



**PEBBLE PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE DOCUMENT
2004 through 2008**

**CHAPTER 31.
SURFACE WATER HYDROLOGY
Cook Inlet Drainages**

PREPARED BY:
KNIGHT PIESOLD LTD

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| °F | degree(s) Fahrenheit. |
| ADF&G | Alaska Department of Fish and Game |
| ADNR | Alaska Department of Natural Resources |
| ADOT&PF | Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities |
| BEESC | Bristol Environmental & Engineering Services Corporation |
| cfs | cubic feet per second |
| GS | gaging station |
| KPL | Knight Piésold Ltd. |
| mi ² | square miles |
| NDM | Northern Dynasty Mines Inc. |
| NOAA | National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration |
| OHMP | Office of Habitat Management and Permitting |
| USFWS | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| USGS | U.S. Geological Survey |
| WRIR | water-resources investigations report |

31. SURFACE WATER HYDROLOGY

31.1. Introduction

This section presents the findings of the baseline surface-water hydrology studies for the transportation corridor study area within the Cook Inlet drainage. These studies consisted of a field component to characterize stream channels crossing the linear study area and to collect spot measurements of instantaneous discharge, a basin analysis component to characterize the drainage basins of the study streams, and a regional analysis component to estimate high and low flow statistics for each stream based on published guidelines and regression analyses.

The field studies were completed by Bristol Environmental & Engineering Services Corporation (BEESC) between July 2004 and October 2005. BEESC also led the basin analysis and regional analysis tasks, and prepared a draft report. Knight Piésold Ltd. (KPL) produced the final report.

31.2. Study Objectives

The objectives of the surface-water hydrology studies within the transportation corridor study area are to:

- Characterize annual streamflows in the anadromous fish-bearing stream channels that cross the transportation corridor study area.
- Estimate maximum and minimum flow statistics, and other index flows required for aquatic habitat studies, in these channels.

31.3. Study Area

The transportation corridor study area in the Cook Inlet drainages extends from the drainage divide between Bristol Bay and Cook Inlet in the west, along Williams Creek, across the head of Iliamna Bay, to the headland (Knoll Head) between Iliamna Bay and Iniskin Bay on Cook Inlet. These features are shown on Figure 31-1.

The two main streams in the study area are Williams Creek and an unnamed stream that flows within a valley unofficially known as “Y Valley.” Williams Creek flows eastward from the drainage divide between Bristol Bay and Cook Inlet. It flows into Iliamna Bay at the town of Williamsport. The Y Valley is located on the peninsula between Iliamna Bay and Iniskin Bay. The Y Valley stream flows southward into Cook Inlet near the headland between the two bays.

The transportation corridor study area currently has one “Title 16” stream – the unnamed stream in the Y Valley – as designated by Alaska Statute (AS) 16.05.871 and managed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Habitat Division in the Cook Inlet drainages study area. Title 16 streams are so designated because they support anadromous fish.

The terrain in the study area is characterized by steep rugged mountains with shrubby vegetation and thin soil cover. Topographic elevations vary from sea level to greater than 4,000 feet, in many instances covering this range in a span of a few miles. Many of the drainage basins in the Cook Inlet drainages study area have little, if any, storage in the form of ponds or lakes.

The study area is located within Streamflow Analysis Region 4, as defined by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and shown on Figure 31-2. Region 4 has a transitional climate between the more maritime Region 3, which is located along the exposed southern coast of Alaska and the eastern coast of the Alaska Peninsula (Aleutian Range), and the more continental Region 6, which covers the interior of Alaska. The study area lies close to the boundary between Regions 3 and 4.

The estimated mean annual precipitation in the study area is between 60 and 80 inches, according to a state precipitation map (Jones and Fahl, 1994).

There are no long-term climate stations or streamflow gaging stations located within the study area.

31.4. Previous Studies

The USGS conducted studies throughout Alaska to determine regional regression equations for estimating various local hydrologic flows based on limited regional data. These were published as Water Resources Investigations Reports (WRIRs) 03-4114 and 03-4188. WRIR 03-4114 (Wiley and Curran, 2003) provides estimates of annual high-flow statistics and monthly and seasonal low-flow statistics for ungaged sites. WRIR 4188 (Curran et al., 2003) provides estimates of peak flow magnitude and frequency for ungaged sites. Regression equations have been developed to predict various return frequency flows for ungaged streams in each region based on precipitation, climate, and terrain factors.

