

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
1994 STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

WB FILE  
43(a)

NAME OF WATERBODY: Hammer Slough West Branch to tidewater

Location or Lat/Long: Petersburg at north end of Mitkof Island

Is the waterbody in a national or state park, monument, refuge, preserve, or similar area?:

Yes /  No / Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Waterbody Type:

- River/Stream
- Lake
- Fresh Wetland
- Tidal Wetland
- Estuary
- Coastal Shoreline
- Groundwater

Waterbody Size:

1.5 Miles  
\_\_\_\_ Acres  
\_\_\_\_ Acres  
\_\_\_\_ Acres  
\_\_\_\_ Square Miles  
\_\_\_\_ Miles

Segment of Waterbody Addressed:

From: Upper headwaters  
To: tidewater  
Other Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
Size of Segment: \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Assessment, From: 1985 To: Present

Assessment completed by: Don Cornelius

Type of Documentation (attach if possible):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water quality data        | <input type="checkbox"/> Written report                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Documented oil spill      | <input type="checkbox"/> Field notes                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NOV / Enforcement action  | <input type="checkbox"/> Overflight                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photos with documentation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish / Habitat survey     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe below) |

Assessment based on:  Monitored water quality data  Evaluated (Best professional judgement)

Describe Source and Nature of Pollution, Documentation Provided and Other Comments:

Runoff from city/state rock pit has caused excessive siltation the length of this tributary which runs out of the pit. Presence of beaver ponds which are periodically broken down on abandoned dam site combined with a low stream gradient result in <sup>almost</sup> entire substrate being covered with silt. Trash from houses enters stream in this area. City shop just above tidewater and runoff from <sup>unpaved</sup> city streets compounds the problem. Lower portion of drainage under an extensive fill for city shop.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION:

Name: Don Cornelius Phone: 773-3801 Date: 12/29/93  
Employer: AK Dept. Fish & Game Dept: H&R Division Title: Area Habitat Biologist  
Address: P.O. Box 667 Petersburg AK 99833  
Education/Experience: BA + graduate training / 13 years as Habitat Biologist

**TYPES OF POLLUTANTS** (Please indicate relative severity; H= High, M= Medium, S= Slight):

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cause unknown                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Temperature modifications            | <input type="checkbox"/> Noxious aquatic plants        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown toxicity                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flow alterations          | <input type="checkbox"/> Filling and draining          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticides: _____                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other habitat alterations | <input type="checkbox"/> Total toxics                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Priority organics: _____           | <input type="checkbox"/> Pathogens                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Turbidity                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nonpriority organics: _____        | <input type="checkbox"/> Radiation                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Exotic species                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Metals: _____                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Oil and Grease                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Debris, foam, scum, etc.      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ammonia                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Taste and odor                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient stream structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chlorine                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Suspended solids                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Arsenic                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other inorganics                   |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrients                          |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pH                                 |   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Siltation/sedimentation |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low dissolved oxygen               |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TDS/Salinity/Chlorides             |   |  |
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**SOURCES OF POLLUTANTS** (Please indicate relative severity; H= High, M= Medium, S= Slight):

Point Sources:

- Industrial  
 Municipal

Urban Runoff:

- Storm sewers  
 Combined sewers  
 Surface runoff

Agriculture:

- Non-irrigated crop production  
 Irrigated crop production  
 Pasture land  
 Range land  
 Feedlots  
 Aquaculture  
 Animal waste/holding areas  
 Manure lagoons

Silviculture:

- Timber harvest  
 Stream restoration projects  
 Road construction/maintenance  
 Elimination of stream thermal cover  
 Log Transfer Facilities (estuary)  
 Log Sort Yard (land)

Construction:

- Highway/road  
 Bridge construction/repair  
 Land development

Resource Exploration/extraction:

- Surface mining  
 Subsurface mining  
 Placer mining  
 Dredge mining  
 Petroleum activities  
 Mill tailings  
 Mine tailings  
 Gravel mining  
 Injection wells

Waste Disposal:

- Sludge  
 Wastewater  
 Landfills industrial land treatment  
 Onsite wastewater systems  
 Hazardous waste  
 Sewage disposal  
 Septic tank leak

Hydrologic Modification:

- Stream channelization  
 Dredging  
 Dam construction  
 Flow regulation/modification  
 Bridge construction  
 Removal of riparian vegetation  
 Streambank modification/destabilization  
 Draining/filling of wetlands

Marinas:

- Small boat harbors (up to 10 slips)  
 Harbors (recreational/commercial)  
 Loading facilities (commercial)

Other:

- Atmospheric deposition  
 Waste storage tank leaks  
 Highway maintenance/runoff  
 Petroleum/chemical spills, leaks  
 In-place containments  
 Natural sources  
 Recreational activities  
 Upstream impoundment  
 Salt storage sites  
 Fire damage/restoration  
 Underground storage tanks  
 Aboveground storage tanks  
 Saltwater intrusion  
 Road salting  
 Fish, shellfish wastes  
 UNKNOWN SOURCE