**SITE NUMBER:** ED-121L-04
**LOCAL NAME:** Chaos Springs No. 2
**WRIA:**

## NORTH COAST OFF CHANNEL SITE INVENTORY DATA

**RIVER SYSTEM:** E. F. Dickey **DATE:** 3/4/92 **OBSERVER:** Young

**CHANNEL TYPE:** Terrace Tributary

**TRIBUTARY TO:** Skunk Cr. (20.0121)

**SITE LOCATION:** LB @ RM 1.65 (field measurement) Note: WDF Stream Catalog indicates this channel enters just upstream of RM 1.4

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** NE1/4 S29 T30N R13W

| | UPPER END | LOWER END | 20.0121 TEMP. |
|---|---|---|---|
| **WATER TEMP:** | N/A | 9.5 ° C | 9.0 ° C |
| **FLOW (CFS):** | Seeps | 10 - 15 gal/min | |

**SUBSTRATE TYPE:** Mud and muck.

**SITE SIZE:**
**Length-** 90 - 100 m
**Width-** Channel: 60 cm - 5 m Surface: 20 cm - 4 m
**Depth-** 5 - 10 cm

**WATER SOURCE:** Overflow and seeps from the alluvial fan of trib 20.0126.

**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 0.2 mi. beyond the bridge to the junction with the 9400. Turn left onto the 9400 (a key is needed for the locked Rayonier gate) and continue about 0.9 mi. to the junction with the 9410. Keep left and follow the 9410 about 0.9 mi. Turn right onto an old grade just prior to the second stringer bridge. Follow this old grade along right bank of the creek (WRIA 20.0126), down the hill and out into a clearcut flat. Turn left at the three way intersection and proceed to the end of this spur. Hike to the west north-west until coming to Skunk Cr. Four egress channels enter Skunk Cr in a 200 m long reach. The largest channel appears to be the main outlet channel for trib 20.0126. The next three channels upstream are ED-121L-03, 04 and 05 (Chaos Springs 1, 2 and 3).

**FISH ACCESS AND CURRENT USE:** Juvenile fish may be drawn into ED-121L-04 during periods of heavy run off and high flows in Skunk Creek. It seems very likely that these fish could become stranded during normal fall and winter dry periods. A fairly shallow, relatively wide, 5 by 30 m pool a short distance above the mouth appears to provide the most stable short term rearing habitat.

**FLOODING POTENTIAL:** Low to moderate.

**LANDOWNER:** Unknown at this time (possibly ITT Rayonier and DNR).

**IDENTIFIED WETLAND SPECIES:** None were noted.

**COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:** ED-121L-04 (like ED-121-03) appears to be a fairly minor channel that serves as one of four main egress routes for water in the alluvial fan area of tributary 20.0126. The narrow channel drops about 1 m in the lower 5 to 10 m reach and enters Skunk Creek at a nice back eddy pool with LOD. A short distance above this fairly steep egress the channel flattens and widens at a 30 m long by 5 m wide, shallow pool that may serve as a natural refuge bay.

The lower 80 m reach of ED-121L-04 is fairly well defined as it passes through a brushy RMZ strip along Skunk Creek. Above the RMZ, the channel (like ED-121L-3) quickly diffuses into a network of small, poorly defined "capillary" channels which drain the gently sloping alluvial area to the east.

It seems likely that fish might enter ED-121L-04 during higher flows and become stranded as flows drop off. Further development of the small natural refuge bay pool just above the mouth of the channel might be possible. Measures should probably be taken to discourage fish from moving any further upstream (i.e. above the refuge bay).

Another option to discourage fish from entering ED-121L-04 would be to divert its water into one of the other egress channels. Channelization of tributary 20.0126 through its alluvial fan area might be a remote possibility. Since coho are known to spawn in tributary 20.0126 (see physical survey), stranding of adult fish and young of the year fry in the alluvial fan area also seems likely.

Machine access to this site is available.