31.5. Scope of Work

Basin characteristics and streamflow measurements were compiled at two sites in the study area: Williams Creek and the unnamed stream in the Y Valley. A crest gage was installed in the Y Valley in 2004, and a crest gage was installed in Williams Creek in 2005. Monthly discharge measurements were collected in the Y Valley in both years, while discharge measurements in Williams Creek were limited to 2005. Figure 31-1 shows the gage locations for the 2004 and 2005 data collection.

The baseline study has been conducted according to the approach described in Chapter 4, Surface Water Hydrology, of the consolidated study program for Pebble Project (a copy of which is provided in Appendix E of this environmental baseline document). The study was designed to account for the wide range in climatic conditions and stream types encountered in the study area. Chapter 4 of the *Draft Environmental Baseline Studies, 2004 Progress Reports* (NDM, 2005) described the preliminary findings in 2004 and provided the necessary tools to support the environmental process. The primary focus of the work in 2004 was on the Bristol Bay drainages and selection of corridor-wide hydrologic models.

31.6. Methods

31.6.1. Basin Analysis and Field Work

31.6.1.1. Basin Characteristics

Basin characteristic files were created for each watershed in the study area. The files catalogued information on the physical and climatic nature of each basin. Drainage basin areas were defined for each stream in the study area using USGS topographic maps overlain with watershed boundaries from the Alaska Watershed and Stream Hydrologic Enhanced Datasets (USGS, 2002). Maps were imported into AutoCAD format and enhanced using ArcGIS mapping objects. Watershed maps for each drainage basin included in this study are presented in Appendix 31A.

USGS topographic information was supplemented by aerial photography (1978, 2002, and 2003) to create basin characteristic files for each proposed gaging station. The basin characteristics files include the information summarized in Table 31-1. A digital version of the state precipitation map by Jones and Fahl (1994) was used to determine average basin precipitation. The basin characteristic files are used in the USGS regional regression analyses to predict characteristic flows in each stream. Basin characteristic data for each gage station are presented in Appendix 31A.

31.6.1.2. Gage Station Installation

Prior to actual field data collection, a review of available information from sources including the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), the ADNOR-OHMP, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) River Forecast Center, as well as existing aerial photography from 1978, 2002, and 2003, was used to plan the proposed gaging network.

Field data were collected in accordance with the standards set forth in the *National Handbook of Recommended Methods for Water-data Acquisition* (USGS, 1977 plus updates). Crest gages were installed at each selected gaging location to record high water levels occurring between monitoring events. A crest gage is designed to measure the maximum instantaneous flood crest under conditions of transitory or transient flow.

The crest gages were constructed of 2-inch galvanized pipe containing a wooden staff held in a fixed position relative to a datum (an assumed datum of 100 was used on all crest gages). Care was taken to ensure the proper placement of intake holes in the bottom of the pipe to minimize the nonhydrostatic drawdown or super elevation of the water levels. A typical crest-gage installation is shown in Photo 31-1.

The crest gage is a simple device intended to measure peak flow stages. The gage includes granulated cork stored in the bottom of the capped pipe. As a transitory flood wave passes, the water rises in the pipe, and the cork floats on the water surface. As the water recedes, the cork adheres to the staff inside the pipe (Photo 31-2), thereby retaining a record of the crest stage of flood. The height of the flood peak is obtained by measuring the elevation of the flood mark relative to an established reference point on the pipe.

During installation of the gage, stream cross-sections were surveyed at the gage location starting at a rebar driven into the bank just beyond the ordinary high-water mark and proceeding across the river perpendicular to the stream channel, as shown in Photo 31-3. Survey measurements were taken generally 100 feet upstream and downstream to record the stream-channel slope at the crest gage. Types of data collected during installation of the gages are summarized in Table 31-2.

31.6.1.3. Stream Discharge Measurement

Stream discharge data were collected during monthly site visits. For each data collection event, the current water-surface elevation, stream discharge, and hydraulic slope upstream and downstream were measured at each gaging location. The crest-gage reading was also collected to determine peak flow stages that had occurred between monitoring events.

The methodology for measuring discharge is described in the document *Discharge Measurements at Gaging Stations* (Buchanan and Somers, 1969) and in Chapter 7.3. A discharge measurement in progress is shown in Photo 31-4.

