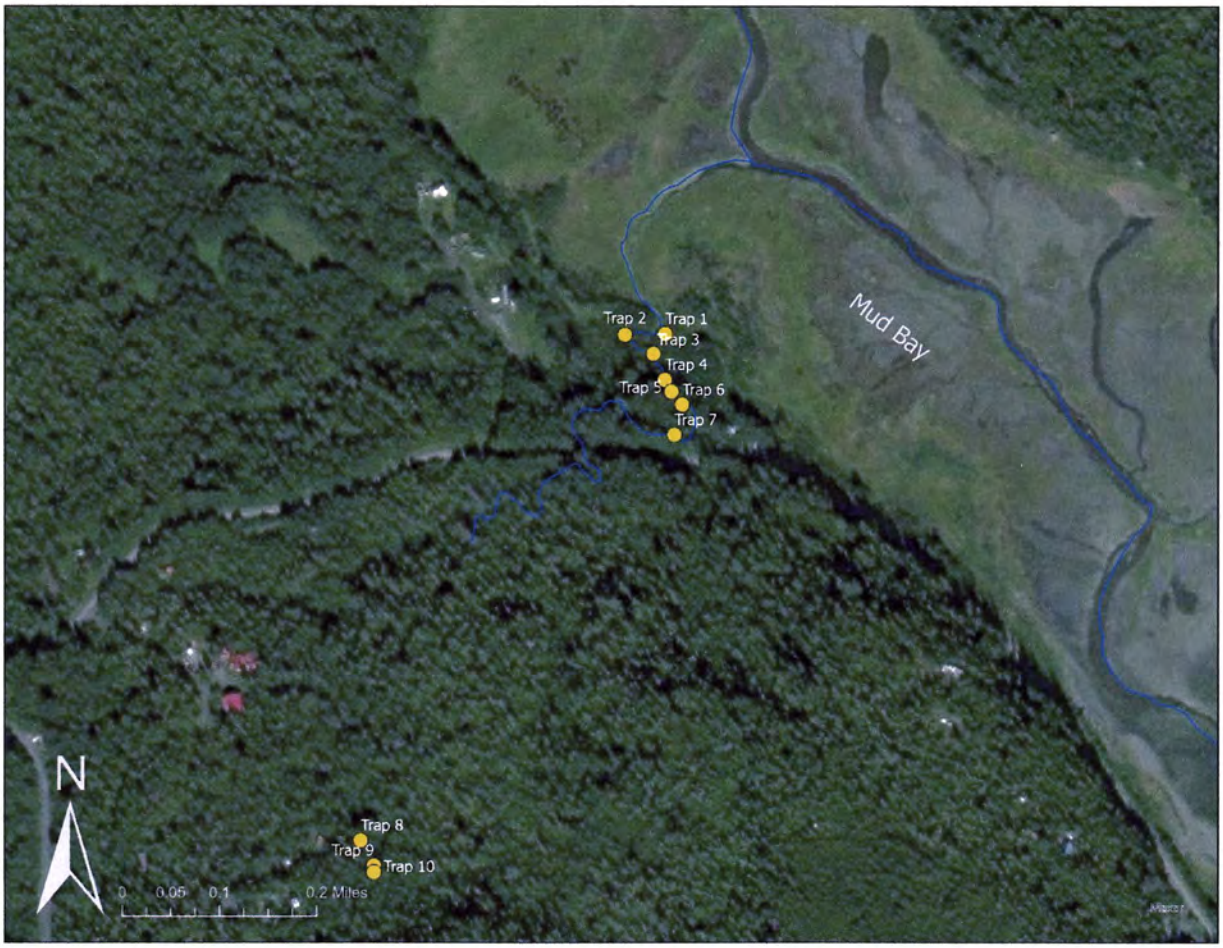
Anadromous Stream #: 115-34-10220-2011 **Permit:** SF2023-115

Date: 7/25/2023 **Technicians:** Stacie Evans, Dan Schultz

 # Minnow Traps: 10 **Trapping Duration:** 22hrs

Species and life stage: COr, CTr, DVr

Location:



Meridian	Township	Range	Section
Copper River	31 South	60 East	29

Trap Locations					
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
Trap #1	59.157381	-135.358671	Trap #6	59.156842	-135.35842
Trap #2	59.157376	-135.35927	Trap #7	59.156613	-135.358535
Trap #3	59.157228	-135.358849	Trap #8	59.153515	-135.363191
Trap #4	59.157031	-135.358678	Trap #9	59.153324	-135.362995
Trap #5	59.156942	-135.358582	Trap #10	59.153275	-135.362997

