STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE

LANDS AND RESTORATION SERVICES PROGRAM

Salmonid Screening, Habitat Enhancement &
Restoration Division (SSHEAR)

OFF-CHANNEL SITE INVENTORY DATA

General Information:

Region: North Coast

Observer(s): Powell

River System: Sol Duc

Date: 4/8/97

Site Identifier: S-0306

WRIA: 20.0306

River Mile Location: 0.8 (hip chained)

RB/LB: LB

Local Name: Fossil Creek

Trib. to: Tassel Cr. (20.0305)

Legal Description: NE¼ Sec 33 T29N R13W

County: Clallam

Habitat Type: Terrace tributary

Landowner: () Federal () State () County () Other Government (X) Private
- Fletcher
- Bloedel Timber

Directions to site:
Starting at Forks (Tillicum Park) drive north on Highway 101 for 1.8 miles to Whitcomb-Diimmel Road. Take a right and follow this road for ~0.7 mi. There will be a gated logging road to the right - this is a Bloedel Timber gate. Walk the road for ~0.65 mi and you will cross Tassel Creek (S-0305). Just beyond the crossing, the road will "Y" - stay to the left and follow in the north direction. Follow this road for ~0.5 mi where Fossil Creek (S-0306) crosses the road.

Site Overview:
This moderate size, low gradient channel has been impacted by logging in recent years. It's lower to mid reaches have large amounts of silt mixed into the gravel substrate due to fines in the unstable banks and lack of flushing flows. The upper reach offers quality overwintering habitat due to numerous beaver ponds. Some of the dams are large are only passable during higher flows. This channel has not been fully utilized for many years due to an anadromous barrier in Tassel Creek; the culvert was replaced in 1997.

Habitat Information:

Water source: Surface runoff, road runoff and tributaries

Intermittent/year-around:
- Probably year-around

Estimated flows (cfs): 2+

Water temperatures: 6.5° C

Adjacent stream temperature (20.0305): 6.5° C

Other water observations: Water is clear

Site area measurements: () Indirect () Direct (X) Combination
Widths: Channel- 1.0 m - 1.8 m Ponds- 10+ Wetlands-30+
Depths: Channel- 10 cm - 45 cm Ponds- 0.5+ Wetlands-
Total length (includes ponds and wetlands): 2030 m

Total existing habitat area (est.): 6445 m²
Spawning area: 550 m²
Impounded area: 4200 m²
Other rearing area: 1695 m²

Spawning Habitat conditions: () None (X) Poor () Fair () Good () Excellent

Describe spawning habitat:
- There is gravel in this channel up to the beaver ponds but it is mixed with a large amount of fines.
- There is a moderate to high amount of the RMZ in the lower and mid sections that have blown down with large amounts of silt in the root balls. This will continue to add silt into the system.
- A physical that was done on this channel in the 1970's stated that it had fair/good spawning potential.

Rearing habitat conditions: () None () Poor () Fair (X) Good () Excellent

Describe pond and other rearing habitat:
- This is a lower gradient channel with more stable winter flows.
- In the lower reach of this channel, there is a large amount of blow-down spanning the channel's width.
- The mid reach has a moderate amount of blow-down.
- The lower and mid reach banks are mostly silt.
- The lower and mid reaches have LOD, small woody debris and brush for cover. The overhead canopy is alder and conifer.
- The upper reach has numerous active beaver dams. Some are passable only during higher flows.
- The ponds are variable in size, depth and complexity.
- The beaver pond area has alder with conifer on the fringes, LOD, sedges and brush.
- The farthest upstream dam is ~50 m long and extends into timbered area. There are many stunted or dead trees in this area.

Describe unaccessible habitat:
- Some of the beaver dams are blockages during lower flows.

Describe wetland: () Bog () Marsh (X) Scrub-shrub Wetland (X) Forested Wetland
- Upstream of the double culvert crossing is a small, pooled sedge wetland with water braiding from a wooded wetland on the fringes.
- The beaver pond area has sedge, water parsley, skunk cabbage and other aquatic plants.
- Forested wetlands are around the beaver area and have alder, stunted conifer, brush and sedges.

