

**SITE NUMBER:** D-L2-01  
**LOCAL NAME:** Airfield Springs  
**WRIA:** 20.0098F

**NORTH COAST OFF CHANNEL SITE INVENTORY DATA**

**RIVER SYSTEM:** Dickey      **DATE:** 11/08/90      **OBSERVER:** Young

**CHANNEL TYPE:** A short, valley wall tributary

**TRIBUTARY TO:** Dickey River (20.0097)

**SITE LOCATION:** L.B. @ River Mile: 3.3 (WDF)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** SW1/4 S12 T28N R15W

	<b><u>UPPER END</u></b>	<b><u>LOWER END</u></b>	<b><u>RIVER TEMP</u></b>
<b><u>WATER TEMP:</u></b>	9.0 C	9.0 C	9.0 C

<b><u>FLOW (CFS):</u></b>	0.25 - 0.5	1.0 - 2.0
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**SUBSTRATE TYPE:** Sand & silt over gravel in beaver ponds. Cobble, gravel & even some small boulders in free flowing reaches.

**SITE SIZE:**      **Length-** = About 350 m from mouth to logging road crossing.  
                         **Width-** Channel = 2 - 4 m  
   Surface = 1 - 2 m (Beaver ponds = 6 - 8 m)  
                         **Depth-** = 10 - 20 cm (Beaver ponds to 1.5 m)

**WATER SOURCE:** Appears to be fed by springs which emanate from the wall of the Quillayute Prairie terrace.

**DIRECTIONS TO SITE:** Head north from Forks on Hwy 101. Turn left just beyond mp 193 (1.0 mile north of Forks) onto La Push Rd. Proceed west on La Push Rd about 7.8 miles to Three Rivers Resort then turn right onto the Mora Rd. Continue west on the Mora Rd. 2.1 miles. Turn right onto the Quillayute Rd. Proceed north about 0.7 mi. then turn left onto a gravel road with a locked gate (contact ITT Rayonier for key). Continue west on the gravel road about 0.4 miles until the road forks. Turn right and continue north about 0.8 miles until the road forks again. Stay right (east) at this fork. Continue until coming to a "tank trap" in the road. Follow the grade (on foot) down into the valley until coming to a small trib. (the culvert or bridge has been pulled). This trib is the west branch of D-L2-01.

**FISH ACCESS AND CURRENT USE:** A 1 to 1.5 m high beaver dam situated in a deeply incised channel just above the mouth appears impassable at present flows. River should backwater over this barrier during moderate flood conditions. A second 1.5 to 2 m high dam about 190 m above the mouth also appears impassable. May have some spawning potential between this second dam and the mouth. No fish were seen.

**FLOODING POTENTIAL:** Backwater flooding seems likely in the lower 50 to 100 m. Chances of destructive flooding from river water appears low.

**LANDOWNER:** Unknown at this time (probably ITT Rayonier)

**COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:** The river at the mouth of D-L2-01 currently has a split channel as it flows around a small, gravel bar island. Water from D-L2-01 enters the smaller of the two river channels. This "side" channel currently appears protected from high velocity flows. The moderately slow moving water is 60 to 90 cm deep at the mouth of D-L2-01 and seems to provide excellent entrance conditions for juvenile salmonids. With a rise in river level of as little as 0.5 to 1 m during fall and winter freshets it seems likely that a large back eddy might occur at the mouth of D-L2-01. It also seems highly likely that present conditions in this area could be subject to change after each freshet.

(continued next page)

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**RIVER SYSTEM:** Dickey      **DATE:** 11/08/90      **OBSERVER:** Young

**COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**      (Continued)

The lower 20 to 30 m reach of D-L2-01 lies in a deeply incised channel. This channel is about 2 m wide with steep, 2 to 3 m high banks. A 1 to 1.5 m high beaver dam, with fresh signs of activity, is located in this incised channel (less than 10 m above the mouth). This dam, which forms a deep, but relatively short pond, appears to create a passage problem at present water levels.