Trap Results					
	Species	Fork Length (mm)		Species	Fork Length (mm)
Trap #1	Coho	105	Trap #6	Coho	50
Trap #1	Cutthroat	125	Trap #6	Dolly Varden	80
Trap #1	Slimy sculpin	90	Trap #7	Slimy sculpin	65
Trap #1	Slimy sculpin	80	Trap #7	Coho	50
Trap #1	Slimy sculpin	75	Trap #7	Coho	90
Trap #1	Slimy sculpin	40	Trap #8	Cutthroat	85
Trap #1	Slimy sculpin	40	Trap #8	Cutthroat	80
Trap #2	Slimy sculpin	90	Trap #8	Cutthroat	95
Trap #2	Slimy sculpin	80	Trap #8	Cutthroat	100
Trap #2	Coho	90	Trap #9	Cutthroat	100
Trap #3	Cutthroat	55	Trap #9	Dolly Varden	100
Trap #3	Slimy sculpin	90	Trap #10	Cutthroat	85
Trap #3	Slimy sculpin	45	Trap #10	Cutthroat	75
Trap #3	Cutthroat	60	Trap #10	Cutthroat	100
Trap #4	None	-	Trap #10	Cutthroat	90
Trap #5	Cutthroat	95	Trap #10	Dolly Varden	75
Trap #5	Coho	75	Trap #10	Dolly Varden	70
Trap #6	Coho	90			

Top Right: Two cutthroat captured in trap #10, Top Left: Two coho and one sculpin captured in trap #7, Bottom Right: One cutthroat and one Dolly Varden captured in trap #9.

Notes: A culvert was removed from Mink Creek to improve fish passage on 8/7/2020. Trapping was conducted to monitor efficacy of this restoration project. Traps #1-3 were set downstream of the old culvert site on 7/25/2023. Trap #4 was set under the foot bridge where the culvert used to be, and traps #5-7 were set upstream. Traps #8-10 were set well upstream where the technicians own private property. Coho were captured as far upstream as trap #7 and cutthroat and Dolly Varden were captured in the uppermost trap. A culvert with a 0.5' outfall height at medium streamflow passes under Mud Bay road, downstream of where traps #8, 9, and 10 were set. While this red rated culvert is likely inadequate for fish passage, it is not a full barrier to Dolly Varden and cutthroat trout.

Recommendations: Extend upper reach of the Anadromous Waters Catalog to 59.153275, -135.362997 for Dolly Varden and cutthroat trout.

