

SITE NUMBER: D-L2-03
LOCAL NAME: Runway Springs
WRIA: 20.0104A

NORTH COAST OFF CHANNEL SITE INVENTORY DATA

RIVER SYSTEM: Dickey **DATE:** 5/23/91 **OBSERVER:** Young

CHANNEL TYPE: Short valley wall trib.

TRIBUTARY TO: Dickey River (20.0097)

SITE LOCATION: L.B. @ River Mile: 4.4 (WDF)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NE1/4 S12 T28N R15W

	<u>UPPER END</u>	<u>LOWER END</u>	<u>RIVER TEMP</u>
<u>WATER TEMP:</u>	9.5 C	10 C	12 C

<u>FLOW (CFS):</u>	≤ 0.1	0.1 - 0.25
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SUBSTRATE TYPE: Primarily sand, silt with a few patches of gravel.

SITE SIZE:

- Length-** 1000 to 1200 m
- Width-** Chan.: Avg.= 2 to 3 m
Surf.: Avg.= 0.5 to 2.5 m. Beaver ponds 15 to 25 m.
- Depth-** Avg = 5 - 15 cm. Max.= 1 to 1.2 m (beaver ponds)

WATER SOURCE: Springs from the base of the Quillayute Prairie terrace.

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: Head north from Forks on Hwy 101. Turn left just beyond mp 193 (1.0 mi. north of Forks) onto the La Push Rd. Proceed west on La Push Rd about 3.1 miles. Turn right onto the Quillayute Rd. and continue west for 4.0 mi. Turn right onto Mina Smith Rd. (at Quillayute Cemetery) and proceed north 0.4 miles then turn left (west) onto a gravel road that parallels a power line. After about 0.3 mile the road makes a hard turn to the right (i.e. N.W.). Continue another 0.3 miles until the road forks. Stay left at the fork and follow this road about 0.75 mi. until it ends at a landing which overlooks the river. D-L2-03 is located in the valley to the left (southwest) of the road.

FISH ACCESS AND CURRENT USE: Good access at mouth. Restrictive woody debris jams with "filtered" flow in lower 170 m reach. Beaver dams located from 170 to 250 m above the mouth appear to greatly restrict juvenile access. Probably offers winter refuge habitat along the lower 100 m reach. No fish were seen in the channel.

FLOODING POTENTIAL: Lower half of lower reach is susceptible to backwater flooding. Remainder of channel has low flood potential.

LANDOWNER: Unknown at this time (probably ITT Rayonier)

COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS: The lower 250 m reach of D-L2-03 was origin-ally surveyed on 1/9/91. Insufficient data was collected at that time, however, to do a complete survey write up. Flows in D-L2-03 during this earlier survey were reported at 3 to 5 cfs and the water temperature was at 5 C. The river temperature on that day was reported at 4.5 C.

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COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS: (Continued)

D-L2-03 enters the river at a deep glide. The lowermost reach of the channel has a flat to gentle gradient. Present water depth here is from 5 to 10 cm. The substrate is very sandy gravel. A small, grass covered bar just up from the mouth, along with a shallow pool and undercut bank just below the mouth, seem to indicate good entrance conditions. Fry should be able to enter under current conditions. At higher flows a significant back eddy probably occurs here. During the initial survey (in January) the river level was 1 to 1.5 m higher and had created a backwater effect at the mouth. The entrance at that time was described as slough-like. Water in D-L2-03 during the earlier survey was reported as brown but clear. The river was described as very muddy.

The lower 50 m reach of D-L2-03 is deeply incised. The channel here is about 2 m wide with steep, 3 m high banks. The substrate is a sandy, silty gravel. Small jams of medium to small woody debris currently pose barriers to the upstream movement of fry.

As one continues upstream for the next 120 m, the channel maintains a moderate gradient and becomes less incised. Debris jams and scattered woody debris become more prevalent. Less and less gravel is seen.