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

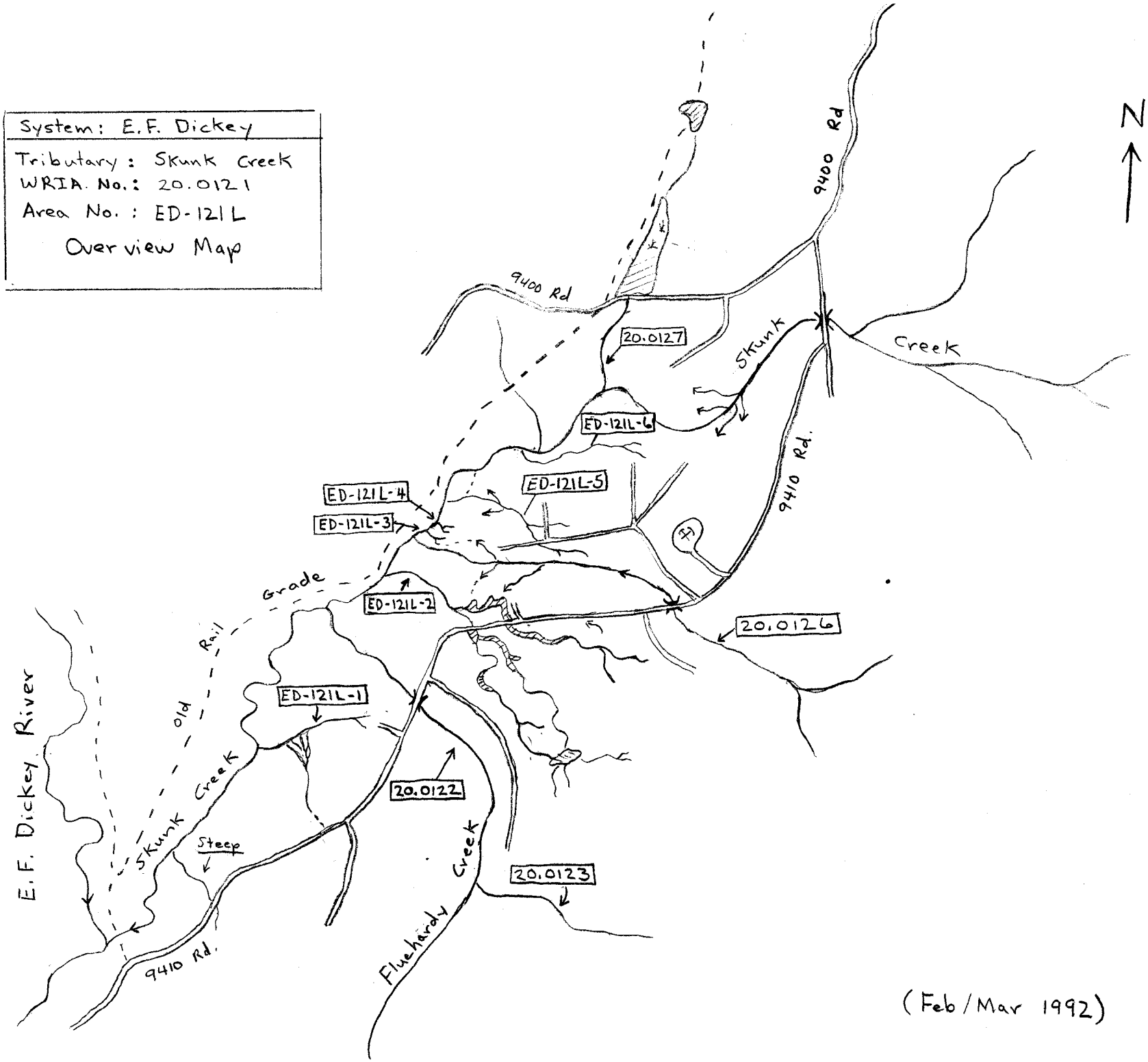
This data was collected during a physical survey of the Skunk Creek mainstem that was conducted prior to the survey of the ED-121L-04. Only conditions near the mouth of channel ED-121L-04 were noted.

Flow was noted as "just a trickle". A wide shallow pool just above the mouth contains very clear water. It was also noted that the four left bank channels along this reach of Skunk Creek appeared to flow out of a common area.

