

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): Nettnin

River System: Sol Duc

Date: 3/20/98

Site Identifier: S-313R-29

WRIA: 20.0313DD (P)

River Mile Location: 5.3 mi.

RB/LB: RB

Local Name: Skull Creek

Trib. to: Lake Creek (20.0313)

Legal Description: NE ¼ Sec 24 T30N R13W

County: Clallam

Habitat Type: Terrace Trib

Landowner: Federal State County Other Government Private
- Possibly Merrill and Ring Tree Farm (Fiber Board Inc.)
- Possibly Rayonier Timber Operations Company
- Possibly Department of Natural Resources

Directions to site:

North from Forks on highway 101 to MP 200.5. Turn left onto West Lake Pleasant Road, then bear to the right, just past the bridge over Lake Creek. Continue for about 2.9 miles (the county road ends at 1.0 mile and the 9000 line begins) to the 9089. This is a road to the right at the top of the hill. A key will be needed and can be obtained at the Rayonier Timber Operations Company office in Forks. Follow the road to the bottom of the hill, cross the bridge and bear right - away from the mainline. Walk out the skid road toward Lake Creek and bear right toward the cutting line. Follow the narrow harvest cut between Lake Creek and a wetland. The larger creek that will be crossed is 20.0316 - continue to the end of the strip and continue following the RB of Lake Creek downstream. A right bank tributary will be encountered within a few meters. Follow this trib. upstream, it will fork - follow the right bank fork. This is the uppermost egress and the upper end of S-313R-29.

Site Overview:

This wetland complex lies at the toe of the valley wall. The headwaters to this channel are several different sources that emanate from the easterly flank of Tye Ridge. There are also numerous springs along the toe of the ridge. This channel has three different egresses into Lake Creek. This is mainly due to beaver activity that allowed water to cut a channel from behind a dam to the mainstem. This wetland complex has not been disturbed by logging or road building. There is good bio diversity from large old snags, multi-aged conifer and deciduous trees, multi-species of brush and herbaceous vegetation. Numerous beaver dams impound most of the channel creating excellent rearing conditions.

Habitat Information:

Water source: Springs and surface runoff

Intermittent/year-around: Unknown, possibly year-around

Estimated flows (cfs): Lower end: 0.05 - 0.1 Upper end: 0.05 - 0.1

- These numbers represent the flows at each of the three egresses.

Water temperatures: Lower end: 8.0°C Upper end: 8.5°C

- Temperature on 1/6/99: Lower end: 6.0°C Upper end: 6.5°C

Adjacent stream temperature (Lake Creek): 8.0°C

- Temperature on 1/6/99: 7.5°C

Other water observations: Tannic water

Site area measurements: Indirect Direct Combination

Widths: Channel- 1.0 - 1.5 m Pond- 3 - 20 m Wetlands- ~25 - 75 m

Depths: Channel- 3 - 6 cm Pond- 30 - 90 cm Wetlands- 5 - 15 cm

Total length estimated (includes ponds and wetlands): 650 m

Total existing habitat area (est.): 5,550 m²

Spawning area: 0 m²

Impounded area: 5,300 m²

Other rearing area: 250 m²

Spawning Habitat conditions: None Poor Fair Good Excellent

Describe spawning habitat: NA

Rearing habitat conditions: None Poor Fair Good Excellent

Describe pond and other rearing habitat:

- The impounded areas are created mostly by beaver activity. The ponds tend to be elongated along the channel meanders rather than spread out.

- There is a good diversity of woody debris from large old fallen trees to recent wind thrown smaller trees and limbs. Also, there are sedges, skunk cabbage and other aquatic vegetation providing cover.

- The channel has large spruce, cedar, hemlock and alder producing shade.

- The under story is made up of vine maple, salmonberry, devils club, huckleberry, and young alders.

Describe inaccessible habitat:

Describe wetland: Bog Marsh Scrub-shrub Wetland Forested Wetland

- This channel meanders through an old growth forested wetland with the channel margins creating an open marsh. The over story is made up of spruce, cedar, hemlock and alder. The under story is vine maple, salmonberry and false huckleberry.

- The marsh has scattered alder, salmonberry, devils club, slough sedge and other herbaceous growth.

Flooding potential: Low Medium High

- This channel will get additional flows from surface runoff from Tyee ridge. It is above the flood plain of Lake Creek.

Fish Information:

Site entry condition to Lake Creek: Poor Fair Good

- There are three entry points with this channel. All three have good to excellent access conditions.
- All three enter in a back eddy. There are woody debris or bank overhangs to provide cover
- All three have beaver dams near the egresses.

