



State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Sportfish Division

Nomination Form
Anadromous Waters Catalog

Region Southcentral

USGS Quad(s) NABESNA C-6, GULKANA C-1

Anadromous Waters Catalog Number of Water Body 212-20-10080 (-2605)

Name of Water Body Copper River, Slana River USGS Name Local Name

Addition Deletion Correction Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination #	24-983	<u>Adam Roman</u>	<u>12-27-2024</u>
		Fisheries Scientist	Date
Revision Year:	2025	<u>Rob Benkers</u>	<u>12/10/2024</u>
		Habitat Operations Manager	Date
Revision to:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Catalog	<u>Joseph Stief</u>	<u>27 Nov 2024</u>
		AWC Project Biologist	Date
Revision Code:	C-9, C-7, B-2	<u>J. L.</u>	<u>12/27/2024</u>
		GIS Analyst	Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
chinook salmon	05/11/2024		✓		✓

~UPDATE/ADJUST lower hydrography segment of existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080-2605 "Slana River" and; RELOCATE Stream mouth point.
 ~UPDATE/ADJUST middle hydrography segment of existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080 "Copper River".
 ~ADD species life-phase **Sockeye** salmon REARING to existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080-2605 "Slana River".

Comments:

See *observer comments on page 2.*
 Coordinates (Lat,Long): (62.70490,-143.94635)

Name of Observer (please print): Charles Cathcart
 Signature: 10.231.39.10 (Web Nomination) Date: 10/11/2024
 Agency: ADFG
 Address: 333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518

This certifies that in my best professional judgment and belief the above information is evidence that this waterbody should be included in or deleted from the Anadromous Waters Catalog.

Signature of Area Biologist: _____ Date: _____ Revision 3/16
 Name of Area Biologist (please print): _____



State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Division of Sport Fish

Fish Survey
Nomination Form
Anadromous Waters Catalog

Region: SCN USGS Quad: Nabesna C-6, Gulkana C-1
 Anadromous Waters Catalog Number of Waterway: 212-20-10080(2605)
 Name of Waterway: Slana River, Copper River USGS Name Local Name
 Addition Deletion For Office Use Correction Backup Information

Nomination # <u>24-983</u>	_____ Fisheries Scientist	_____ Date
Revision Year: <u>2025</u>	_____ Habitat Operations Manager	_____ Date
Revision to: Atlas _____ Catalog _____ Both <u>X</u>	_____ AWC Project Biologist	_____ Date
Revision Code: <u>C-9, C-7, B-2</u>	_____ GIS Analyst	_____ Date

Site Information Station: FSCB2311A01 Date Observed: 5/11/2024 Legal Desc.: _____ Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____ Datum: _____
 Up Stream _____ WGS84
 Down Stream 62.70490 -143.94635 WGS84

Station Comments: Site is on the upstream side of the Nabesna Road

Life History: Anadromous

Species\LifeStage: Sockeye : salmon juvenile

Sampling Method (No. of fish): FYK (7)

Life History: Resident

- Species\LifeStage: longnose sucker juvenile
- Species\LifeStage: burbot juvenile
- Species\LifeStage: slimy sculpin juvenile/adult
- Species\LifeStage: Alaska whitefish adult
- Species\LifeStage: Arctic grayling juvenile/adult
- Species\LifeStage: round whitefish juvenile/adult

- Sampling Method (No. of fish): FYK (7)
- Sampling Method (No. of fish): FYK (5)
- Sampling Method (No. of fish): FYK (2)
- Sampling Method (No. of fish): FYK (1)
- Sampling Method (No. of fish): FYK (6)
- Sampling Method (No. of fish): FYK (8)

Key to Sample Method

(FYK) Fyke Net

Additional Comments: Add Sockeye salmon rearing to the Slana River. Seven juvenile Chinook salmon were caught in a fyke net from May 13-14, 2024 located just upstream of the Nabesna Road at waypoint 11A01 (N 62.70490, W -143.946352).

Name of Observer: Nate Cathcart, Habitat Biologist II Phone: (907) 267-2238 Date Printed: 10/11/2024

Signature: *Nate Cathcart*

Address: Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game, Sport Fish - RTS
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518

This certifies that in my best professional judgment and belief the above information is evidence that this waterbody should be included in or deleted from the Anadromous Waters Catalog

Signature of Area Biologist: _____ Date: _____

From: [Cathcart, Charles N \(DFG\)](#)
To: [Giefer, Joe \(DFG\)](#)
Cc: [Green, Duncan G \(DFG\)](#)
Subject: RE: Juvi ID? - Nom #24-983 (FSCB 2311A01 - 5/11/2024)
Date: Friday, December 27, 2024 11:00:45 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[TwentymileR_DVprKr.pdf](#)

Yeah I can see what you mean in some of the keys but at that size, we don't always see the black or white fin edges showing up.

However, I think this Twentymile River nomination provides a good baseline for comparing Chinook and sockeye juveniles side by side with some of the better traits coming through such as colors (the juvenile Chinook has black pigmentation on the dorsal, some orange/red in fins and face). And those sockeye look more like the Slana sockeye, though I do still think the Copper River chinook don't have such obvious colors at the sizes they are in the glacial rivers...

So yeah, we can change that back to sockeye and commit to that ID if you all agree.

From: Giefer, Joe (DFG) <joe.giefer@alaska.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 27, 2024 10:47 AM
To: Cathcart, Charles N (DFG) <nate.cathcart@alaska.gov>
Cc: Green, Duncan G (DFG) <duncan.green@alaska.gov>
Subject: RE: Juvi ID? - Nom #24-983 (FSCB 2311A01 - 5/11/2024)

I see what you are saying about some possible melanophores around the edge of the adipose in one Nom picture and your example, but it's quite faint for what I would expect on a Chinook. Not enough to really make that call imo. Then the other keys don't seem very strong for Chinook.

I see irregular/staggered parr mark spacing, aligned more above lateral line.

Parr mark height smaller than eye diameter.

Dorsal fins lack black leading edge/white tip. Anal fins lack white leading edge (most examples at least).

Joe Giefer

Habitat Biologist III

Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC)

Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game

Division of Sport Fish -- RTS

333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage AK 99518

Office 907-267-2336

Submit AWC Nominations electronically through the Online Portal here:

<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SABR/AWC/index.cfm?ADF=nomSubmitHome>



From: Cathcart, Charles N (DFG) <nate.cathcart@alaska.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 27, 2024 10:25 AM
To: Giefer, Joe (DFG) <joe.giefer@alaska.gov>
Cc: Green, Duncan G (DFG) <duncan.green@alaska.gov>
Subject: RE: Juvl ID? - Nom #24-983 (FSCB 2311A01 - 5/11/2024)

I agree it's a tricky looking one. I called it Chinook because the parr marks were relatively large/oblong for the size of the fish while being uniform in their position relative to each other and the lateral line. I called em sockeye initially but changed the ID upon looking at the images longer and convincing myself otherwise. So maybe should have stuck with the field/first ID.

What specifically stands out as sockeye?

I attached an image of what looks to me more like a sockeye at that size and say that compared to the fish in question, this individual has narrower parr marks that are not as uniformly distributed along the lateral line. But at this size, it's hard to tell and I might be overthinking it and should get overruled to turn it sockeye again. Probably would've been best to take a voucher or three for genetics to confirm! But we can see what Duncan says because I think we discussed this one too...I also attached an image of what I would more confidently call a similarly-sized juvenile Chinook (really uniformly distributed and oblong parr marks plus the coloration in the anal and caudal fins lead me to that ID).

Let me know what you all think. The ~35mm or less fish are tricky.

Nate

From: Giefer, Joe (DFG) <joe.giefer@alaska.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 27, 2024 9:56 AM
To: Cathcart, Charles N (DFG) <nate.cathcart@alaska.gov>
Cc: Green, Duncan G (DFG) <duncan.green@alaska.gov>
Subject: Juvl ID? - Nom #24-983 (FSCB 2311A01 - 5/11/2024)

Hey there, question about the fish ID on this one. Adam caught it but upon further

review I'd have to agree. This seems way more sockeye looking than Chinook.
Thoughts? Any field notes for this site?

Thanks,

Joe Giefer

Habitat Biologist III

Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC)

Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game

Division of Sport Fish -- RTS

333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage AK 99518

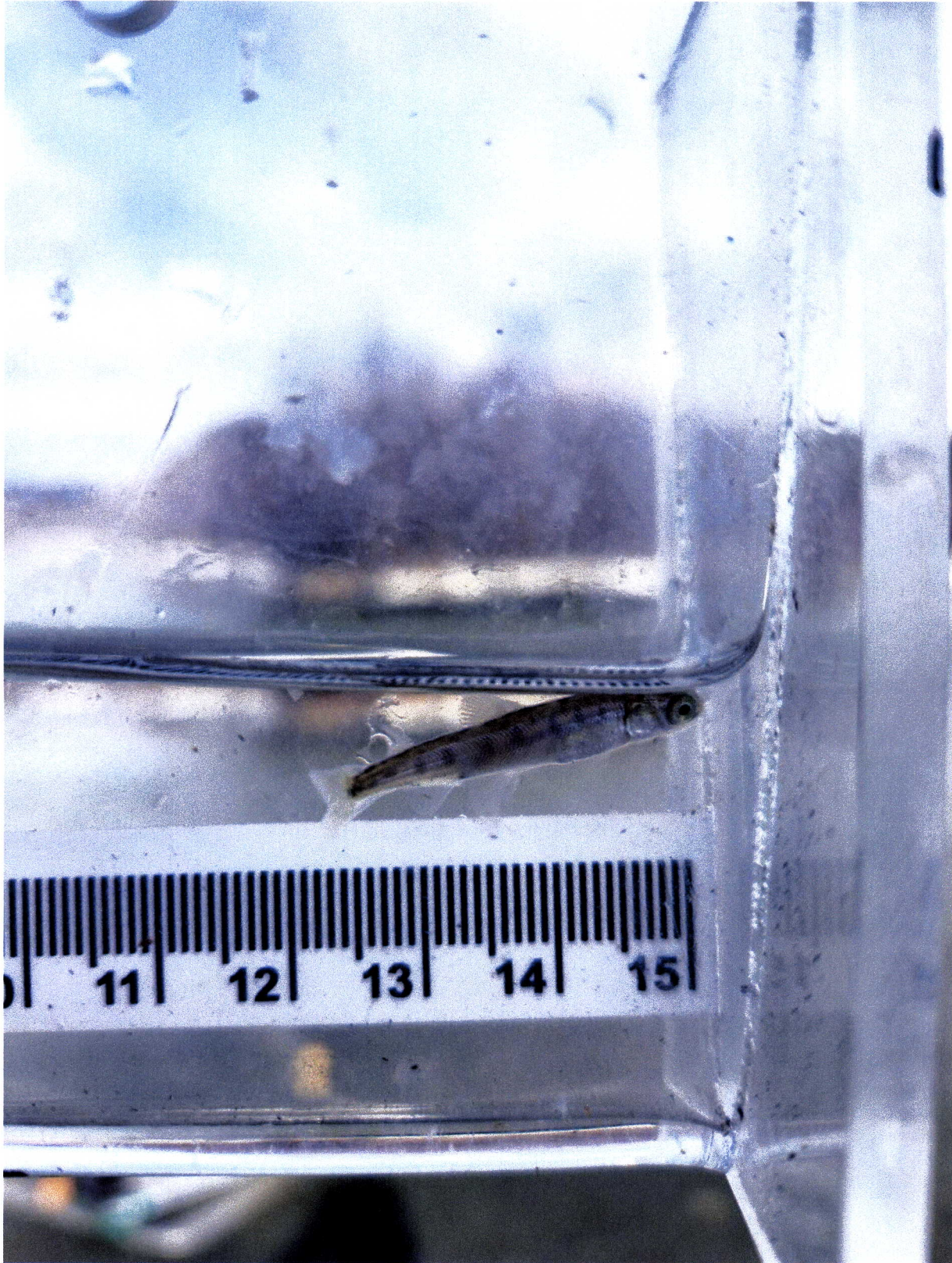
Office 907-267-2336

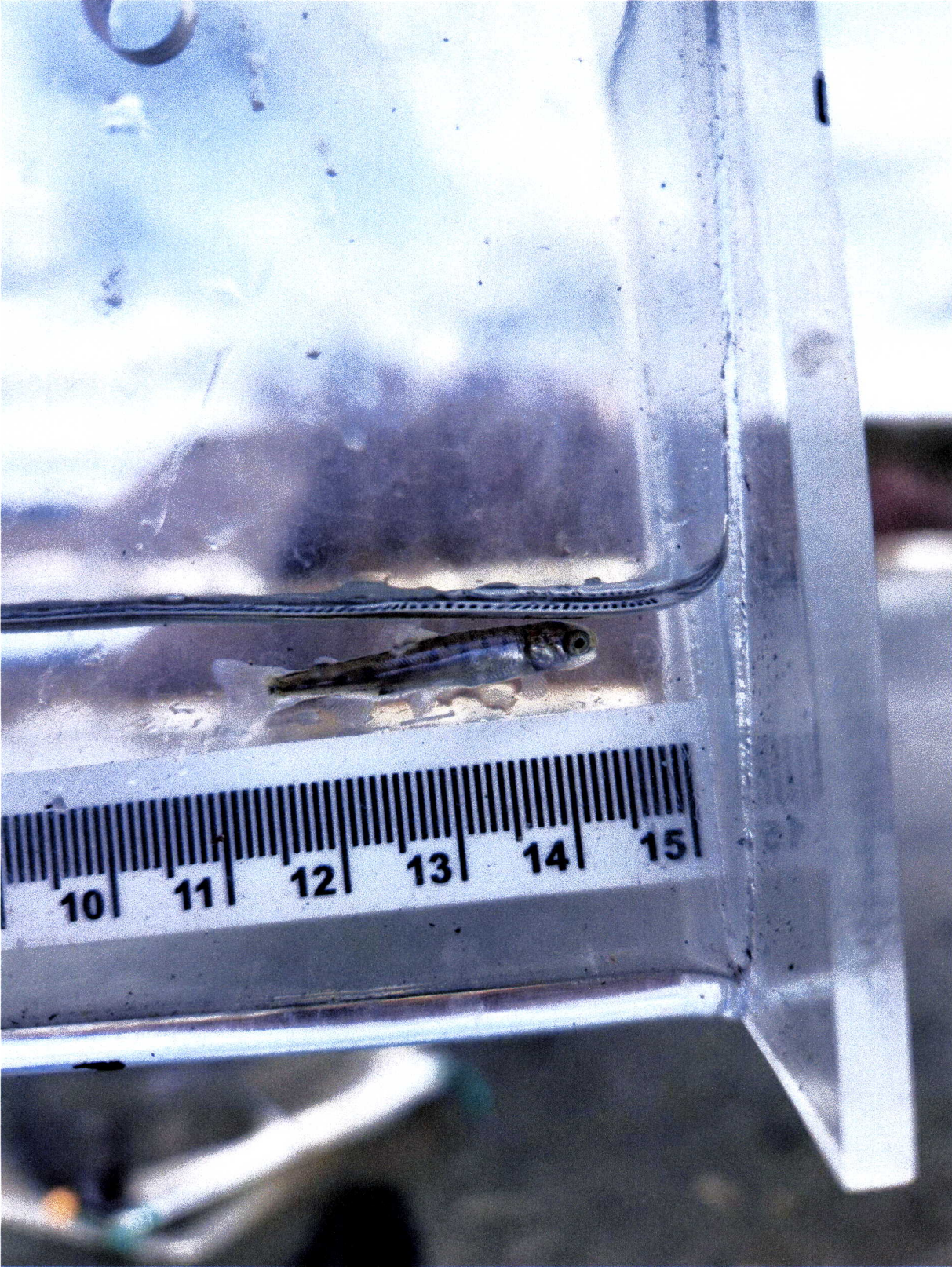
Submit AWC Nominations electronically through the Online Portal here:

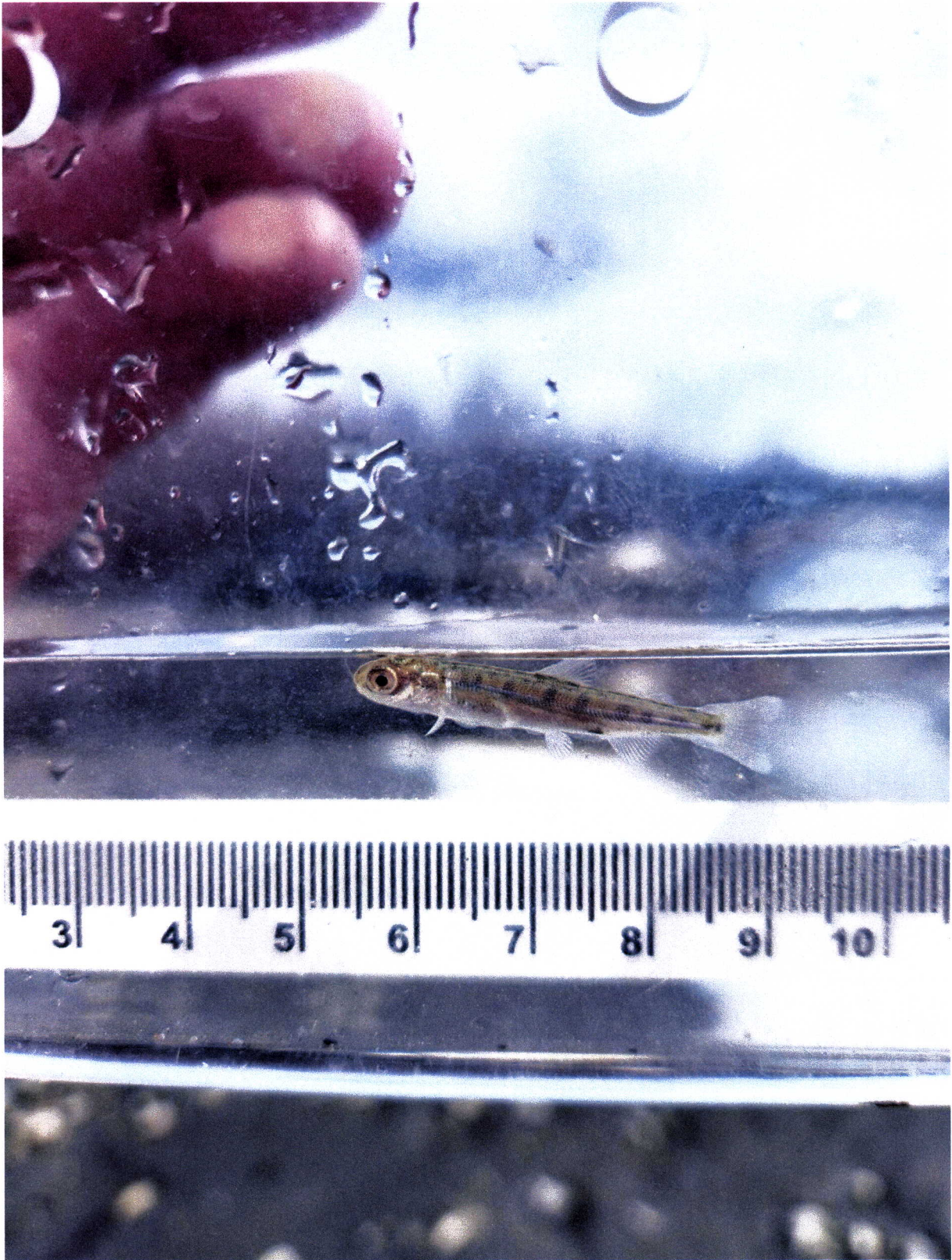
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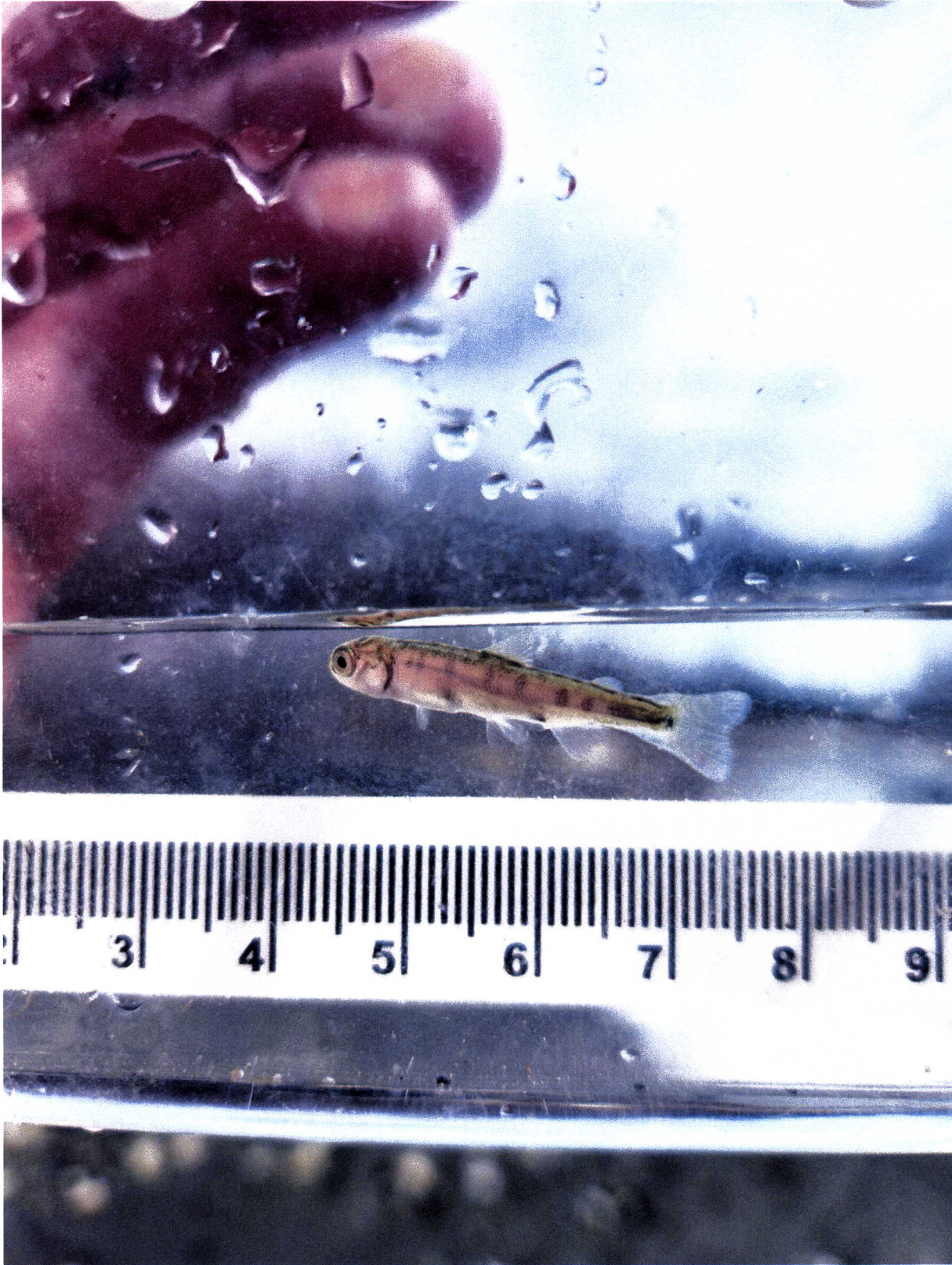