31.6.1.4. Stage-Discharge Rating Curves

The stream discharge measurements were mostly collected during relatively low flow conditions. Stage-discharge rating curves could not be developed due to the limited range of flow conditions measured. Therefore, the crest gage observations cannot be related to rating curves to estimate the corresponding peak discharges. Similarly, the channel cross-section surveys and slope measurements were not used to develop rating curves based on Manning's equation due to the lack of high flow measurements to guide the estimation of Manning's coefficient ("n").

31.6.1.5. Photographic Documentation

During installation of the crest gages and at seasonal high- and low-flow events, photographs were taken. Photographs also were taken upstream and downstream of each crest gage. High-water marks from past flood events were identified and photographed. The photographs depict conditions that were experienced as the study progressed. The photographs of each gage are shown with the individual gage data in Appendix 31A.

31.6.1.6. Stream Classification

The basin characteristic files contain a row in the spreadsheet with a listing of the "Stream classification at gage site (Montgomery method)." The Montgomery and Buffington method for channel-reach morphology in mountain drainage basins is currently the State of Alaska's preferred method for stream classification (Montgomery and Buffington, 1997). The stream classification used in this analysis is based on a Level 1 assessment. The Level 1 assessment characterizes the types of channels that occur only within the study area corridor and describes the channel morphology near the gage station. The Alaska Highway Drainage Manual describes stream classification in a similar methodology (ADOT&PF, 2004).

31.7. Regional Analysis

Regional regression equations published in the USGS publications WRIR 03-4114 (Wiley and Curran, 2003) and WRIR 03-4188 (Curran et al., 2003) are used to estimate characteristic flows in ungaged streams in Alaska. These equations require inputs of basin characteristic data for each stream of interest. The regional regression equations for Region 4, in which the study area is located, were developed on the basis of USGS streamflow data recorded at a relatively sparse gaging station network within a large region with diverse physiographic and climatic conditions. As such, the regression equations contain considerable uncertainty. The eastern part of the transportation corridor study area lies close to Region 3 and may be better represented by the USGS gaging stations used in the Region 3 regression analysis, so the regression equations for both Regions 3 and 4 have been used to estimate high-duration flows and peak flows in the study area. For low-duration flows, Regions 3 and 4 were combined for the USGS regression analysis, so a single set of equations represents both regions. The regional regression equations are provided in Chapter 7.

31.8. Results and Discussion

31.8.1. Basin Analysis and Field Work

The 2004 through 2005 study program developed information on basin and channel characteristics and limited data on streamflows. The observations and conclusions presented in this report are based on less than 1 year of data for most streams in the study area. Furthermore, the autumn rainy season was late arriving in 2004, so the streamflow measurements collected in August and September 2004 were lower than would normally be expected for that time of year.

The basin characteristics data required for input to the USGS regional regression equations are presented in Table 31-3. Additional information on each basin is provided in Appendix 31A, including tables with additional basin characteristics data, a description of the channel where it crosses the study area, and site photographs.

The instantaneous discharge measurements collected at each gage station are presented in Table 31-4. Additional information related to the discharge measurements is provided in Appendix 31A, including the water surface elevation at the time of measurement and the crest gage readings indicating maximum water level since the previous site visit.

31.8.2. Regional Analysis

The estimated monthly low-duration flows at each gage station for the months of July, August, and September—based on the USGS regression equations for Regions 3 and 4 combined—are presented in Table 31-5. Measured flows in August 2005 are compared to the regional estimates in Table 31-6. The measured flows have exceedence durations of greater than 95 percent.

The estimated annual high-duration flows at each gage station, based on the USGS Region 3 and Region 4 regression equations, are presented in Table 31-7. The Region 3 equations generally predict larger discharges for specified high-flow durations, ranging from an average of 1.2 times larger than the

Region 4 estimates for the 15 percent exceedence duration, to 1.6 times greater than the Region 4 estimates for the 1 percent exceedence duration.

The estimated peak streamflow values at each gage station for recurrence intervals of 2 through 500 years, based on the USGS Region 3 and Region 4 regression equations, are presented in Table 31-8. The Region 3 equations predict larger discharges for shorter recurrence intervals and similar discharges for longer recurrence intervals, ranging from an average of 1.8 times larger than the Region 4 estimates for the 2-year flood, to 1.3 times greater than the Region 4 estimates for the 500-year flood.

31.9. Summary

The transportation corridor study area in the Cook Inlet drainages is generally characterized by rugged mountainous terrain and a climate influenced by the maritime coastal exposure of Cook Inlet.

