

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
1994 STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

WB File  
76(a)

NAME OF WATERBODY: Mills Creek

Location or Lat/Long: SW 1/4 NW 1/4 of Sec 27, T7N, R14W, Seward Meridian  
Mills Creek 1/2 mile SE of confluence of Mills & Juneau Creek,  
Kenai Peninsula

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

Yes /  No / Name: Chugach National Forest

Waterbody Type:

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

Waterbody Size:

- \_\_\_ Miles  
\_\_\_ Acres  
\_\_\_ Acres  
\_\_\_ Acres  
\_\_\_ Square Miles  
\_\_\_ Miles

Segment of Waterbody Addressed:

From: \_\_\_\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Size of Segment: \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Assessment, From: July 18, 1990 To: August 31, 1990

Assessment completed by: Chris Roe, Bureau of Mines and Carol Huber, Forest Service

Type of Documentation (attach if possible):

- Water quality data  
 Documented oil spill  
 NOV / Enforcement action  
 Photos with documentation  
 Fish / Habitat survey

- Written report  
 Field notes  
 Overflight  
 Observation  
 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: Abandoned Mine Inventory  
Mills Creek Placer was a placer gold operation. Leaking  
55 gal drums (fuels) have contaminated stream banks.  
Abandoned equipment may contribute additional oils,  
fuels antifreeze to stream. Cabin and storage shed on  
stream banks contained numerous containers of fuels, oils,  
grease hydraulic fluid and unknown materials - have been  
removed. Mercury in stream banks is likely present - no samples.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION:

Name: Carol S Huber Phone: 271-2541 Date: 3-15-94

Employer: USDA Forest Service Dept: Minerals/Soils/Water Title: Forest Geologist

Address: 3301 C St Ste 300, Anchorage, AK 99503

Education/Experience: BS Geology / Water Quality Study / Abandoned Mine Inventory

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

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

**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

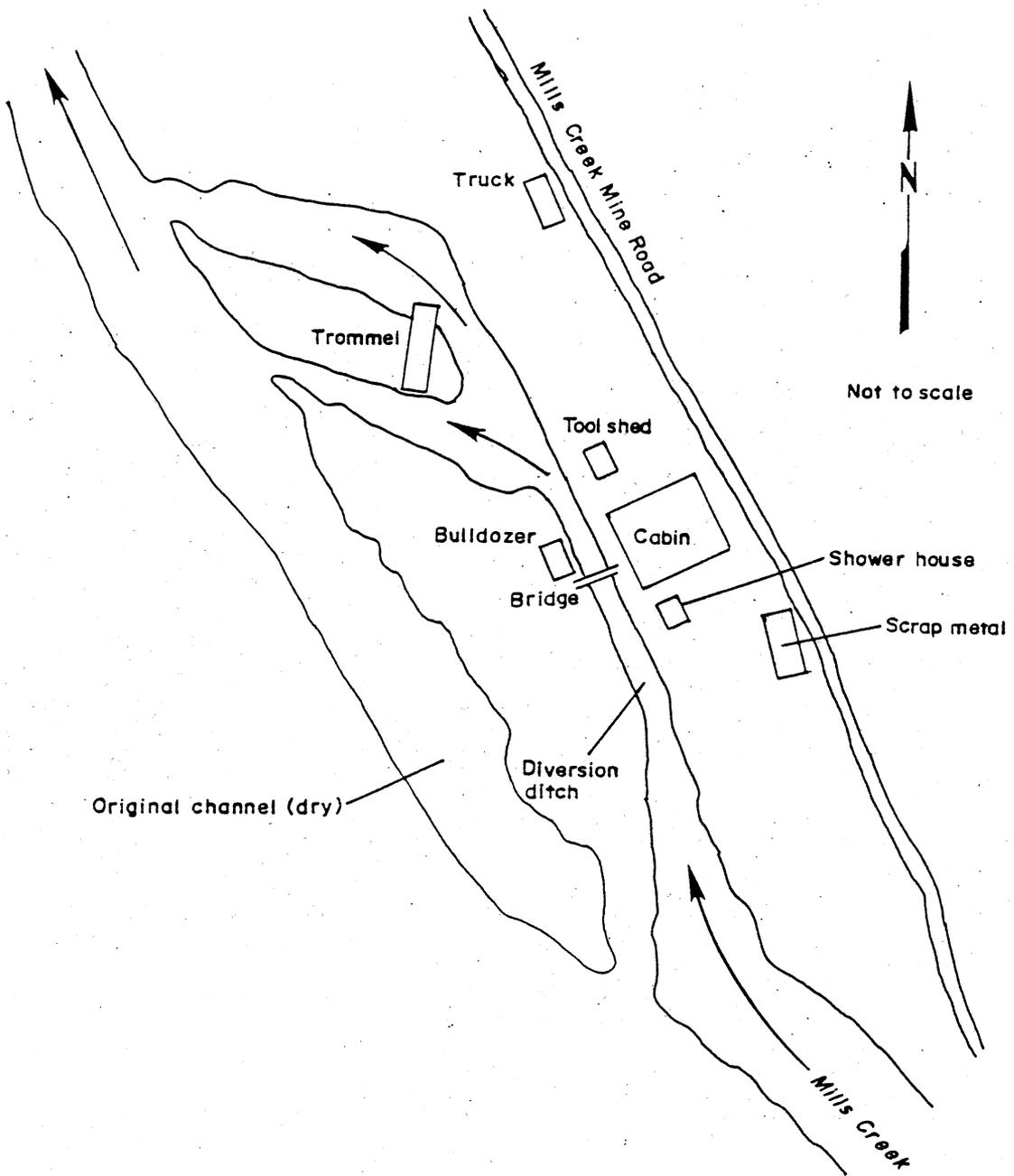


Figure 2.- Sketch map showing the main features of the Mills Creek Mine.

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Chugach  
National  
Forest

3301 "C" Street  
Suite 300  
Anchorage, AK 99503-3998

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Reply to: 2800

Date: March 17, 1993

Earl Hubbard  
Water Quality Management Section  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 105  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

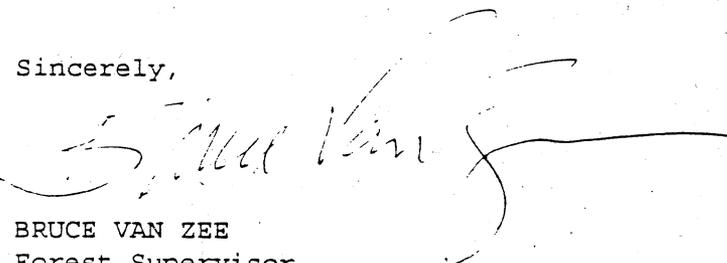
RE: Water Quality Survey Form

Dear Mr. Hubbard:

Enclosed are eighteen completed survey forms with information for your 305b report, Water Quality in Alaska. The survey forms cover sixteen waterbodies that are suspected to be affected by various pollutants.

All suspected pollutant sources were identified during the Chugach National Forest Abandoned/Inactive Mine Inventory. Additional information required, or clarification of information provided, can be obtained by contacting Carol S. Huber, at 271-2541.

Sincerely,



BRUCE VAN ZEE  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosures

cc:  
Bill Edwards, RO w/enclosures  
D. Blanchet w/enclosures  
C. Huber

940317 1200 MSW 2800 CH

RECEIVED

MAR 21 1994

DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION