

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF HABITAT

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Erin Allee
Division of Coastal and Ocean Management
Alaska Department of Natural Resources

DATE: December 17, 2008

FILE NO: AK 0810-08J

THRU: Al Ott
Operations Manager

SUBJECT: Redfern Resources Ltd.
Proposed Taku River Barging
ACMP Review, Request for
“Important Habitat”
Designation

FROM: Kate Kanouse
Habitat Biologist

TELEPHONE NO: (907)465-4290

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Division of Habitat requests that the portion of Taku River subject to Redfern Resource Limited’s project ACMP consistency review be designated as “important habitat” under 11 AAC 112.300 (c)(B)(i)(ii). Supporting this request for designation, are the following scientific evidence documents as defined at 11 AAC 114.990(40):

1. Thedinga, J. F., M. L. Murphy, and K V. Koski. 1988. Seasonal Habitat Utilization by Juvenile Salmon in the Lower Taku River, Southeast Alaska. NWAFC Processed Rep. 88-32. Auke Bay Laboratory, Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, NMFS, NOAA, Juneau.
2. Meehan, W. R., and D. B. Siniff (1962). A Study of the Downstream Migrations of Anadromous Fishes in the Taku River, Alaska. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society 91: 399-407.
3. Eiler, J. H., B. D. Nelson, R. F. Bradshaw, J. R. Greiner, and J. M. Lorenz. 1988. Distribution, Stock Composition, and Location and Habitat Type of Spawning Areas Used by Sockeye Salmon on the Taku River. NWAFC Process Rep. 88-24. Auke Bay Laboratory, Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, NMFS, NOAA, Juneau.

4. Hillgruber, N. 2007. Taku Wild/Hatchery Chum Study. Southeast Sustainable Salmon Fund Project Completion Form. Project number 45268.
5. Guthrie III, C. M., and R. L. Wilmot. 2004. Genetic Structure of Wild Chinook Salmon Populations of Southeast Alaska and Northern British Columbia. *Environmental Biology of Fishes* 69: 81-93, 2004.
6. Murphy, M. L., J. M. Lorenz, and K V. Koski. 1991. Population Estimates of Juvenile Salmon Downstream Migrants in the Taku River, Alaska. NOAA-TM-NMFS-F/NWC-203. Auke Bay Laboratory, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NMFS, NOAA, Juneau.
7. Eiler, J. H., B. D. Nelson, and R. F. Bradshaw. 1992. Riverine Spawning by Sockeye Salmon in the Taku River, Alaska and British Columbia. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 121:701-708.
8. Lorenz, J. M., and J. H. Eiler. 1989. Spawning Habitat and Redd Characteristics of Sockeye Salmon in the Glacial Taku River, British Columbia and Alaska. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 118:495-502.
9. Eiler, J. H. 1995. A Remote Satellite-Linked Tracking System for Studying Pacific Salmon with Radio Telemetry. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 124: 184-193.
10. Lorenz, J. M., M. L. Murphy, J. F. Thedinga, and K V. Koski. 1991. Distribution and Abundance of Juvenile Salmon in Two Main Channel Habitats of the Taku River, Alaska and British Columbia. NOAA-TM-NMFS-F/NWC-206. Auke Bay Laboratory, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NMFS, NOAA, Juneau.
11. Murphy, M. L., K V. Koski, J. M. Lorenz, and J. F. Thedinga. 1997. Downstream Migrations of Juvenile Pacific Salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.) in a Glacial Transboundary River. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Science* 54: 2837-2846.
12. Heard, B., J. Helle, K Koski, M. Lorenz, M. Murphy, J. Taylor, and A. Wertheimer. 1998. Essential Fish Habitat Assessment Report for the Salmon Fisheries in the EEZ off the Coast of Alaska. North Pacific Fishery Management Council, Anchorage.

In addition to the above reports, we are providing the attached list of related Alaska Department of Fish and Game publications available on the ADF&G website, as well as other publications for your information.

If the request for designation is approved, ADF&G requests the applicant specify how they will avoid, minimize or mitigate significant adverse impacts to the special productivity of the habitat under 11 AAC 114.300(b)(9)(B).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Email cc:

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