Location ID (optional)	Latitude (decimal degrees)	Longitude (decimal degrees)	Datum	site determination method	Name of water body	Date	Observer name (the first and last name of the person handling fish)	Fish collection method	Species	Life stage	"Fill in only if data was collected, otherwise leave blank." Length (mm) (SQ settings or range)	Length method	Weight (g)	Sex	Age	Age method (sample type)	ADF&G OCL	Additional count (1)	Disposition (1)	Additional count (2)	Disposition (2)	Anesthesia/ Sedative Used (Leave blank if none used)	Comments
	59.537832	-136.100415	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	no fish collected or observed														
	59.53786	-136.100188	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	90	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.537875	-136.100043	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	35	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.53786	-136.099752	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	75	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.53786	-136.099752	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	30	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538013	-136.0995	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	65	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538013	-136.0995	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	70	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538013	-136.0995	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	70	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538013	-136.0995	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	75	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538193	-136.099498	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	65	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538193	-136.099498	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	65	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538193	-136.099498	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	75	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538193	-136.099498	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	40	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538193	-136.099498	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	60	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538193	-136.099498	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	60	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538289	-136.09928	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	no fish collected or observed														
	59.538321	-136.099323	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	90	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.538321	-136.099323	WGS84	GPS	Unnamed Kelsall Tribu	7/27/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	70	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157361	-135.358671	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	coho salmon	juvenile	105	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157361	-135.358671	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	125	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157361	-135.358671	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	slimy sculpin	adult	90	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157361	-135.358671	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	slimy sculpin	adult	80	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157361	-135.358671	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	slimy sculpin	adult	75	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157361	-135.358671	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	slimy sculpin	adult	40	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157361	-135.358671	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	slimy sculpin	adult	40	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157376	-135.35927	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	slimy sculpin	adult	90	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157376	-135.35927	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	slimy sculpin	adult	60	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157376	-135.35927	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	coho salmon	juvenile	90	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157228	-135.358849	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	55	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157228	-135.358849	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	slimy sculpin	adult	90	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157228	-135.358849	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	slimy sculpin	adult	45	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157228	-135.358849	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	80	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.157031	-135.359878	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	no fish collected or observed														
	59.156942	-135.359582	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	95	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.156942	-135.359582	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	coho salmon	juvenile	75	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.156842	-135.35842	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	coho salmon	juvenile	90	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.156842	-135.35842	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	coho salmon	juvenile	50	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.156842	-135.35842	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	80	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.156613	-135.358535	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	slimy sculpin	adult	85	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.156613	-135.358535	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	coho salmon	juvenile	80	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.156613	-135.358535	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	coho salmon	juvenile	90	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153515	-135.363191	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	95	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153515	-135.363191	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	80	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153515	-135.363191	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	95	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153515	-135.363191	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	100	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153324	-135.362995	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	100	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153324	-135.362995	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	100	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153275	-135.362997	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	95	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153275	-135.362997	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	75	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153275	-135.362997	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	100	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153275	-135.362997	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	90	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153275	-135.362997	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	75	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.153275	-135.362997	WGS84	GPS	Mink Creek	7/25/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	Dolly Varden	juvenile	70	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240792	-135.463874	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	no fish collected or observed														
	59.240554	-135.463882	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	130	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240554	-135.463882	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	90	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240554	-135.463882	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	75	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240382	-135.46396	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	125	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240382	-135.46396	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	80	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240382	-135.46396	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	105	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240382	-135.46396	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	100	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.24052	-135.464113	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	75	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.24043	-135.464183	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	110	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.24043	-135.464183	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	150	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.24043	-135.464183	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	135	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.24043	-135.464183	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	115	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.24043	-135.464183	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	125	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.24043	-135.464183	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	85	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240324	-135.464362	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	105	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240324	-135.464362	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	75	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240143	-135.464292	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	95	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240077	-135.464116	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/17/2023	Stacie Evans	Minnow Trap	cutthroat trout	juvenile	125	Fork							IDed and Released				
	59.240685	-135.463885	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/16/2023	Stacie Evans	Visual Observation, Ground	coho salmon	adult spawning													
	59.241445	-135.48319	WGS84	GPS	Sawmill Creek	10/13/2023	Stacie Evans	Visual Observation, Ground	coho salmon	adult spawning													

Observation Data Sheet

Nom #24-526

From: Krull, Dylan P (DFG)
To: Giefer, Joe (DFG)
Subject: RE: Nom Input Req - #24-526 : Stream #115-34-10220-2011 *Mink Creek / Mud Bay Rd Culvert
Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 1:20:49 PM
Attachments: 2014-06-13 Mink Creek Mud Bay Culvert TR.pdf
image001.png

Hi Joe,

Thanks for reaching out on this stream. I remember it well and have been back there several times. We are currently waiting for DOT to come up with a design to replace this pipe as mitigation for the Haines Highway. The are supposed to submit plans in the near future. Anyway, I don't think fish can get up it now and we have been catching quite a few resident fish up there over the years, see attached trip report. I suppose its possible for fish to get above it back when it was installed before it got perched but I don't think that is recorded anywhere. I dove through our files and found this excerpt:

> Mud Bay Road (1.3 mi.) from Park Road to end
>
> One catalogued anadromous fish stream (115-34-10210) flows through a culvert in this section of road. The culvert does pass fish and appears to be large enough in diameter. However, the culvert is too short. It is barely long enough to support the road. We recommend that this culvert be replaced with another one 8 feet longer. If this is not feasible, We suggest that you extend each side of the culvert 4 feet.

I couldn't find an original permit, meaning the pipe was probably installed in the 70s or 80s. I don't have anything else that would indicate it passes fish. I think your decision to delist from below the pipe is warranted. Hopefully there will be a nom to readd it once this pipe gets replaced. I think we will author a memo on this one soon, so please let me know what you decide. Its time to raise the heat on DOT on this one.

Thanks,

Dylan

From: Giefer, Joe (DFG) <joe.giefer@alaska.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 11:16 AM
To: Krull, Dylan P (DFG) <dylan.krull@alaska.gov>
Subject: Nom Input Req - #24-526 : Stream #115-34-10220-2011 *Mink Creek / Mud Bay Rd Culvert

Hi Dylan,

I could use some input on this nom from Stacie Evans at the Takshanuk Watershed Council. You were the last Dept biologist to survey this stream back in June 2017.

I've included the 3 most recent nominations, as well as the pending Nom #24-526, which has my *draft* thoughts on this particular location added to it in blue text.

It seems to me that this stream really shouldn't have ever been extended above the Mud Bay Road culvert (Purple Arrows on attached discussion map) as coho were never documented above the Mud

Bay Road Crossing (in Nom #14-681, enclosed). For the CT & DV, there is no clear evidence that anadromous adults make it up past Mud Bay Road, and while the system could have both residents & anadromous variants in the same drainage, that doesn't mean the Mud Bay Road culvert doesn't block fish movement.

My inclination is to shorten this stream to the downstream side of Mud Bay Road. Thoughts?

Thanks for your assistance.
Regards,

Joe Giefer
Habitat Biologist III
Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC)
Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
Division of Sport Fish – RTS
333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage AK 99518
Office 907-267-2336

Submit AWC Nominations electronically through the Online Portal here:
https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?ADFG=nomSubmit.home

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

Department of Fish and Game
Division of Habitat

TO: Jackie Timothy
Southeast Regional Supervisor

THRU: Kate Kanouse
Habitat Biologist

FROM: Matthew Kern
Habitat Biologist

DATE: June 13, 2014

SUBJECT: Mink Creek Mud Bay Culvert
Trip Report

PHONE NO: (907) 465-4182

On April 23, 2014, Habitat Biologist Greg Albrecht and I visited a perched culvert on Mud Bay Road in Haines. The culvert conveys Mink Creek, AWC Stream No. 115-34-10210, cataloged for Dolly Varden char, steelhead trout, and coho salmon. The culvert is located in Section 29, Township 31 S, Range 60 E (Copper River Meridian), at 59.1565° N, 135.3596° W.

Figure 1.–Mud Bay Road culvert with culvert extension (April 23, 2014).

The ADF&G Fish Passage inventory group surveyed the 48 in culvert on August 22, 2012, and rated it Red (Fish Passage Site 10302906). They observed a 6 in outfall height, woody debris at the culvert inlet, culvert sag in the middle, and mechanical damage. The lower end of the culvert has a 6–8 ft

extension with a steeper gradient than the rest of the culvert (Figure 1). There is a small ring of stones just below the culvert outlet that may have been installed to backwater the culvert. The stones are spread out and do not raise the water level or reduce the perch (Figure 2). High flows are eroding the far bank and creating a broad, shallow plunge pool.

Figure 2.–Mud Bay Culvert during lower flows with weir and plunge pool (July 20, 2012).

On July 20, 2012, Fish and Wildlife Technician Rick Hoffman and I surveyed Mink Creek (Figures 3–5). We captured coho salmon, cutthroat trout, and Dolly Varden char below the perched culvert (Table 1). Upstream of the perched culvert we captured Dolly Varden char, rainbow and cutthroat trout, and rearing habitat is available for at least a quarter mile (Figure 6). We did not observe a barrier to fish passage up to private property signs where we ended our survey.

Downstream of the perched culvert, we encountered an old culvert below and overgrown road (Figure 7, WPT 224) that had woody debris at the inlet and outlet. The culvert does no currently prevent fish passage, but could cause debris to accumulate upstream. We recommend when the Mink Creek perched culvert is replaced, that the downstream culvert be removed.

I will contact the property owner upstream of the Mink Creek perched culvert and request permission to survey the stream on his property when we are in Haines. I will also submit a nomination for correction to the AWC to update the stream route.

Figure 3.–Juvenile rainbow trout captured above perched culvert (July 20, 2012).

Figure 4.–Section of Mink Creek below the perched culvert (July 20, 2012).

Figure 5.–Rick Hoffman surveying Mink Creek above Mud Bay Road (July 20, 2012).