Basin and channel characteristics and spot discharge measurements were compiled in 2004 and 2005 on two streams within the study area: Williams Creek and the unnamed stream in the “Y Valley,” which is located on the peninsula between Iliamna and Iniskin Bays. Crest gages were installed to record instantaneous stage peaks, but stage-discharge rating curves were not developed and peak discharge estimates associated with the stage peaks are not presented.

Streamflow statistics have been estimated at the two study sites using regional regression equations developed by the USGS. The low-duration estimates indicate that the measured flows in August 2005 had exceedence durations of greater than 95 percent. High-duration flows and peak flows were also estimated, but no field data or USGS gage data were available for comparison.

31.10. References

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Wiley, J.B., and J.H. Curran. 2003. Estimating Annual High-flow Statistics and Monthly and Seasonal Low-flow Statistics for Ungaged Sites on Streams in Alaska and Conterminous Basins in Canada. Water Resources Investigations Report 03-4114. U.S. Geological Survey.

TABLES

TABLE 31-1
Basin Characteristics File Data

| Parameter | Variable | Unit |
|----------------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Drainage area | Da | mi ² |
| Storage area (lakes and ponds) | St | mi ² |
| Glacier area | Gl | mi ² |
| Forested area | Fr | mi ² |
| Mean basin elevation | El | feet |
| Main channel slope | Sl | % |
| Main channel length | C | miles |
| Mean annual precipitation | Pr | inches |
| Mean minimum January temperature | T | °F |

Notes:

a. °F = degree(s) Fahrenheit, mi² = square miles.

TABLE 31-2
Gage Station Installation Data

| Parameter | Description | Method |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Location | Latitude and longitude in degrees/minutes/seconds | Global positioning system |
| Stream cross-section | Hydraulic cross-section perpendicular to flow | Rod and transit survey |
| Skew of flow | Cosine of the perpendicular to the hydraulic cross-sections in feet | Rod and transit survey |
| Gage datum | Elevation of reference point on crest gage | Assumed datum of 100 feet except for Iliamna River station with USGS-established datum |
| Crest-gage reading | Flow height above datum | Measured by gage |
| Mean velocity | Average velocity through wetted cross-section | In-stream flow meter and area average method |
| Hydraulic slope | Average slope of right and left banks up- and downstream of gaging station, or slope between high-water marks using slope-area method of computing peak discharge in feet per feet | Rod and transit survey |
| High-water marks | Evidence of major flood events at a given site | Visual observation |
| Ordinary high water | Legally defined by Alaska Statutes Titles 16 and 41 as the line on the bank established by fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas | Visual observation |
| Water temperature | Degrees Fahrenheit | Hand-held thermometer |
| Photographic documentation | Upstream and downstream conditions, streambed materials | Digital camera |

TABLE 31-3

Gage Station Basin Characteristics - Transportation Corridor Study Area

| Station | Stream | Period of Record | Drainage Basin Characteristics | | | | | |
|---------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | | Basin Area (mi ²) | Lake & Pond Area (mi ²) | Lake & Pond Area (%) | Mean Basin Elev. (feet) | Mean Annual Precipitation (inches) | Mean January Minimum Temp. (°F) |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 2004-05 | 12.39 | 0 | 0.0 | 1165 | 70 | 12 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | 2004-05 | 4.60 | 0 | 0.0 | 1775 | 70 | 11 |

Notes:

a. °F = degree(s) Fahrenheit, mi² = square miles.

TABLE 31-4
Instantaneous Discharge Measurements

| 2004 Instantaneous Discharge Measurements | | July 2004 | | August 2004 | | September 2004 | | October 2004 | |
|---|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Sample Location (West to East) | | Date | Discharge (cfs) | Date | Discharge (cfs) | Date | Discharge (cfs) | Date | Discharge (cfs) |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | - | - | 18-Aug | 27.0 | 26-Sep | 16.1 | 15-Oct | 121.8 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| 2005 Winter Instantaneous Discharge Measurements | | February 2005 | | March 2005 | | April 2005 | |
|--|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| Sample Location (West to East) | | Date | Discharge (cfs) | Date | Discharge (cfs) | Date | Discharge (cfs) |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 15-Feb | 24.1 | - | - | 2-Apr | 20.7 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| 2005 Instantaneous Discharge Measurements | | May 2005 | | June 2005 | | July 2005 | | August 2005 | |
|---|-------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Sample Location (West to East) | | Date | Discharge (cfs) | Date | Discharge (cfs) | Date | Discharge (cfs) | Date | Discharge (cfs) |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 3-May | 164.8 | 13-Jun | 113.8 | 13-Jul | 112.7 | 9-Aug | 44.9 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | - | - | - | - | 14-Jul | 47.7 | 9-Aug | 14.3 |

| 2005 Instantaneous Discharge Measurements | | September 2005 | | October 2005 | |
|---|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Sample Location (West to East) | | Date | Discharge (cfs) | Date | Discharge (cfs) |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 9-Sep | 108.4 | 6-Oct | 57.6 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | 9-Sep | 87.5 | 6-Oct | 18.0 |

Notes:

a. cfs = cubic feet per second.