The 100 m reach of D-L2-01 above the lower beaver dam has a moderate gradient. The habitat here is mostly riffle and shallow pools. Gravel, cobble and even small boulders compose the substrate along this shady, mostly wooded lower reach. Some spawning habitat appears to exist.

About 110 m above its mouth, D-L2-01 leaves the valley floor of the Dickey and enters its own, mostly clear-cut, valley. The channel maintains a moderate gradient and unrestricted flow for another 80 m upstream. At that point a large (1.5 to 2 m high) beaver dam was encountered. This dam, and a second similar sized dam 60 to 70 m further upstream, appears to create severe passage problems. Other smaller dams were also seen in the mid to upper reach. Several small seep springs were seen along the right bank of D-L2-01 just above the first large dam. These springs emanate from the steep, clear-cut hillside to the north and east. The hillside seems to form a "bowl" around the lower beaver pond area.

D-L2-01 forks about 100 m above the second large beaver dam. Each branch carries a similar amount of water. A short distance above the fork each branch is crossed by the logging road which provides access to the channel. The bridges and/or culverts at these crossings have been pulled. Just above the road the east branch of D-L2-01 forks again. The gradient above the road on both branches appears to get progressively steeper. The survey was terminated at the road crossings.

D-L2-01 appears to have a good water source. Reports are that water continues to flow here throughout the summer (personal communication with Chris Byrnes, WDF). Recommend measures to reduce passage problems at beaver dams. Development of larger and more stable ponds may be possible. If dams and ponds are stable this might make a good fall planting site. Good machine (or planting truck) access to the upper reach could easily be made possible.

**NORTH COAST OFF CHANNEL SURVEY**  
**SUBSEQUENT SITE EVALUATION FORM**

River System: Dickey

Site No.: D-L2-01  
Site Name: Airfield Sp  
WRIA: 20.0098F

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DATE: 1/9/91      OBSERVER: Young

2.5 inches of rain have fallen in the last 24 hrs. The Dickey River is moderately high and very dirty. River temperature was measured at 4.5 C.

Both the east and west branch of D-L2-01 are flowing at a rate of 0.5 to 1.5 cfs at the grade crossing. The volume of water in the west branch appears to be slightly greater than the volume in the east branch. Water temperature in both branches was about 8.75 C. A small amount of rearing habitat may occur above the road. The gradient increases steadily above this point. From the road along the east ridge of the valley it appears that one of the larger beaver dams has blown out completely the large pond upstream has been lost.

A channel found along the left bank of the Dickey, just up-stream of D-L2-01, appears to serve as the main drainage route for runoff from the next large, clear-cut flat. 1 to 2 cfs was seen flowing out of the channel on this date (after a heavy rain). The channel was not surveyed or written up due to a 15 to 20 ft vertical falls at its mouth (see D-L2-01 and overview maps).

DATE: 4/15/92                      OBSERVER: King

- Not much rain since Feb. but still has good flow.
- Very little pooling between B-dam at mouth and next one upstream which is about 6' high.
- The next dam up is about 6' high but the following dams are smaller. Passage is still questionable on all of them. The pond habitat is pretty much inaccessible.
- Need to leave dams and provide passage. Human access is limited.