An old, 1 m high by 35 m wide beaver dam, located about 170 m above the mouth of D-L2-03 appears to highly restrict, if not prohibit, juvenile coho passage above this point. This dam forms a 15 m wide by 65 m long pond, which lies perpendicular to the channel below the dam. The pond at first appears quite shallow, but may have a maximum depth of 1 m or more at peak capacity. Small springs flow from the toe of the hill which forms the right bank of the pond.

At the upper end of the lower pond is a second, 1.5 m high beaver dam. This dam appears impassible to up-migrating juvenile salmonids. The crescent-shaped pond behind the dam is 35 to 40 m long and 15 to 20 m wide. Lots of woody debris was strewn throughout this pond.

Above the second pond, D-L2-03 flows through a flat, wide-bottom (20 to 30 m wide) valley. The channel maintains a flat to gentle gradient as it meanders through sedge grass, skunk cabbage, ferns, and a few young alder and cascara trees. The canopy is mostly open. Small beaver dams occur throughout this 190 m long reach at about 20 to 30 m intervals. Only a minor amount of ponding was seen. Near the upper end of this reach the channel narrow somewhat and is shaded by 80 to 100 ft tall evergreens.

190 m above the second large beaver pond the channel makes a 90 degree turn to the north east. In great contrast to the previously described

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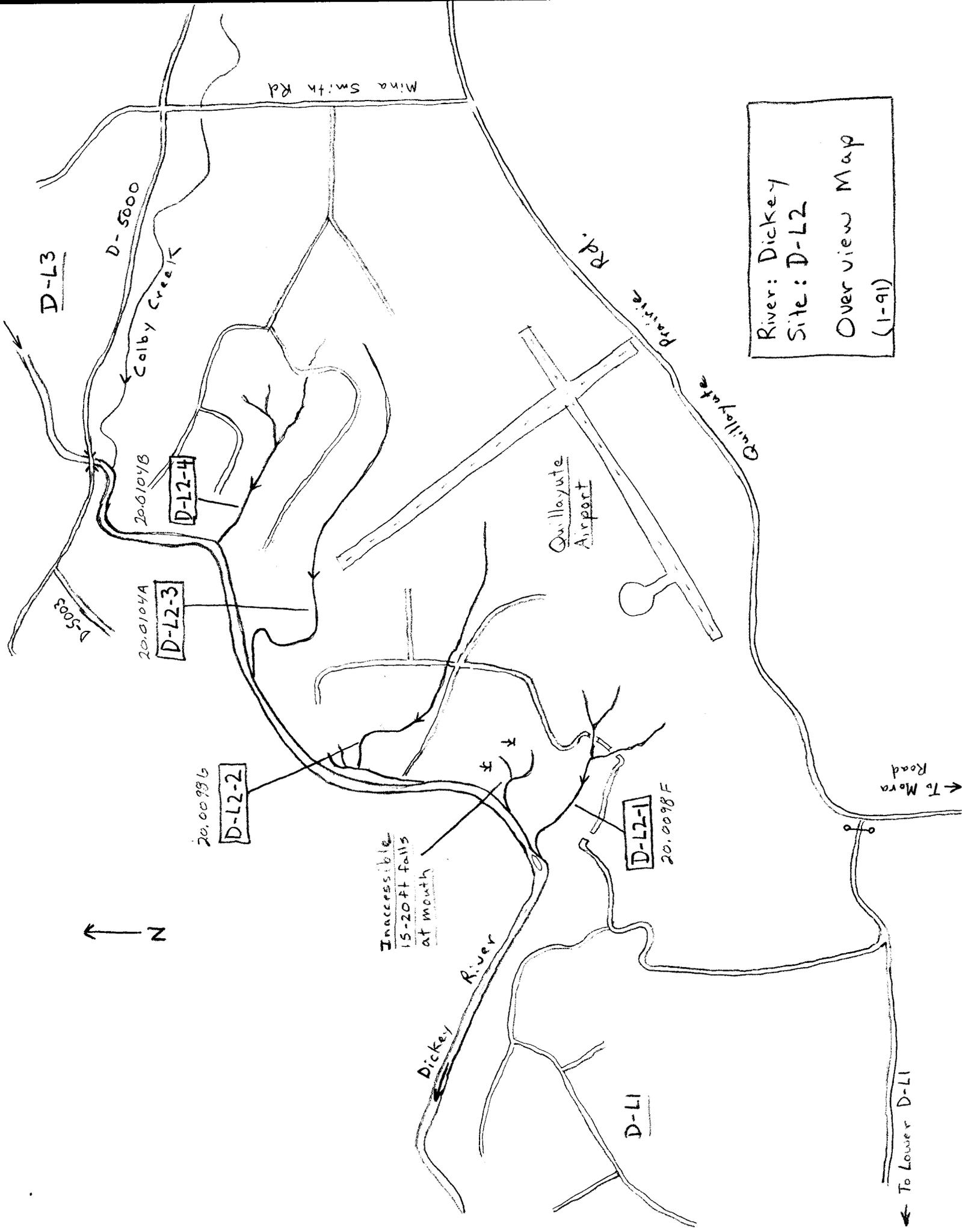
reach, the channel enters a narrow, v-shaped, heavily shaded valley and has a moderately steep gradient. A number of small springs were seen entering from the steep left bank. Some gravel was seen along the lower 100 m of this reach. Continuing upstream the valley gradually widens again and the gradient becomes flatter. About 300 m up into the valley the channel becomes braided as it flows around and through woody debris.