TABLE 31-5
Estimated Monthly Low-Duration Streamflows at Gage Stations based on USGS
Region 3 and 4 Regression Equations

| Station | Stream | Low-Duration Flows Estimated from Regression Equations (cfs) ^a | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | 98% | 95% | 90% | 85% | 80% | 70% | 60% | 50% |
| July | | | | | | | | | |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 25.5 | 30.0 | 35.0 | 39.2 | 42.7 | 49.0 | 55.6 | 62.4 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | 11.1 | 12.9 | 15.4 | 17.2 | 18.9 | 21.8 | 24.8 | 27.9 |
| August | | | | | | | | | |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 18.4 | 21.8 | 25.2 | 28.1 | 30.7 | 36.2 | 41.7 | 48.1 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | 7.4 | 8.8 | 10.2 | 11.4 | 12.5 | 14.8 | 17.1 | 19.7 |
| September | | | | | | | | | |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 16.4 | 19.9 | 24.6 | 28.1 | 31.4 | 37.8 | 44.8 | 53.2 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | 5.4 | 6.5 | 8.2 | 9.4 | 10.5 | 12.8 | 15.3 | 18.3 |

Note:

- a. n% refers to n-percent exceedence probability.
- b. cfs = cubic feet per second.

TABLE 31-6
Flow Duration of Observed Flows, August 2005

| Station | Stream | Observed Flow (cfs) | Approximate Flow Duration ^a |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------|--|
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 21.4 | 98% - 95% |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | 7.1 | >98% |

Note:

- a. Flow durations estimated from Table 31-5.
- b. cfs = cubic feet per second

TABLE 31-7

Estimated Annual High-Duration Streamflows at Gage Stations based on USGS Regional Regression Equations

| | | Annual High-Duration Flows Estimated from Regression Equations (cfs) ^a | | | | | | |
|----------|-------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Station | Stream | 15% | 10% | 5% | 4% | 3% | 2% | 1% |
| Region 3 | | | | | | | | |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 116 | 146 | 204 | 224 | 252 | 296 | 381 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | 44 | 57 | 82 | 91 | 104 | 123 | 162 |
| Region 4 | | | | | | | | |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 104 | 126 | 164 | 176 | 193 | 216 | 254 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | 36 | 45 | 60 | 64 | 71 | 80 | 96 |

Note:

a. n% refers to n-percent exceedence probability

b. cfs = cubic feet per second

TABLE 31-8

Estimated Peak Streamflows at Gage Stations based on USGS Regional Regression Equations

| Station | Stream | Peak Flows Estimated from Regression Equations (cfs) | | | | | | | |
|----------|-------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | Q2 | Q5 | Q10 | Q20 | Q50 | Q100 | Q200 | Q500 |
| Region 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 788 | 1,148 | 1,404 | 1,738 | 1,998 | 2,259 | 2,542 | 2,920 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | 332 | 485 | 594 | 737 | 848 | 960 | 1,082 | 1,245 |
| Region 4 | | | | | | | | | |
| GS-21 | Creek in Y Valley | 451 | 709 | 911 | 1,186 | 1,403 | 1,624 | 1,858 | 2,196 |
| GS-22 | Williams Creek | 177 | 288 | 378 | 502 | 601 | 703 | 811 | 969 |