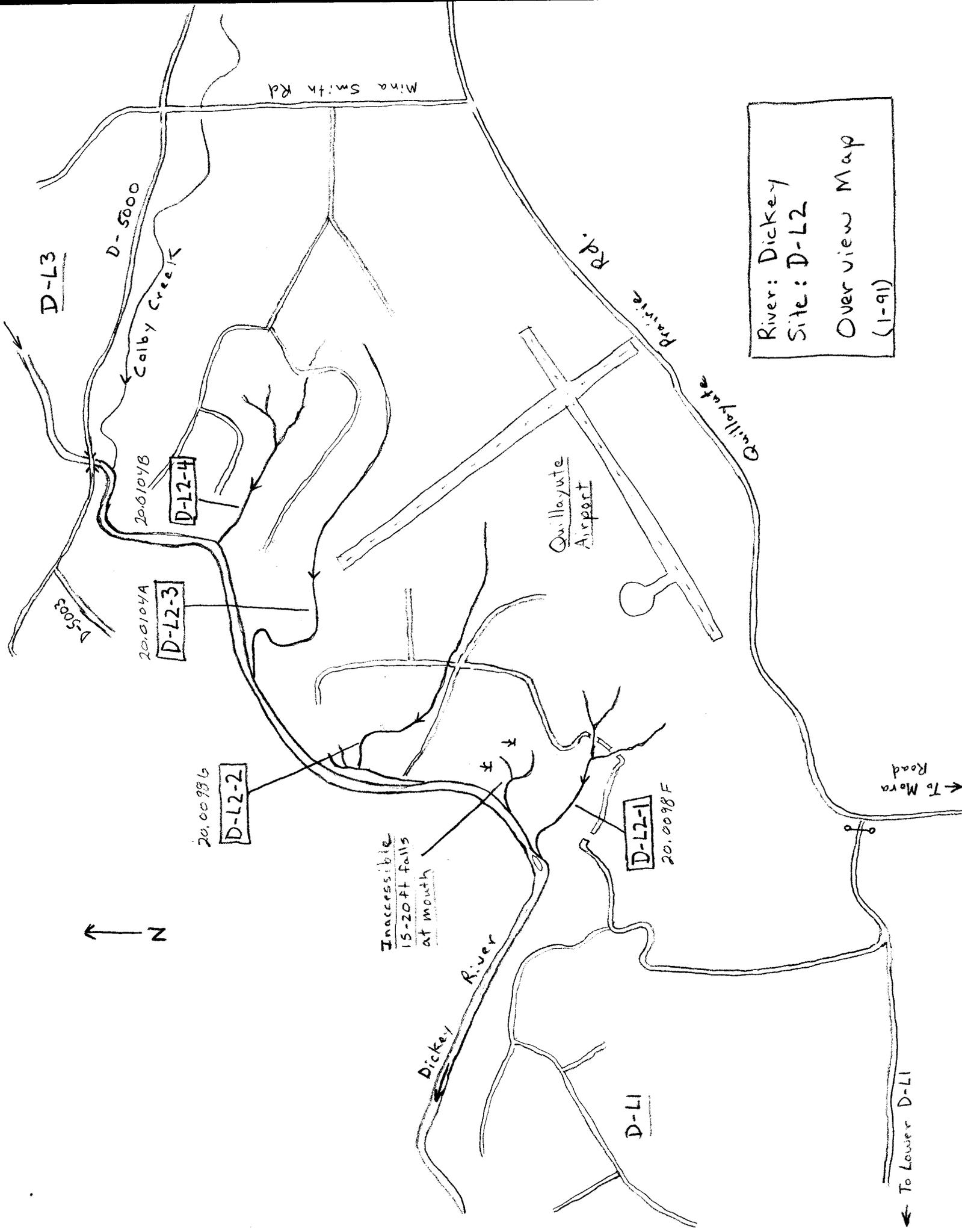
DATE: 2/1/95                      OBSERVER: Darrow, Nettnin

**MINNOW TRAPPING REPORT**

TRAP	DATE		DATE		COHO	CATCH			COTTID
	SET	TEMP	PULLED	TEMP		TROUT			
						RBT	CUTT	0+	
1	2/1	9.0°C	2/2	9.0°C	0	0	0	3	17
2	2/1	9.0°C	2/2	9.0°C	0	0	0	0	18
3	2/1	9.0°C	2/2	9.0°C	0	0	0	2	1
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TOTALS:					0	0	0	5	36

**COMMENTS:**

- Trapped during wet period.
- Salmon roe was used in all traps.
- All the traps were set above beaver dams.