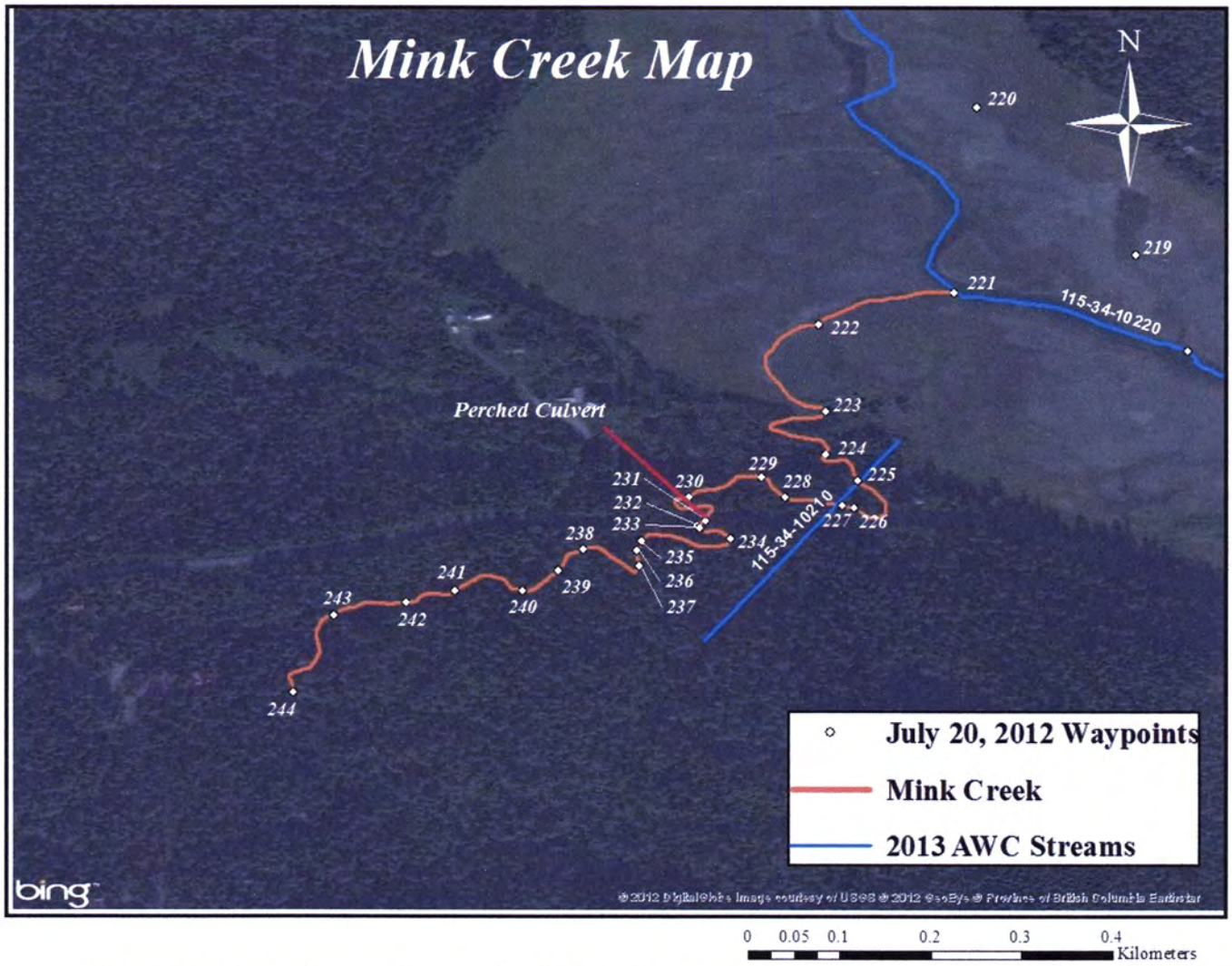


Figure 6.–Mink Creek map with waypoints from our July 20, 2012 survey.

Figure 7.–Culvert under overgrown road with some debris at inlet (See WPT 224, Table 1, Figure 7: July 20, 2012).

Table 1.–Survey waypoint information from July 20, 2012.

WPT	Lat	Long	Notes	Sample Effort
221	59.1586	-135.3574	Tributary enters river right, beginning tracking and electrofishing.	
222	59.1583	-135.3587	Handnetted one coho ~ 65mm. interesting coloration.	Handnet
223	59.1575	-135.3586	Electrofished two coho ~ 90mm. Electrofisher settings: 150v, 12% duty cycle and 30Hz.	Electrofisher
224	59.1571	-135.3586	Captured two Dolly Varden char (35–120 mm) and three cutthroat trout (40–170 mm). Old culvert spans an overgrown road. Figure 6.	Electrofisher
225	59.1568	-135.3583	One coho ~ 110 mm, 3 cutthroat between 40-80 mm, 2 Dolly Varden between 40-45 mm.	Electrofisher

Table 1.–Survey waypoint information from July 20, 2012, continued.