Flooding potential: (X) Low () Medium () High
- None

Fish Information:

Site entry condition to (Tassel Cr 20.0305): () Poor () Fair (X) Good
- The stream has an open egress.

Coho access and use:
Juvenile- (X) Unknown () None () Poor () Fair () Good
Adult- (X) Unknown () None () Poor () Fair () Good
- Coho have not been able to utilize this system for many years due to an andaromous block on Tassel Creek (S-0305).

Other species access and use: () Chum () Pink () Sockeye () Chinook (X) Trout
- Trout were observed in the lower to mid reaches.

Habitat Improvements:

Enhancement opportunities:
- Double culverts at Bloedel logging road crossing will eventually need to be replaced.
- Protect channel banks from further silt loading.

Other Comments:
- The Tassel Creek (S-3050) culvert crossing at Whitcomb-Diimmel road was an andaromous block for many years. Culvert was replaced in 1997.

Attachments Available:

Contact respective SSHEAR habitat biologist for the following checked items:

(X) Aerials	(X) Sketch	(X) Maps	(X) Culvert Report
() Other references	() Spawning surveys	(X) Juvenile trapping	() Fishway Report

NORTH COAST OFF CHANNEL SURVEY
SUBSEQUENT SITE EVALUATION FORM

River System: Sol Duc

Site No.: S-0306
Site Name: Fossil Creek
WRIA: S-0306

DATE: 2-1-98 **OBSERVER:** Powell

MINNOW TRAPPING REPORT

TRAP	DATE SET	TEMP	DATE PULLED	TEMP	CATCH COHO	TROUT RBT	TROUT CUTT	TROUT 0+	COTTID
1	1/31	7.0°C	2/1		0	1	1	0	7
2	1/31	7.0°C	2/1		0	0	1	0	0
3	1/31	7.0°C	2/1		0	0	0	0	0
				TOTALS:	0	1	2	0	7

COMMENTS:
Tassel Cr barrier culvert on the Whitcomb-Diimmel Road was replaced this summer (1997). One coho redd was observed in Fossil Cr and redds were observed above both culverts on Tassel Cr this winter by the Quilleute stream surveyors. This channel should reflect (in part) this season's escapment for both creeks and should be minnow trapped again.
-Trap 1 was placed ~ 30 feet upstream of the double culverts.
-Trap 2 was placed ~110 feet upstream of the double culverts.
-Trap 3 was placed ~250 feet upstream of the double culverts.