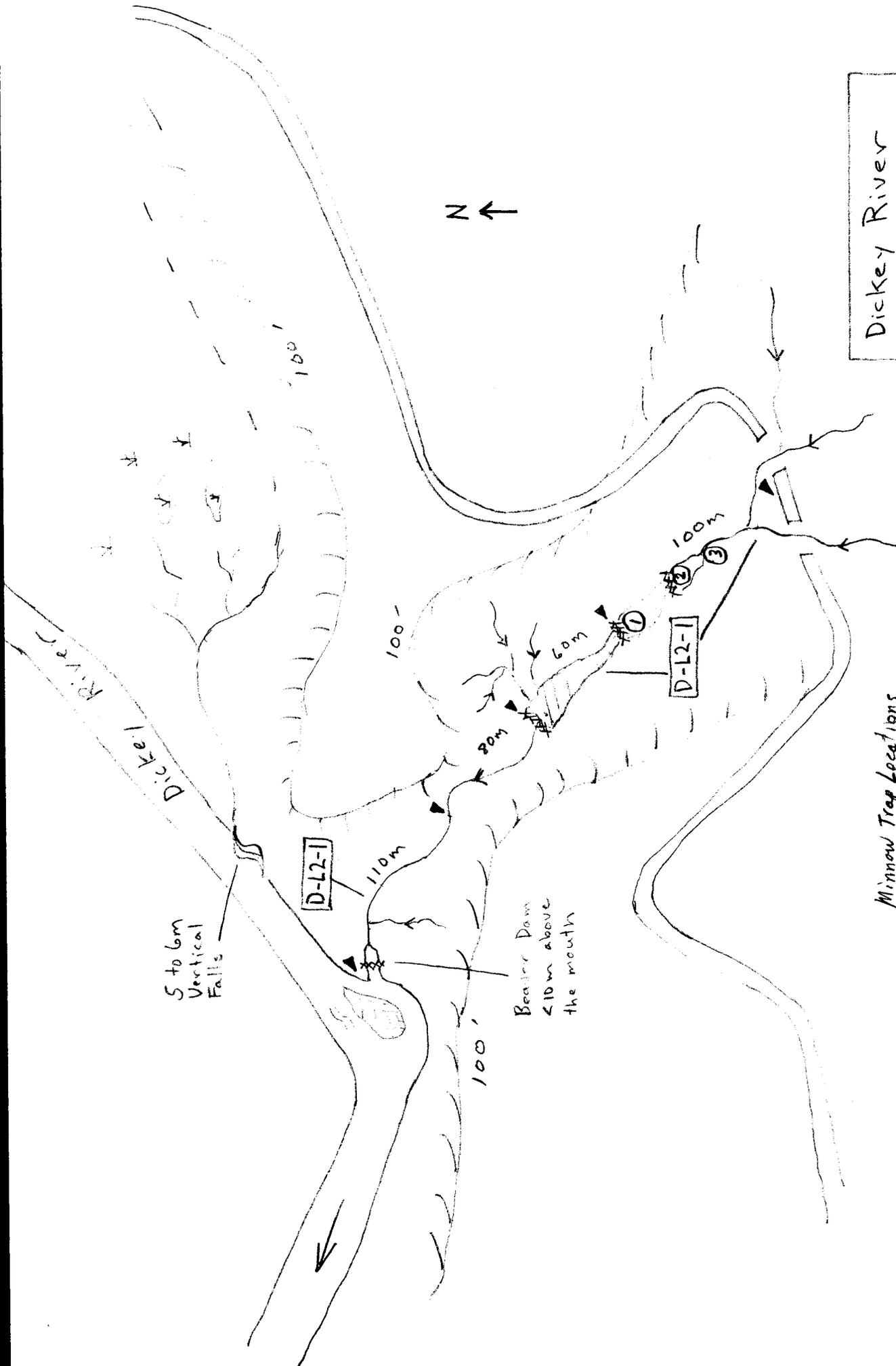
River: Dickey  
 Site: D-L2  
 Overview Map  
 (1-91)

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Inaccessible  
 15-20 ft falls  
 at mouth