A old dump site occurs along the left bank of D-L2-03 about 100 m above the lower end of the braided channel. This dump appears to originate from the end of the runway at the Quillayute Airport (and can be seen in the 1981 photos). Most of the refuse material pushed off the runway and into the valley appears to be cedar waste. However, a car body, pieces of old barrels and other metal scraps were also seen. Most of the refuse seems to be back some distance from the channel. This dump does not currently appear to be active.

Above the dump site the valley continues to widen. The substrate here is mostly deep to very deep muck (at least thigh deep in places). Skunk cabbage and heavy brush is prevalent along the channel. The side slopes of the valley support harvestable evergreens.

About 150 to 200 m above the old dump site, a 1 m high by 20 to 30 m wide beaver dam backs water into another wide, flat-bottom reach of the valley. This dam shows signs of fresh activity. The survey was terminated at this dam. The ponded areas above the dam are wide and shallow and appear to extend upstream for another 200 m or so. The side slopes along the right bank of the channel have been clear cut to the top of the ridge (where the access road to this site is located). This tends to leave a mostly open canopy along this upper swampy reach. Numerous seep springs were seen entering from off of the steep right bank. The USGS topographical map indicates that D-L2-03 may continue upstream a short distance further, but the channel appears to narrow and steepen rapidly above this wide upper swamp.

Selective debris and beaver dam removal along with installation of control structures could be beneficial to the coho rearing potential of D-L2-03. The moderate to gentle gradient of the channel would allow fish access to the entire area surveyed. The mucky substrate along much of the channel could be difficult to work with. Debris removal could have some detrimental effects by allowing this material to flush out into the river. Machine access might be possible, but would be difficult at best.



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

N

Inaccessible
 15-20 ft falls
 at mouth

← To Mora Road

← To Lower D-L1



Dickey River

170m

old cat
Trail?

