SITE NUMBER: ED-121L-01
LOCAL NAME: Cattail Springs
WRIA: 20.0121A

NORTH COAST OFF CHANNEL SITE INVENTORY DATA

RIVER SYSTEM: E. F. Dickey **DATE:** 2/20/92 **OBSERVER:** Young

CHANNEL TYPE: Terrace Tributary

TRIBUTARY TO: Skunk Cr. (20.0121)

SITE LOCATION: L.B. @ R.M. 0.7 (as measured in the field)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SW1/4 S20 T30N R13W

	UPPER END	LOWER END	20.0121 TEMP.
WATER TEMP:	6.5° C	6.0° C	6.0° C
FLOW (CFS):	Seeps	0.25 - 0.5 cfs	

SUBSTRATE TYPE: Silt, mud, and soft clay.

SITE SIZE: **Length-** Main channel = 435 m
Width- Surface = 30 cm - 2 m
Channel = 1 - 3 m
Depth- Avg = 5 - 15 cm (Max = 15 - 20 cm)

WATER SOURCE: Seep springs and run off from the valley side slope.

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: Go north from Forks on Hwy 101 about 8.4 mi. then turn left onto Lk. Pleasant Rd. (0.4 mi. north of MP 200). Stay on the main road going past the community park and across the Lake Cr. bridge. Turn right and continue up the county road (along the northwest shore of the lake) to the end of the pavement. This road then becomes the 9000 mainline. Continue on the 9000 another 6.0 miles (going past the 9300 & 6000 line junctions) until coming to a new (c.1990) concrete bridge. Continue another 0.2 mi. beyond the bridge to the junction with the 9400. Turn left at the Rayonier gate (need a key) onto the 9400. Continue about 0.9 mi. to the 9410 junction. Keep left and follow the 9410 until coming to the third stringer bridge (about 1.7 mi.). Proceed about 0.1 mi. and then turn right (just as the 9410 starts up the hill) onto an old spur road. The upper end of ED-121L-01 is just beyond the end of this spur. The channel runs southwest along the toe of the hill toward Skunk Creek.

FISH ACCESS AND CURRENT USE: Mouth of channel appears to offer good access to juvenile coho. Lower 50 to 100 m reach is probably utilized to some extent. Fish may penetrate further upstream during periods of heavy run off. Stranding seems likely to occur during long dry periods. No spawning habitat is present.

FLOODING POTENTIAL: Low.

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

IDENTIFIED WETLAND SPECIES: Slough sedge, cattail, reeds.

COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS: ED-121L-01 originates as a wet depression at the base of a 4 to 6 m high terrace wall just beyond the end of an old spur road. It then runs across a recent clear-cut and along the toe of the valley side slope for some 400 m before entering Skunk Creek. The ground adjacent to ED-121L-01 supports 5 year old hemlock and spruce.

The upper 150 m reach of ED-121L-01 is poorly defined as water seeps across the gently sloping ground through a network of very shallow, braided channels. The ground is saturated. Ankle deep mud is found in places. Medium to small debris (i.e. slash) is scattered throughout this upper reach. A few "clumps" of cattail are also seen.

About 150 m below the "headwaters" of ED-121L-01 the water converges into a single channel. On the day of this survey the surface width here was from 60 cm to 1.2 m and the depth ranged from 5 to 10 cm. Flow was estimated at 0.1 to 0.2 cfs.

About 70 m further down the channel a series of small tribs and seeps are seen entering from off the left bank. These tribs flow off of a relatively large, well-vegetated, alluvial fan. The alluvium originates from a small valley wall trib. ED-121L-01 flows along the base of this "fan" for about 80 m, picking up a significant amount of water.

About 35 m below the lower end of the alluvial fan, ED-121L-01 runs up against the edge of a patch of timber. A lot of LOD is seen here as the channel starts to become incised and the gradient increases.

15 to 20 m further downstream a significant right bank trib converges with ED-121L-01. This dark watered tributary flows out of a dense 20 to 25 year old stand of spruce trees. Flow in the trib appears to be in the range of 0.1 to 0.2 cfs. Water cascades over woody debris at the mouth of this trib and in ED-121L-01 just upstream of its confluence with the trib. Coho rearing habitat in the lower 130 m reach of the right bank trib appears marginal.

Downstream of the right bank trib, the channel of ED-121L-01 is narrow and deeply incised for a distance of about 20 m. Water flows out of this deeply cut channel onto an open, 50 m wide, sedge covered flat. Upon entering the flat, the flow splits into three separate channels. The right and middle channels converge before entering Skunk Creek. The left channel enters about 50 m further downstream. Water in the middle channel, which appears to be the "main" channel, flows into a hole and under a large standing spruce tree before entering Skunk Creek.