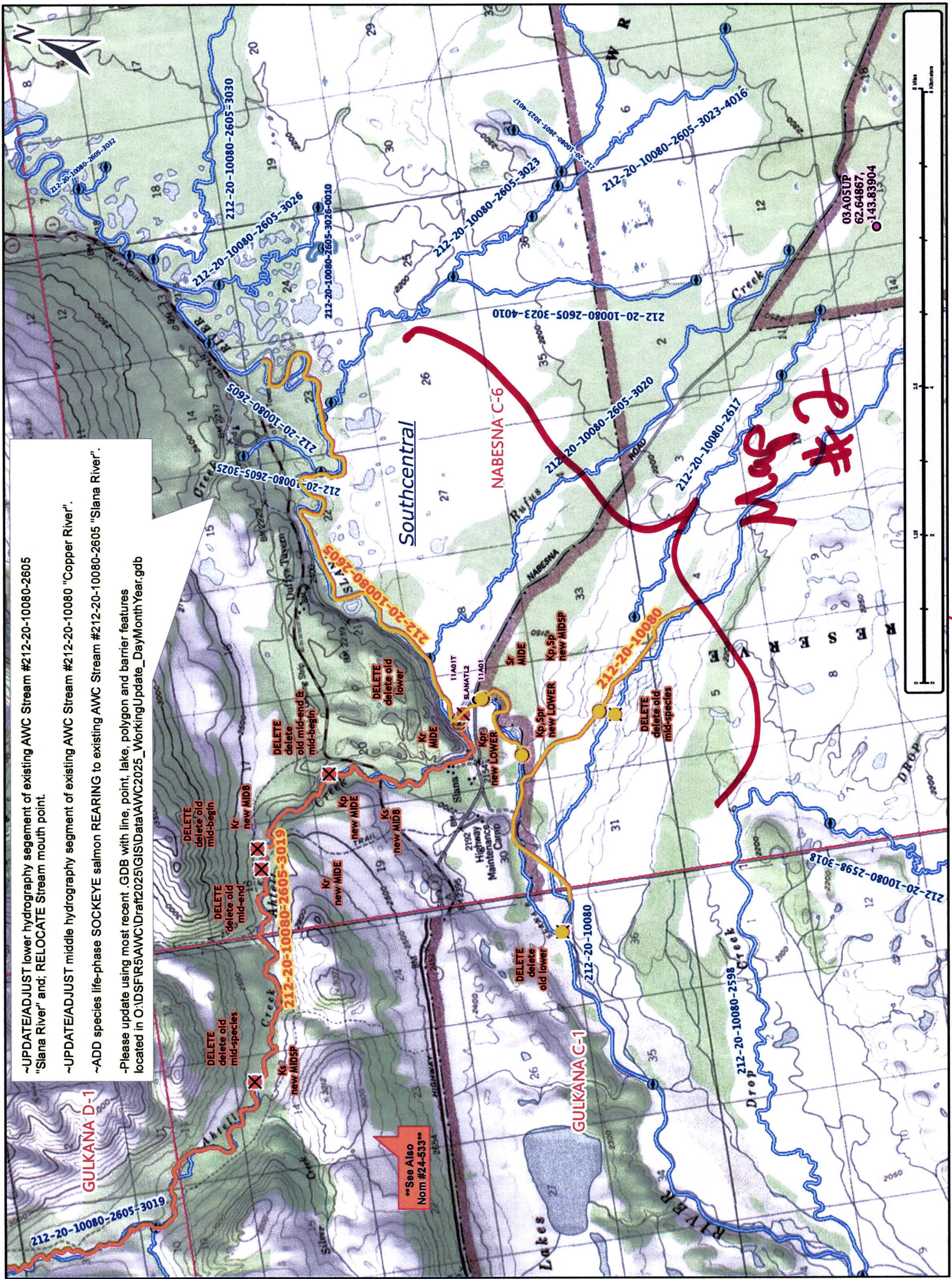




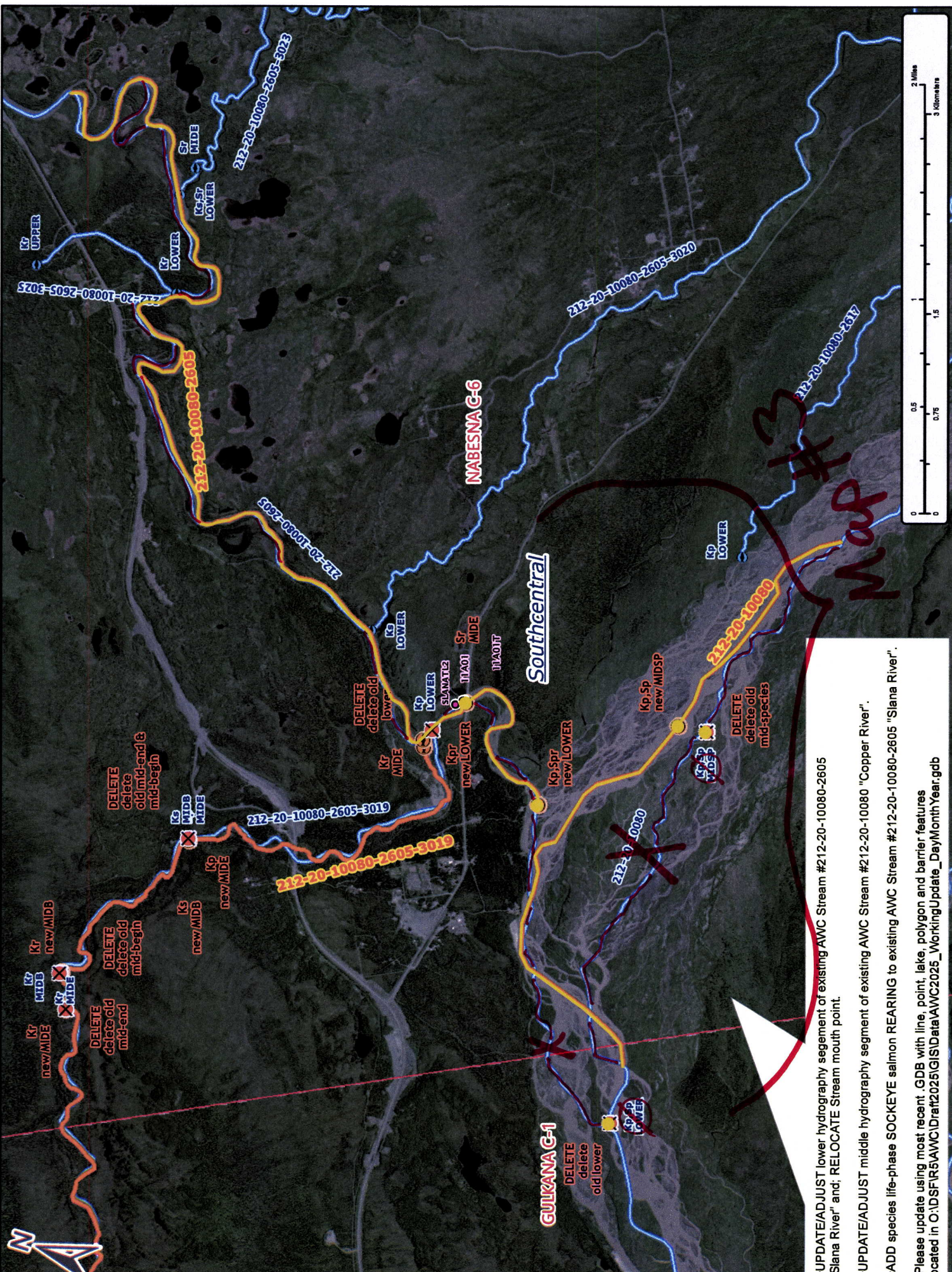




- UPDATE/ADJUST lower hydrography segment of existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080-2605 "Slana River" and; RELOCATE Stream mouth point.
 - UPDATE/ADJUST middle hydrography segment of existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080 "Copper River".
 - ADD species life-phase SOCKEYE salmon REARING to existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080-2605 "Slana River".
- Please update using most recent .GDB with line, point, lake, polygon and barrier features located in O:\DS\FR5\AWC\Draw\2025\GIS\Data\AWC2025_WorkingUpdate_DayMonthYear.gdb