35m

190

60-80'

400m

Dump Site

200m

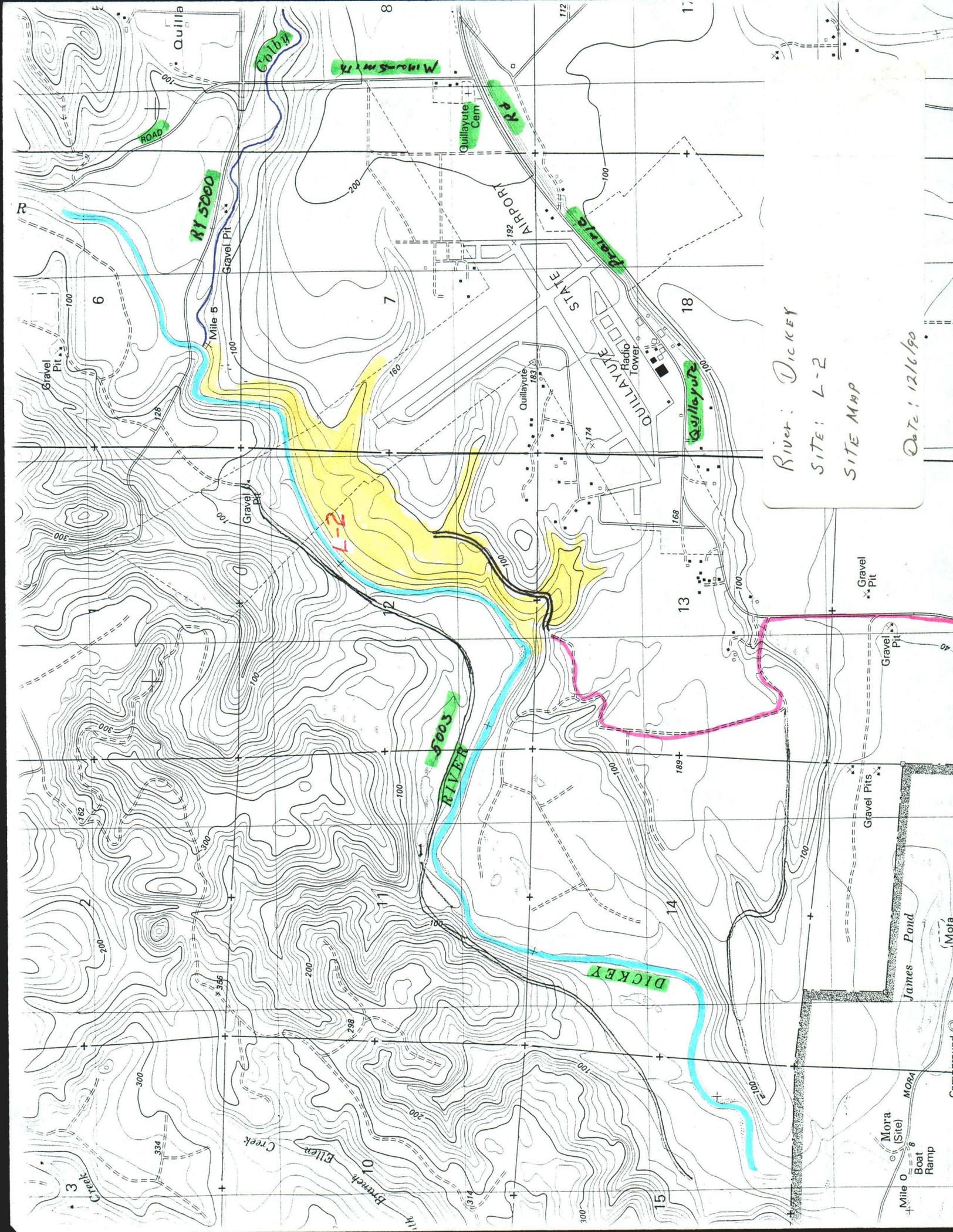
60-80'

Spur Road
is 60-80'
above D-L2-3

Runway is 60-80'
higher than D-L2-3

Quillayute Airport
Runway

Dickey River
Site: D-L2
Channel: D-L2-3
Runway Springs



River: Dickey
SITE: L-2
SITE MAP
Date: 12/6/90