WPT	Lat	Long	Notes	Sample Effort
226	59.1565	-135.3583	3 cutthroat between 50-120 mm, 2 Dolly Varden between 40-110 mm, numerous sculpin and adjusted volts to 325 V.	Electrofisher
227	59.1565	-135.3585	2 Coho between 65-85 mm and one cutthroat ~ 100mm.	Electrofisher
228	59.1566	-135.3590	Electrofished and got two Coho between 75-85mm and one Dolly Varden about 45mm and one cutthroat about 65mm.	Electrofisher
229	59.1568	-135.3593	3 Coho ~ 65-80 mm and one cutthroat ~ 60 mm.	Electrofisher
230	59.1566	-135.3600	3 coho between 30-105 mm, one Dolly Varden ~ 40 mm, some sculpin.	Electrofisher
231	59.1564	-135.3598	4 cutthroat between 75-150 mm at plunge pool of Mud Bay road culvert. Perched culvert about 6-8" perch. Figures 1, 2	Electrofisher
232	59.1562	-135.3596	Upstream side of culvert, some woody debris present.	
233	59.1563	-135.3599	5 Dolly Varden between 35-80 mm, one cutthroat about 45mm.	Electrofisher
234	59.1563	-135.3599	Two cutthroat between 105-110 mm, one Dolly Varden ~ 40mm and continuing upstream.	Electrofisher
235	59.1562	-135.3604	3 cutthroat between 95-110 mm and one Dolly Varden about 40 mm.	Electrofisher
236	59.1561	-135.3605	Small tributary enters on river right. Begin fishing and tracking up.	
237	59.1559	-135.3605	Becomes forest with small stagnant channel. Very marginal fish habitat. Returning to main stem.	
238	59.1561	-135.3610	Electrofished nine Dolly Varden between 30-110 mm and three cutthroat between 45-100 mm.	Electrofisher
239	59.1559	-135.3613	4 cutthroat between 45-100 mm, 1 rainbow trout 100 mm, five Dolly Varden between 40-75 mm. Habitat remains excellent with some potential spawning gravels and deep pools.	Electrofisher
240	59.1557	-135.3616	3 Dolly Varden about 45-65 mm and one cutthroat 80 mm.	Electrofisher
241	59.1557	-135.3623	4 Dolly Varden between 40-80 mm and one cutthroat about 75 mm.	Electrofisher
242	59.1556	-135.3628	4 cutthroat between 45-75 mm.	Electrofisher
243	59.1554	-135.3635	Small, steep tributary enters on river left. 4 cutthroat between 50-80 mm.	Electrofisher
244	59.1547	-135.3639	Ending survey, channel begins to steepen slightly, habitat continues upstream.	

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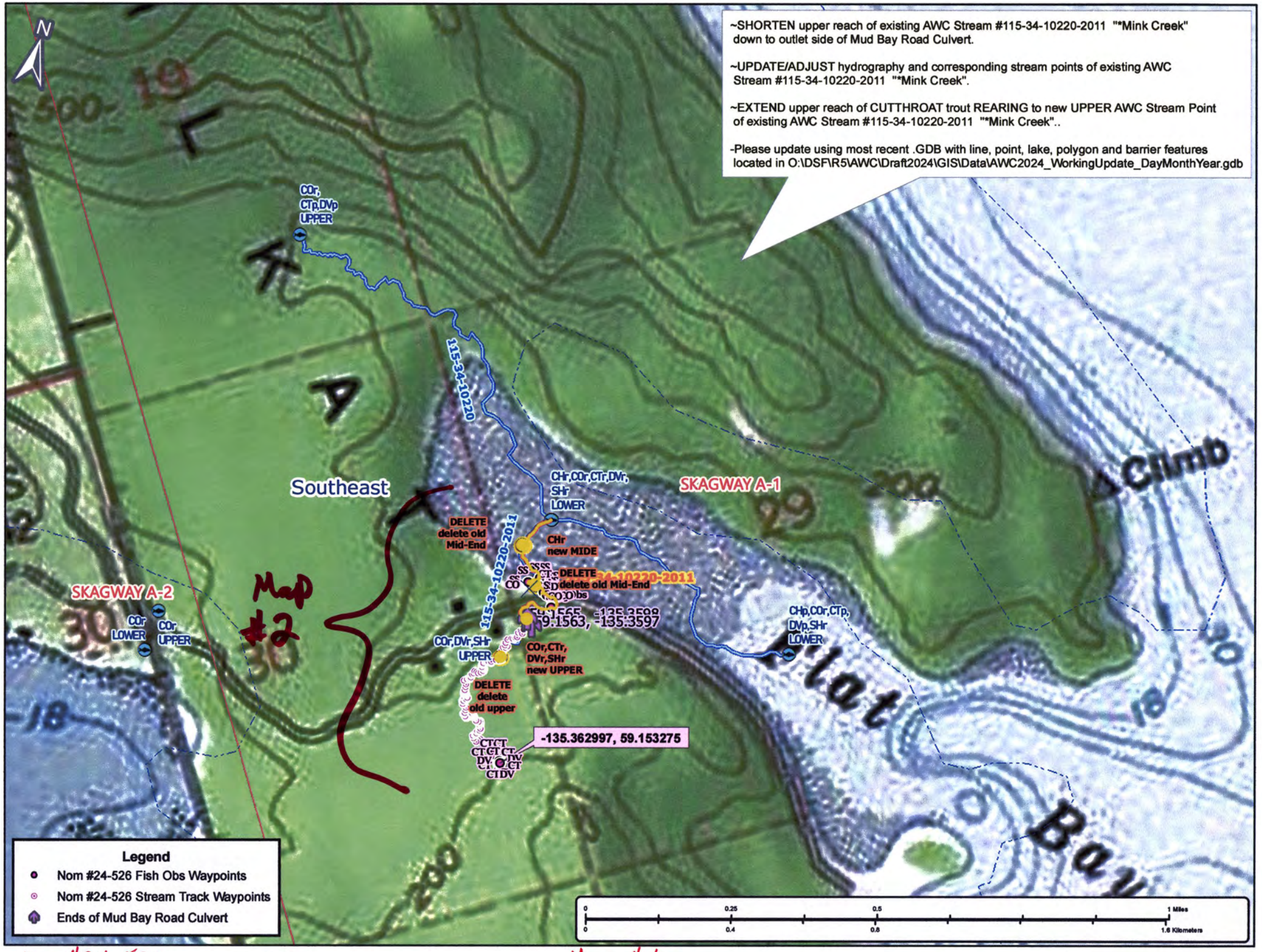