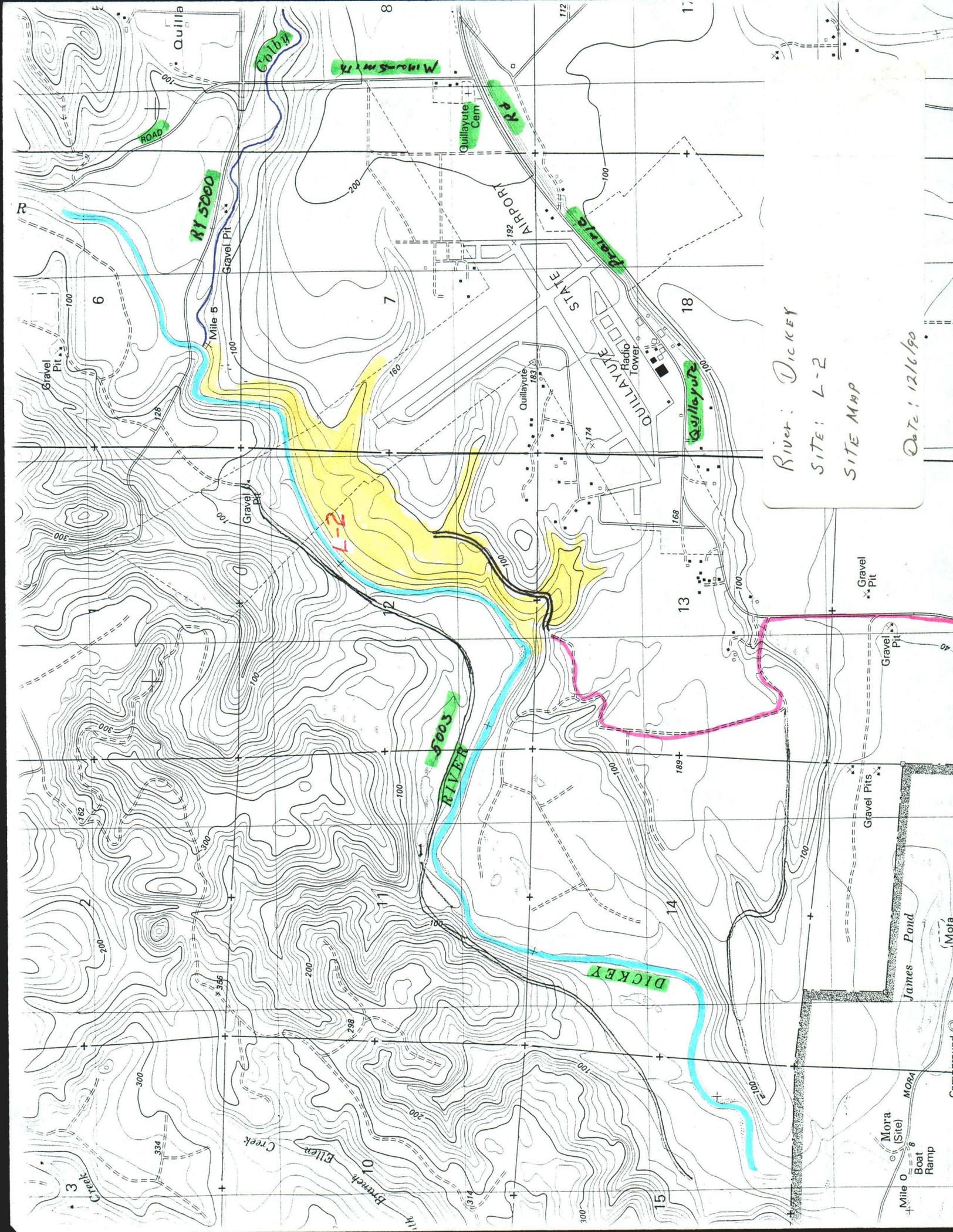
→ To Mora Road

← To Lower D-L1



Dickey River  
 Site: D-L2  
 Channel: D-L2-1  
 Name: Airfield Springs

Minnow Trap Locations  
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River: DICKEY  
SITE: L-2  
SITE MAP  
Date: 12/6/90