DATE: 3-2-99 **OBSERVER:** Darrow

MINNOW TRAPPING REPORT

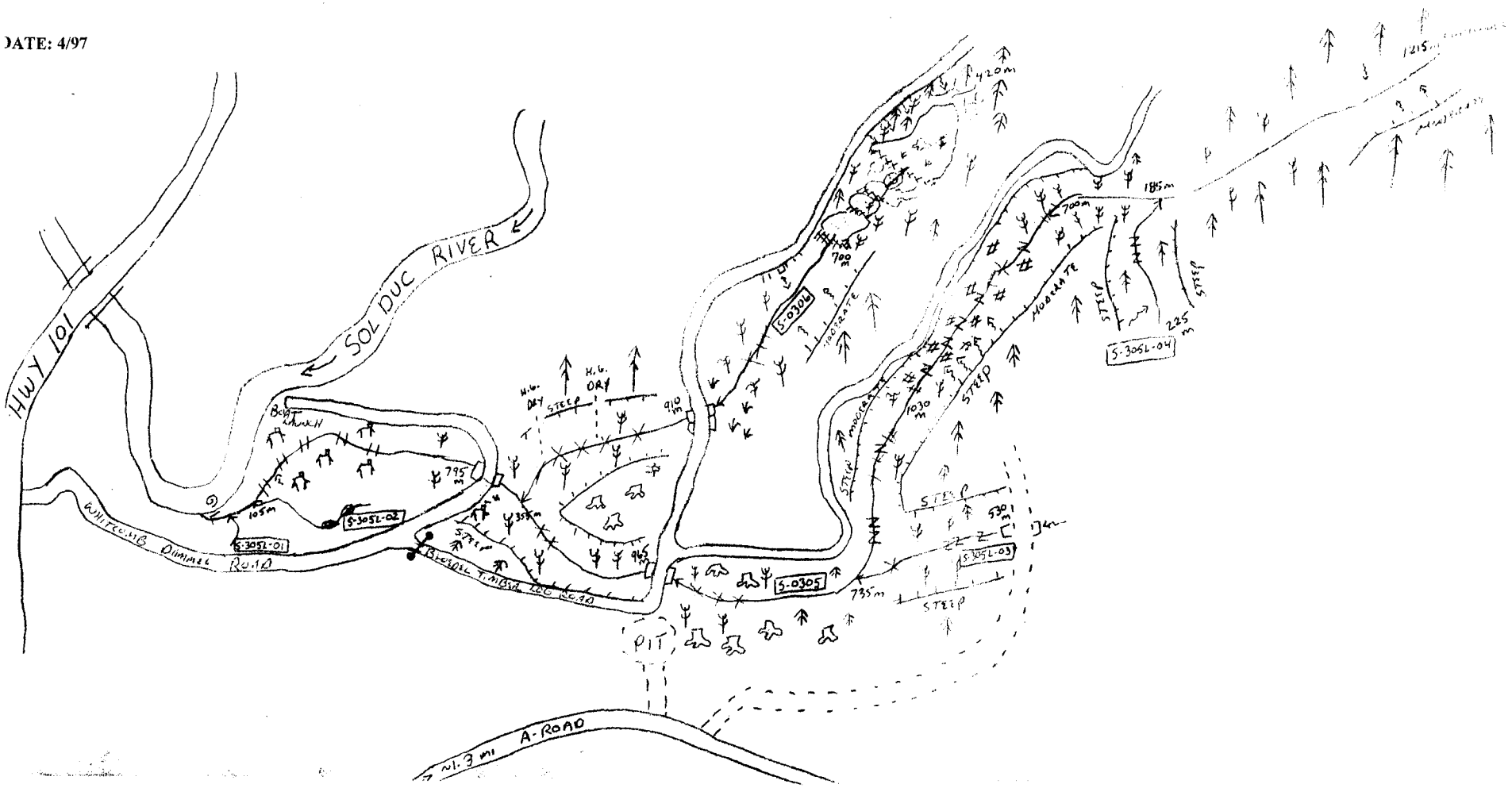
TRAP	DATE SET	TEMP	DATE PULLED	TEMP	CATCH COHO	TROUT RBT	TROUT CUTT	TROUT 0+	COTTID
1	3/1	5.5°C	3/2	5.5°C	0	0	2	0	3
2	3/1	5.5°C	3/2	5.5°C	0	0	0	0	0
3	3/1	5.5°C	3/2	5.5°C	0	0	0	0	5
4	3/1	5.5°C	3/2	5.5°C	0	0	1	0	2
				TOTALS:	0	0	3	0	10

COMMENTS:
- Trap 1 was placed ~ 30 m upstream of the double culverts.
- Trap 2 was placed ~ 100 m upstream of the double culverts.
- Trap 3 was placed about halfway between double culverts and lowest beaver dam (~ 350 m upstream of culverts).
- Trap 4 was placed ~ 90 m downstream of the first beaver dam.
All these traps were placed above the double culverts. There was a 5 inch plunge drop from the culverts at the present high flows.

RIVER: SOL DUC

AREA: S-L3
SITES: S-0305, S-305L-03, S-305L-04, S-0306
WRIA: 20.0305, 20.0306 E, 20.0306 F, 20.0306
NAMES: Tassel Cr, Unnamed, Unnamed, Fossil Cr

DATE: 4/97



WASHINGTON

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NW/4 FORKS 15' QUADRANGLE

PORT ANGELES 54 MI
BEAVER P.O 4.7 MI

1 130 000 FEET

1180 III
(LAKE PLEASANT 1:62 500)

RIVER: SOL DUC

TRIB: Tassel Creek and Fossil Creek
WRIA: 20.0305 and 20.0306

OVERVIEW MAP

RIVER: SOL DUC RIVER

AREA: S-L3

AREA MAP

9/96