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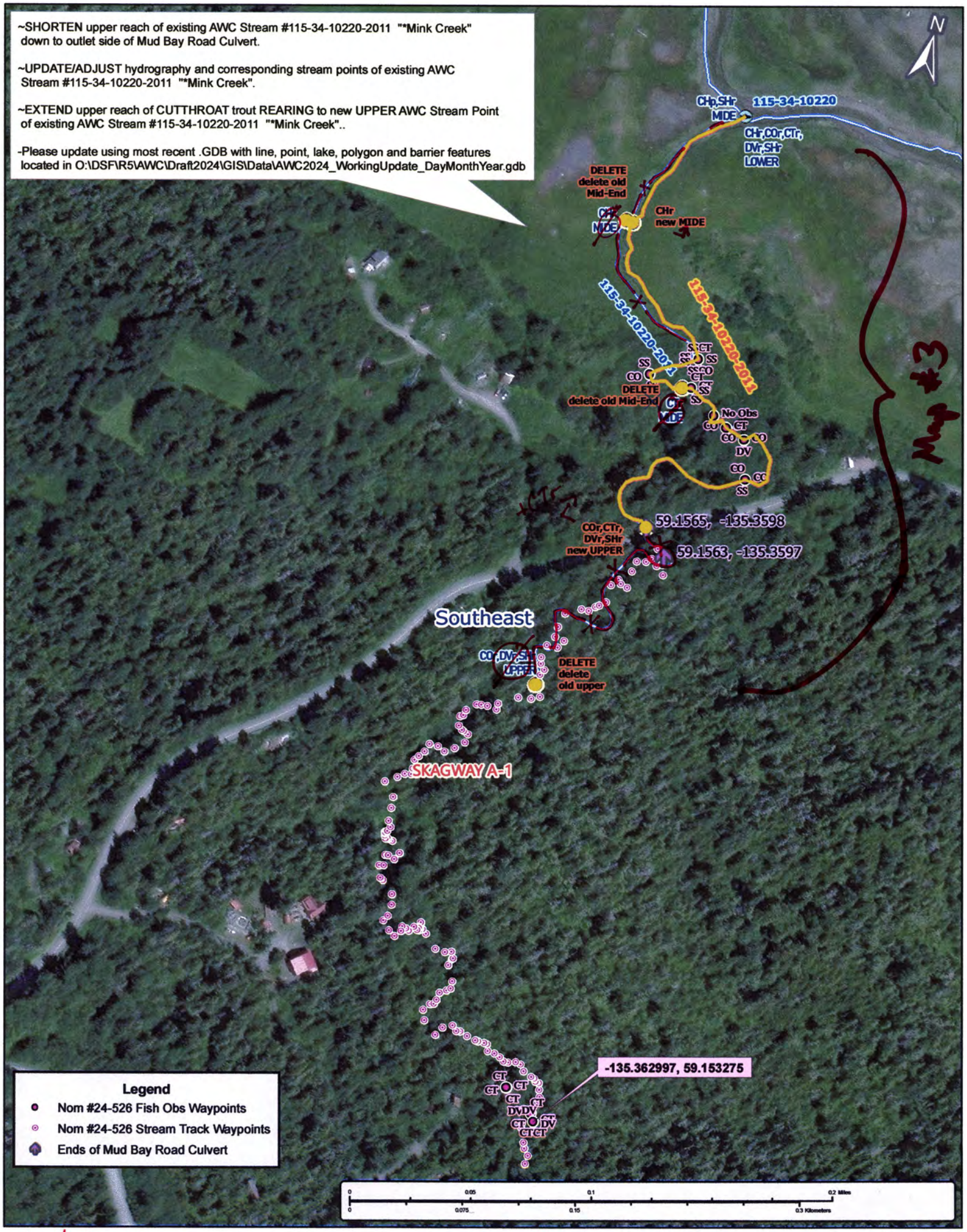
Map #1