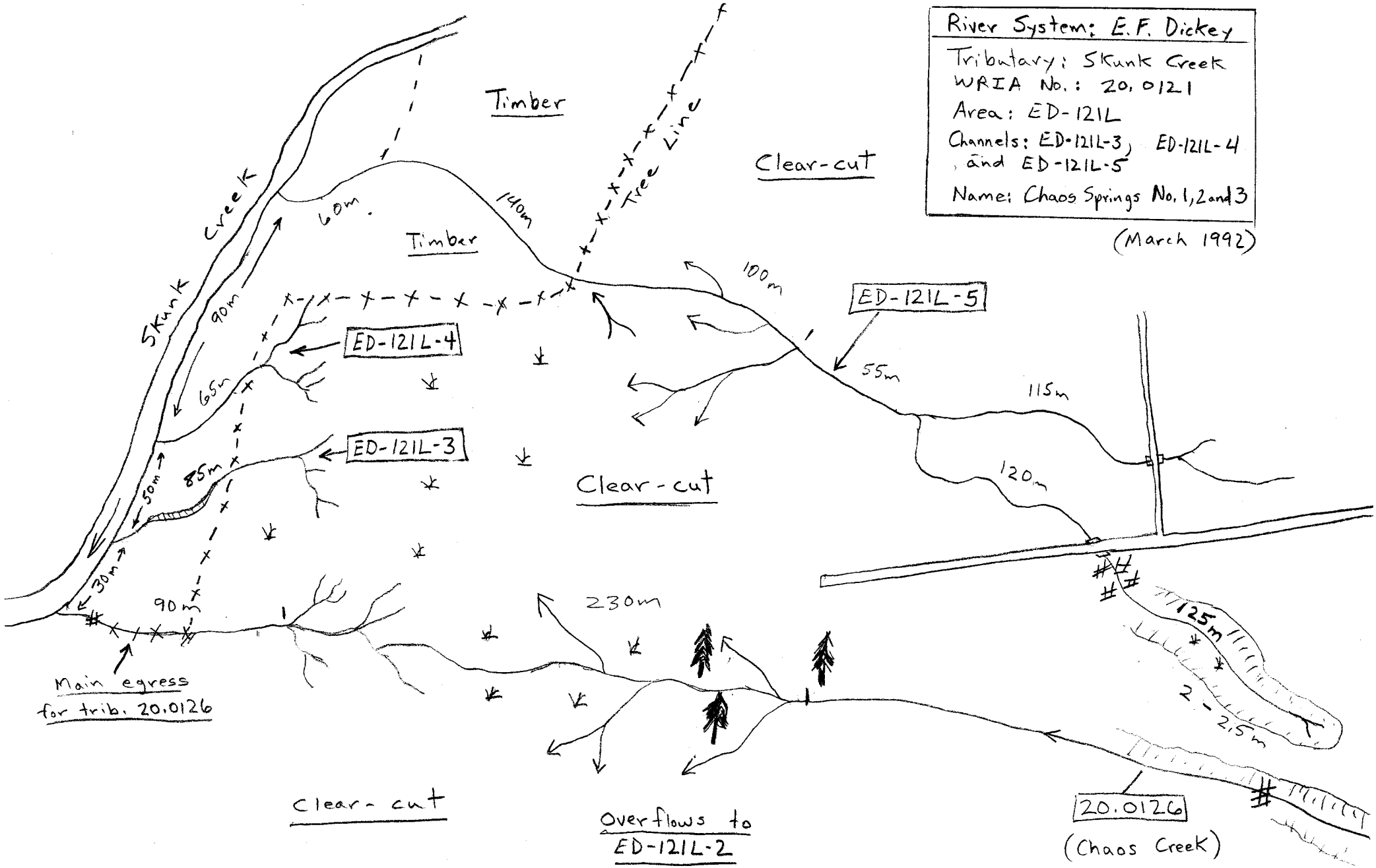
System: E.F. Dickey

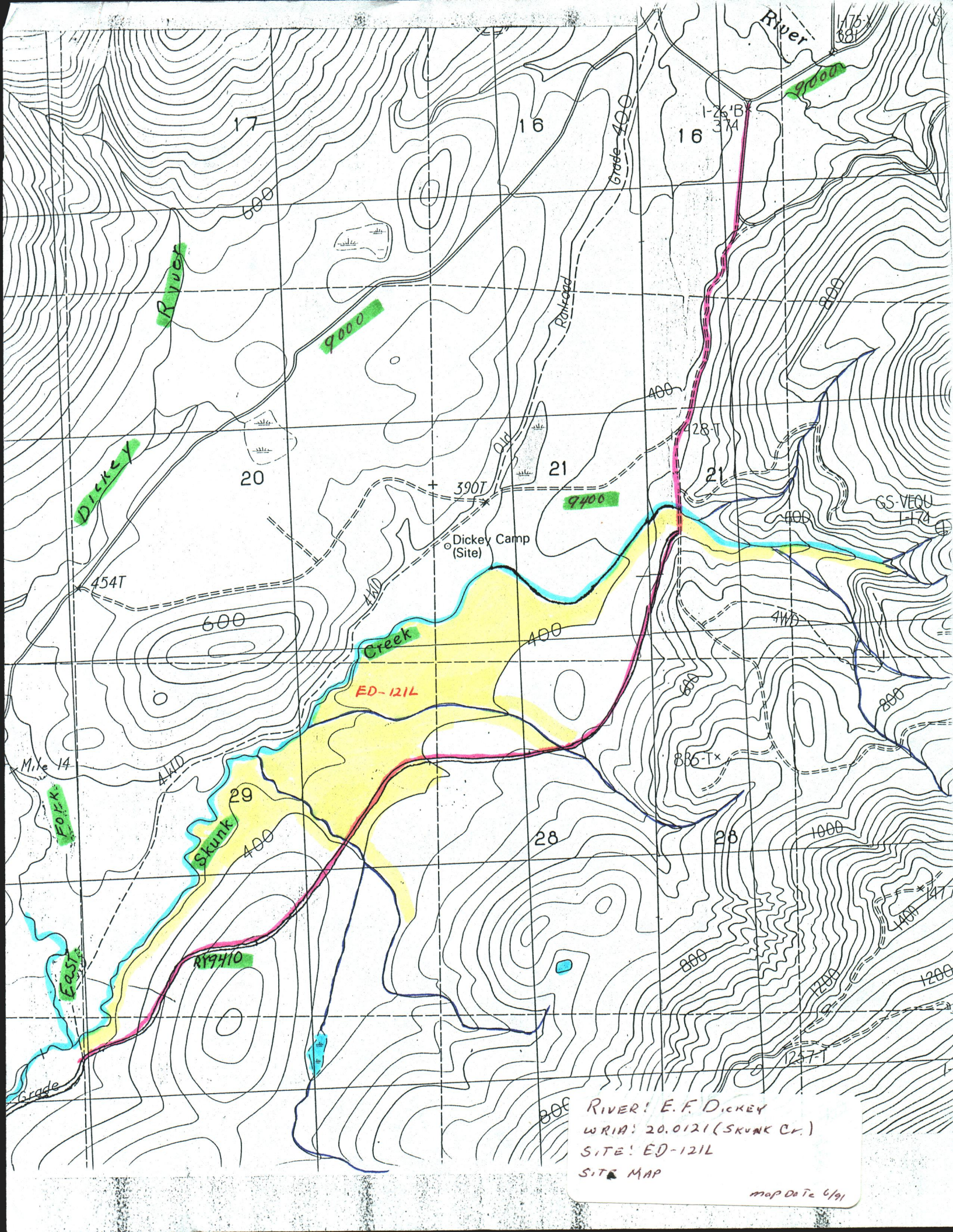
Tributary: Skunk Creek
WRIA No.: 20.0121
Area No.: ED-121L

Overview Map




(Feb/Mar 1992)


River System: E.F. Dickey
Tributary: Skunk Creek
WRIA No.: 20.0121
Area: ED-121L
Channels: ED-121L-3, ED-121L-4, and ED-121L-5
Name: Chaos Springs No. 1, 2 and 3
(March 1992)
Timber
Clear-cut
Tree Line
Skunk Creek
60m
140m
Timber
100m
90m
ED-121L-5
ED-121L-4
65m
55m
115m
ED-121L-3
85m
50m
120m
Clear-cut
30m
90m
230m
125m
2 - 2.5m
Main egress for trib. 20.0126
clear-cut
Overflows to ED-121L-2
20.0126
(Chaos Creek)




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

map Date 6/91