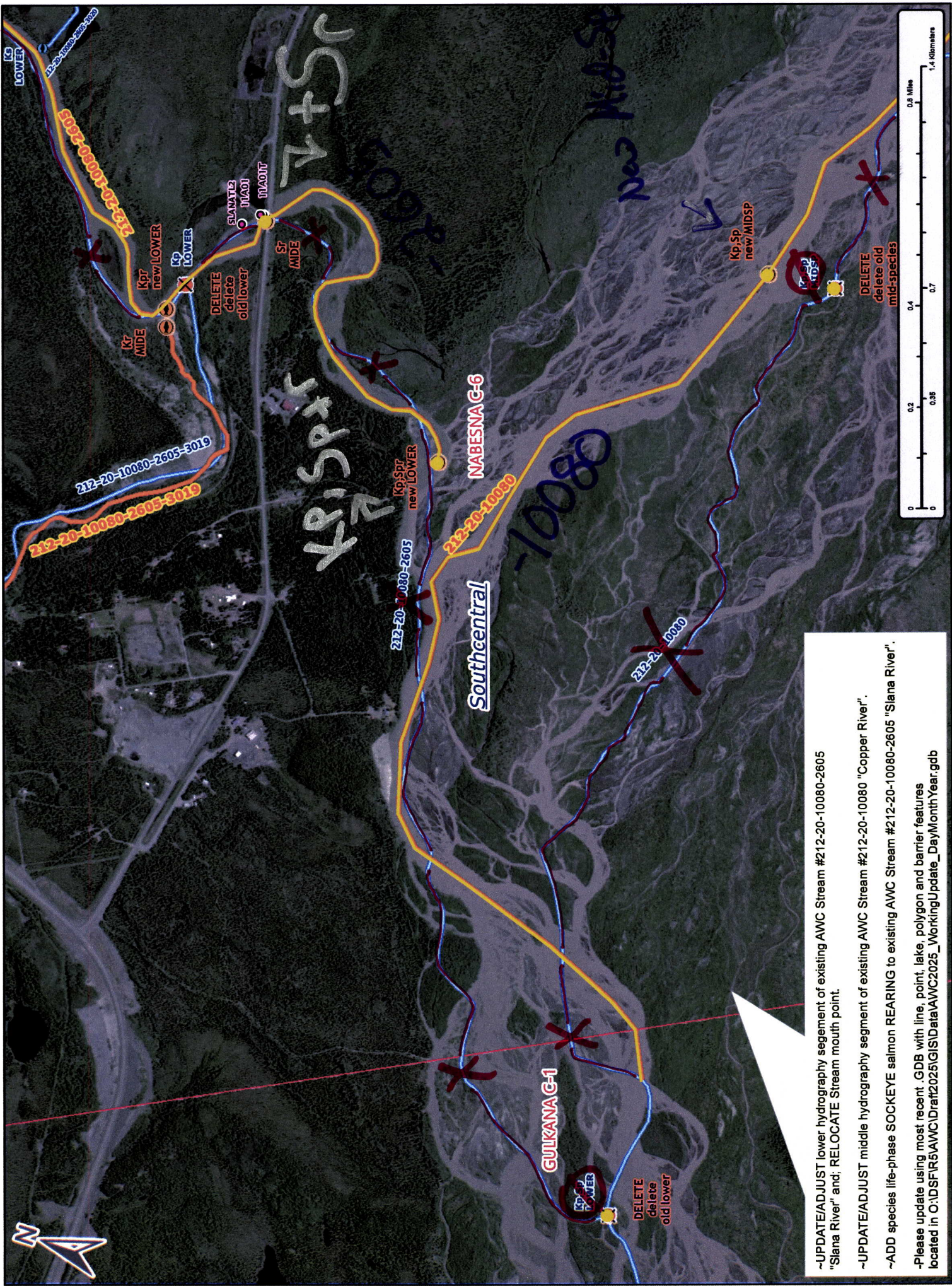
Map #1
Nom #24-983



- ~UPDATE/ADJUST lower hydrography segment of existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080-2605 "Stiana River" and; RELOCATE Stream mouth point.
- ~UPDATE/ADJUST middle hydrography segment of existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080 "Copper River".
- ~ADD species life-phase SOCKEYE salmon REARING to existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080-2605 "Stiana River".
- Please update using most recent .GDB with line, point, lake, polygon and barrier features located in O:\DSF\RS\AWC\Draft2025\GIS\Data\AWC2025_Working\update_DayMonthYear.gdb

Map #2

Nov # 24-983



~UPDATE/ADJUST lower hydrography segment of existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080-2605 "Slana River" and; RELOCATE Stream mouth point.

~UPDATE/ADJUST middle hydrography segment of existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080 "Copper River".

~ADD species life-phase SOCKEYE salmon REARING to existing AWC Stream #212-20-10080-2605 "Slana River".

-Please update using most recent .GDB with line, point, lake, polygon and barrier features located in O:\DS\FIR5\AWC\IDraft\2025\GIS\Data\AWC2025_WorkingUpdate_Day\MonthYear.gdb

Map #3

Nov # 24-983