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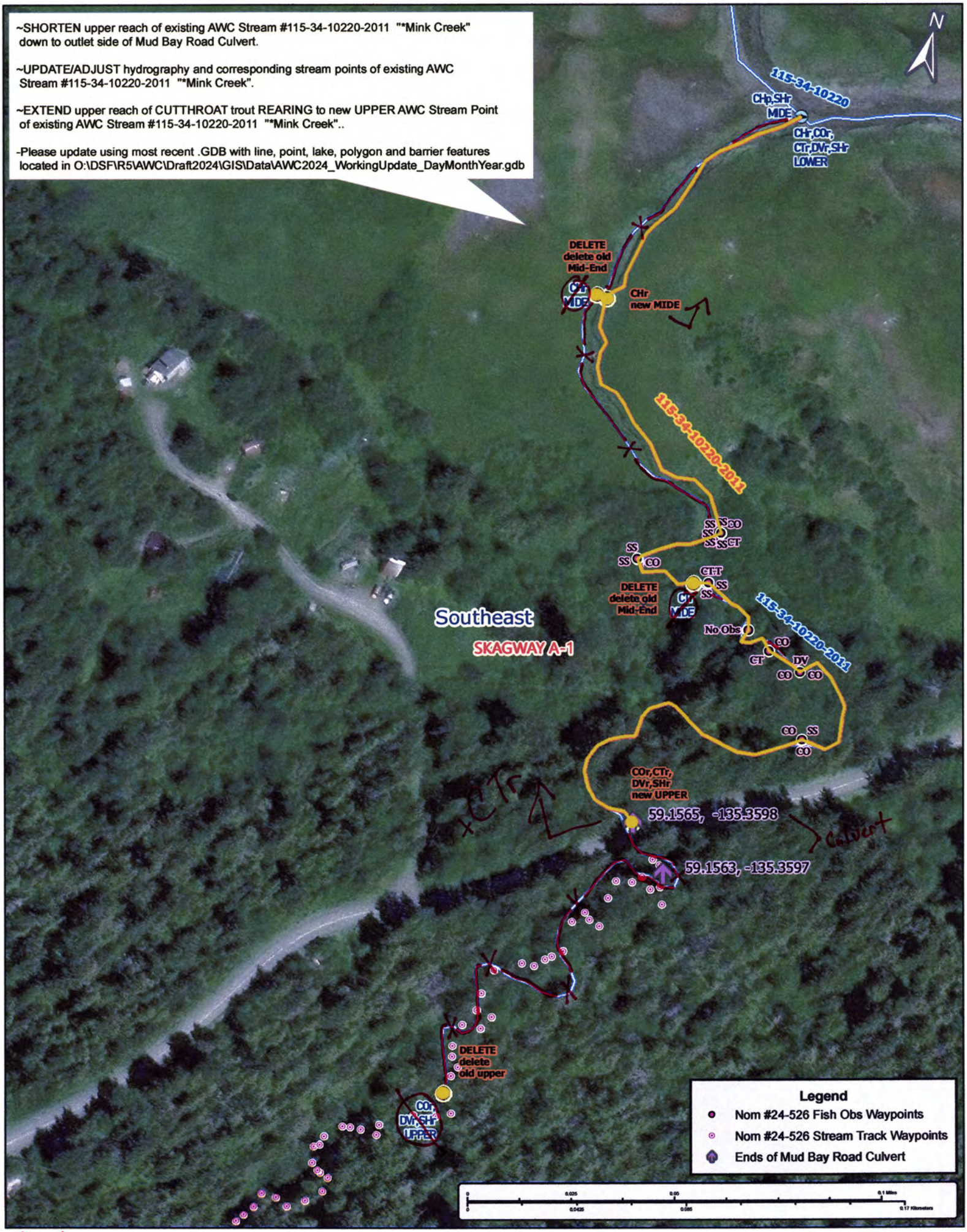
Map #2



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Map #3