The sedge covered flat in the lower 50 m reach of ED-121L-01 is surround-ed on three sides by higher ground and appears well protected from Skunk Creek. It might be possible to develop a good size "refuge bay" in this area. Development of beaded channel ponds along the middle reach might permit fish to survive through winter dry spells. ED-121L-01 is most likely dry during the summer.

DATE: 2/6/92 **OBSERVER:** Young

This is actually a preliminary survey of ED-121L-01. This data was collected during a physical survey of the Skunk Creek mainstem. Only conditions near the mouth of channel ED-121L-01 were noted.

Flow was estimated at 10 to 20 gal/min. The water temp was 6.5°C (about 44°F). Water temp in Skunk Creek was at 6°C. The water in ED-121L-01 was reported as very tannic colored. Appears to have a fairly flat gradient. A nice open flat area just above the mouth could have a potential for the development of a refuge bay. Channel flows under a large standing spruce tree just above the mouth.

DATE: 3/23/92 **OBSERVER:** Young

Note: Less than 0.5 inches of rain has fallen during the last 2 1/2 weeks (less than 2.5 inches in the last month).

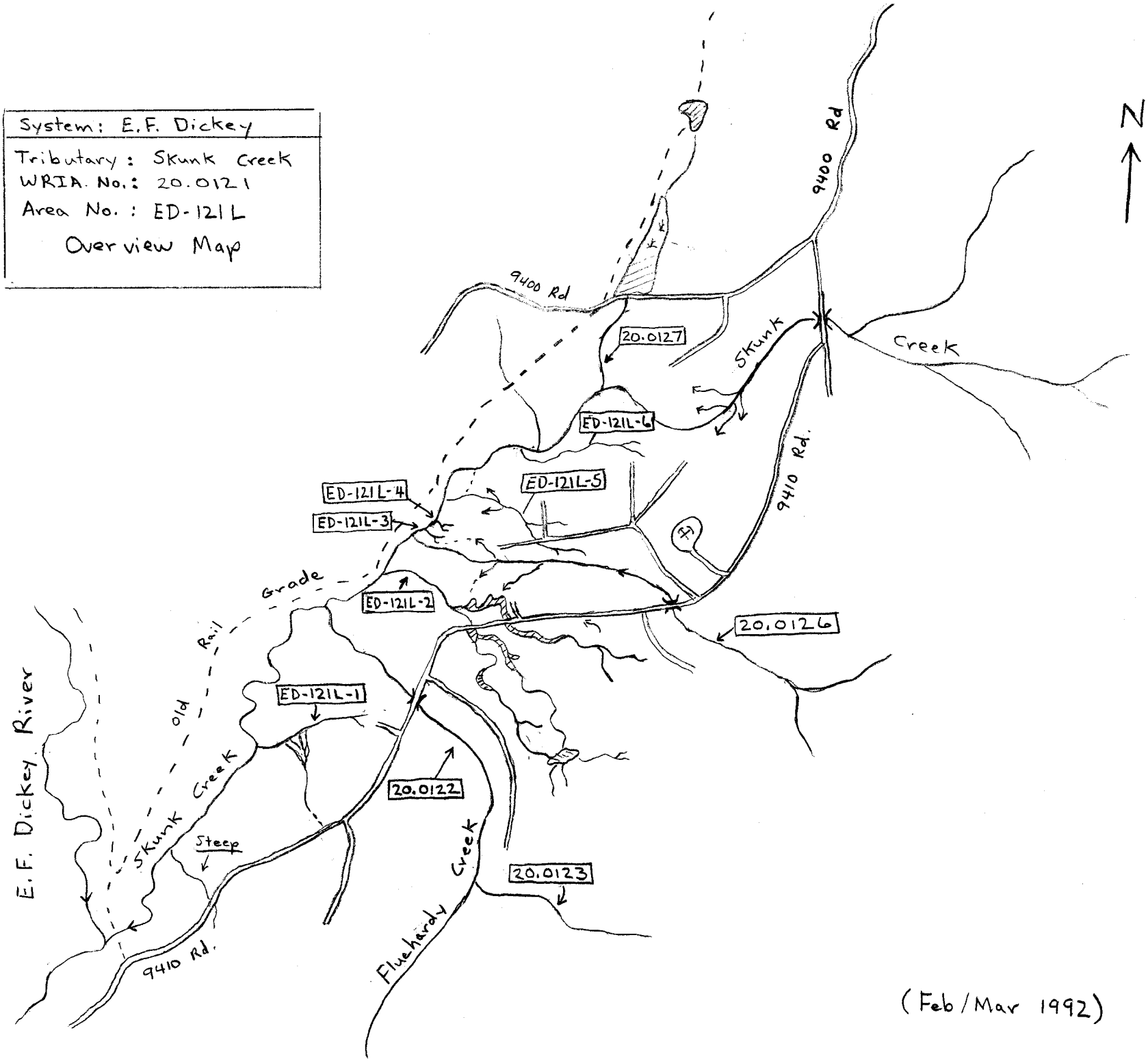
No surface flow at the mouth of ED-121L-01. 50 to 100 coho fry were seen in a deep isolated pool just above the mouth of the channel (water temp was 9° C). The right and left channels in the sedge covered flat are dry. A trickle of water (less than 5 gal/min) was seen in the center channel. A trickle of water was also seen coming from the mouth of the right bank trib. (85 m above the mouth).