Coho access and use:

Juvenile- Unknown None Poor Fair Good

Adult- Unknown None Poor Fair Good

- 0+ coho fry were observed below the beaver dams in the egress channels.

Other species access and use: Chum Pink Sockeye Chinook Trout

- It is unknown if trout use this channel.

Habitat Improvements:

Enhancement opportunities:

Possible project type:

- Plank weir installation to help pass fish over existing beaver dams.
- Maintain the integrity of the stream.

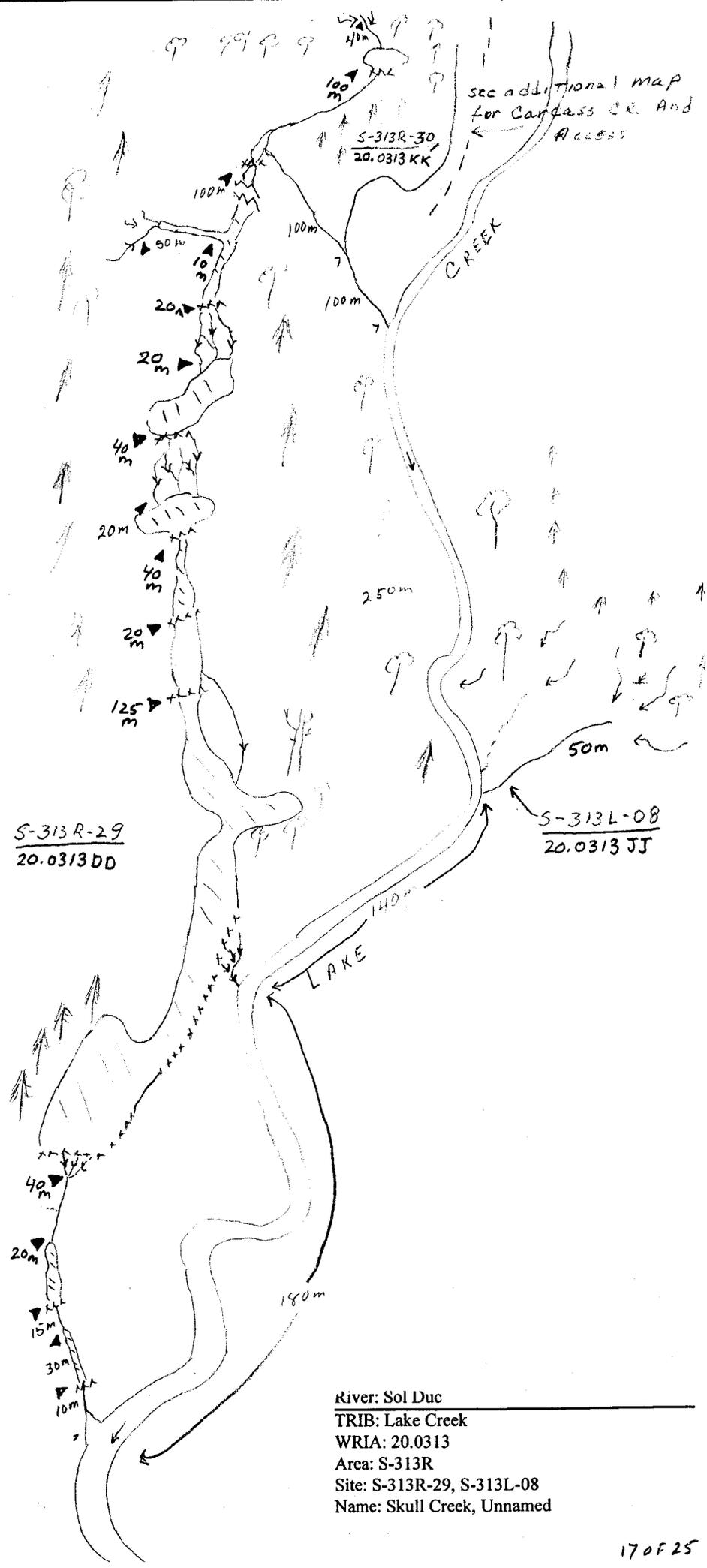
Equipment access: No access

Additional Comments:

Attachments Available:

Contact respective SSHEAR habitat biologist for the following checked items:

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerials | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sketch | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Culvert Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other references | <input type="checkbox"/> Spawning surveys | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile trapping | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishway Report |



S-313R-29
20.0313 DD

S-313L-08
20.0313 JJ

River: Sol Duc
TRIB: Lake Creek
WRIA: 20.0313
Area: S-313R
Site: S-313R-29, S-313L-08
Name: Skull Creek, Unnamed