Unless a few pools along the channel have remained watered, the chances for the survival of juvenile coho in ED-121L-01 appear very slim.

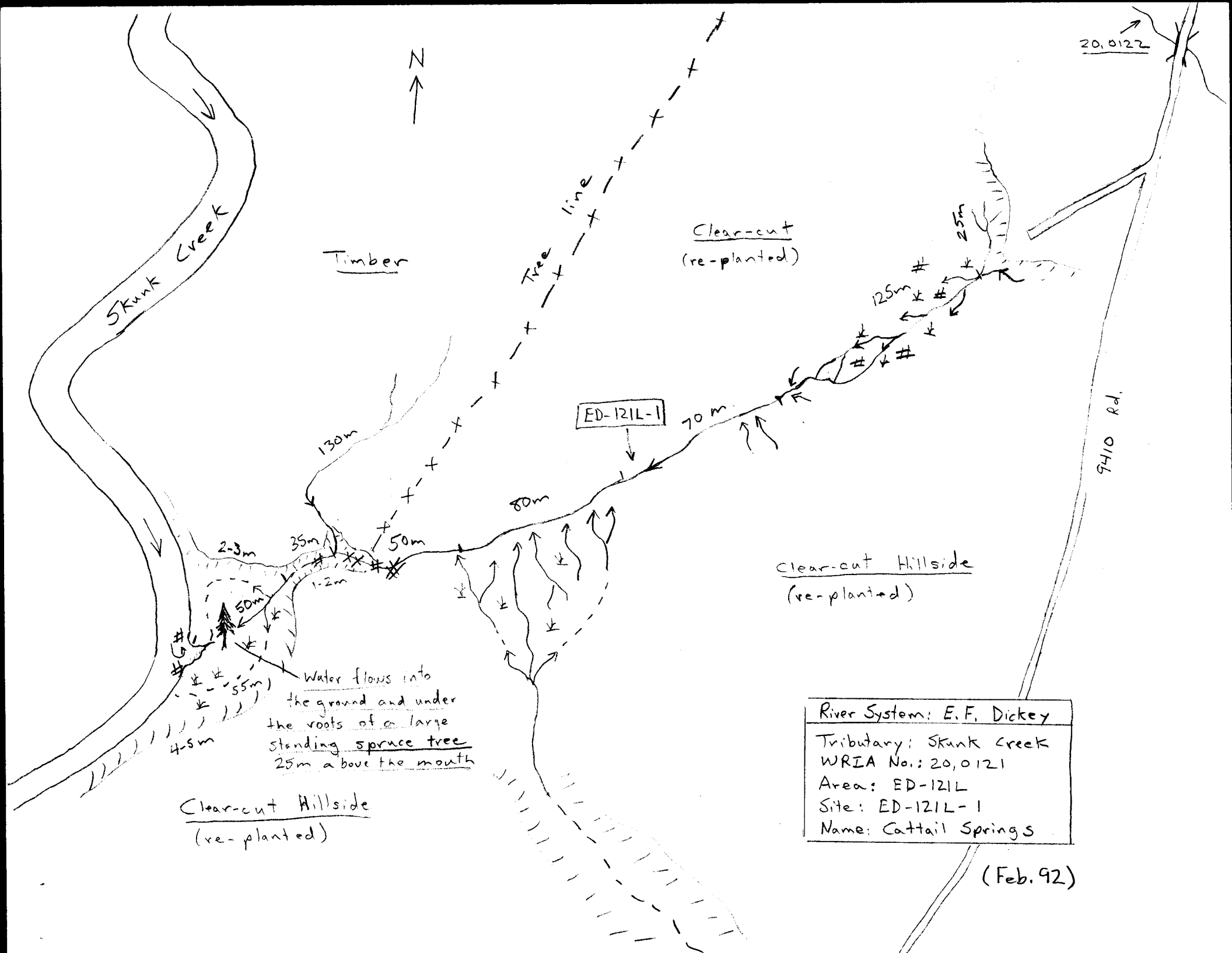
System: E.F. Dickey

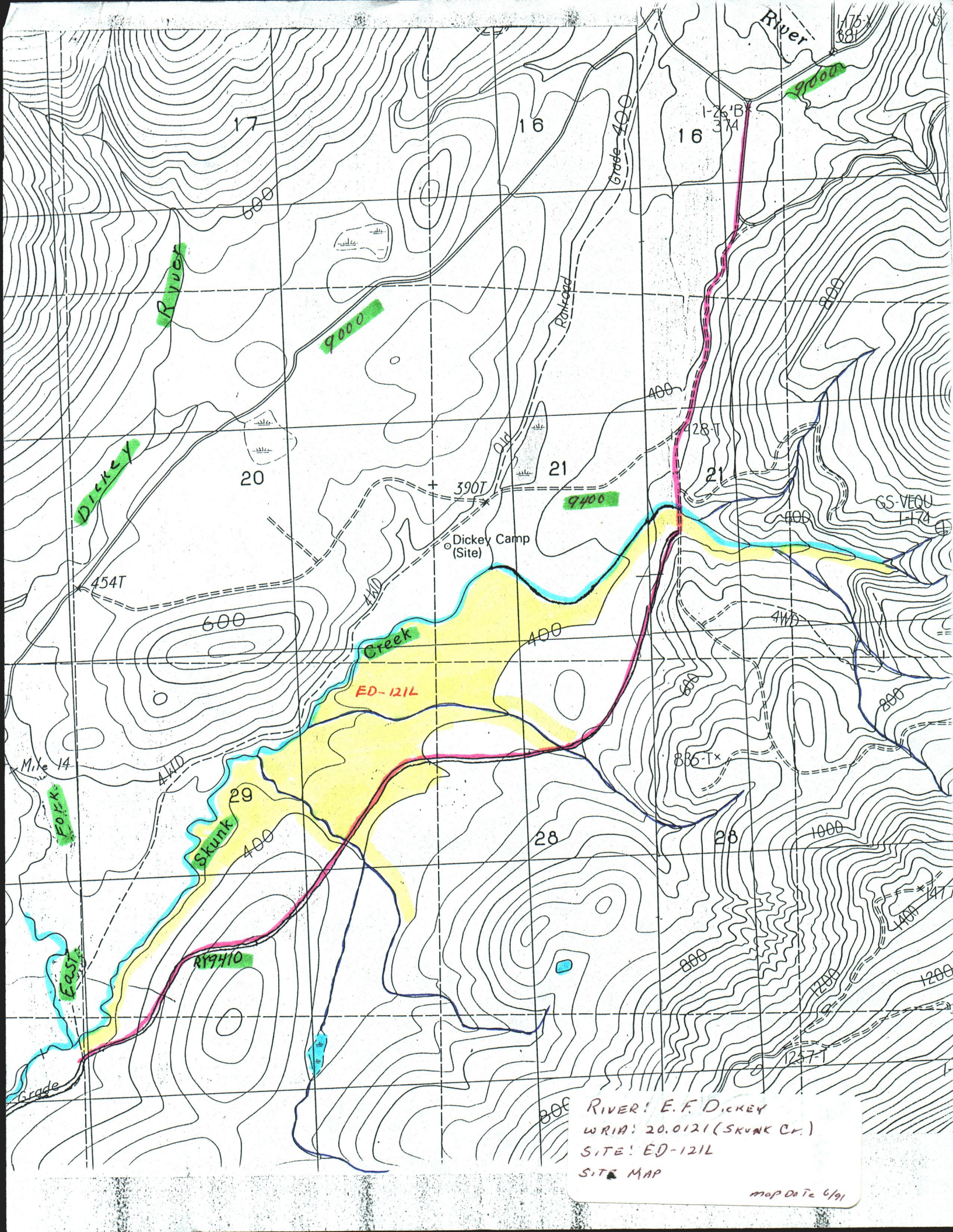
Tributary: Skunk Creek
WRIA No.: 20.0121
Area No.: ED-121L

Overview Map



(Feb/Mar 1992)


20,0122
N
Skunk Creek
Timber
Tree line
Clear-cut
(re-planted)
25m
125m
ED-121L-1
70m
80m
130m
50m
35m
2-3m
1-2m
50m
55m
4-5m
Water flows into the ground and under the roots of a large standing spruce tree 25m above the mouth
Clear-cut Hillside
(re-planted)
Clear-cut Hillside
(re-planted)
9410 Rd.
River System: E.F. Dickey
Tributary: Skunk Creek
WRIA No.: 20,0121
Area: ED-121L
Site: ED-121L-1
Name: Cattail Springs
(Feb. 92)



RIVER: E.F. DICKEY
WRIA: 20.0121 (SKUNK Cr.)
SITE: ED-121L
SITE MAP

map Date 6/91