Note:

a. cfs = cubic feet per second

FIGURES

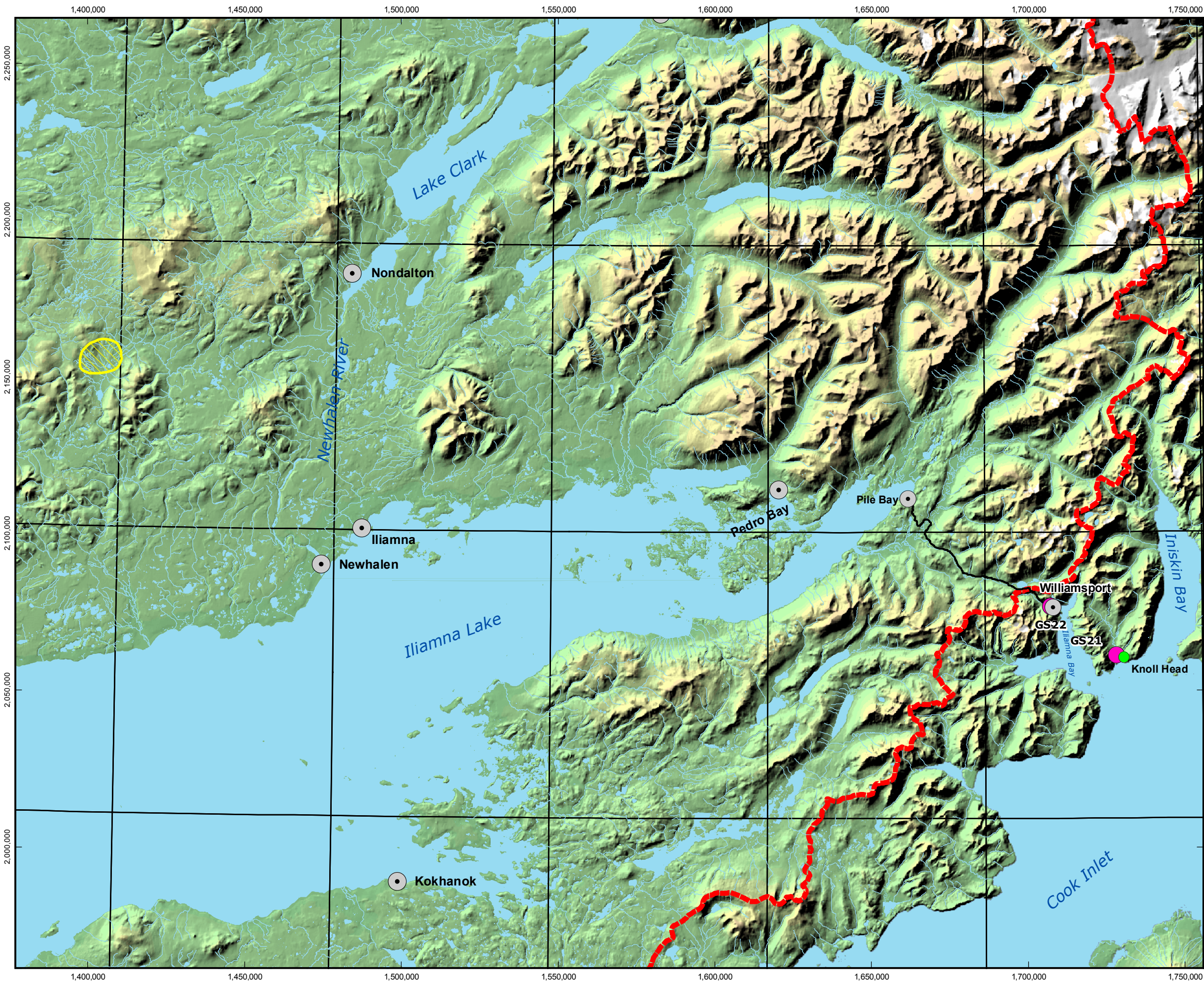
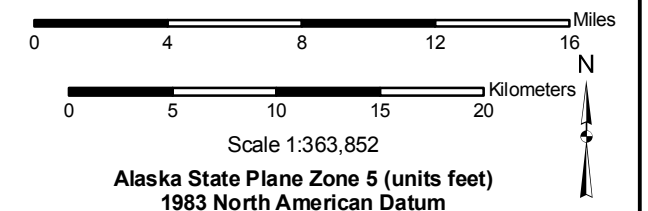


Figure 31-1
Surface Water Gage Stations
Transportation Corridor
Cook Inlet Study Area
2004-2005

Legend

- Surface Water Gage Station (Pebble Project)
- GS21: Example of Pebble Project Surface Water Gage Station Identification Number
- Knoll Head
- Communities
- Existing Roads
- ▨ General Deposit Location
- - - Bristol Bay/Cook Inlet Drainage Boundary



| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| File: Hydro_EBD1b_V07.mxd | Date: March 28, 2011 |
| Version: 7 | Author: BEESC-ME |

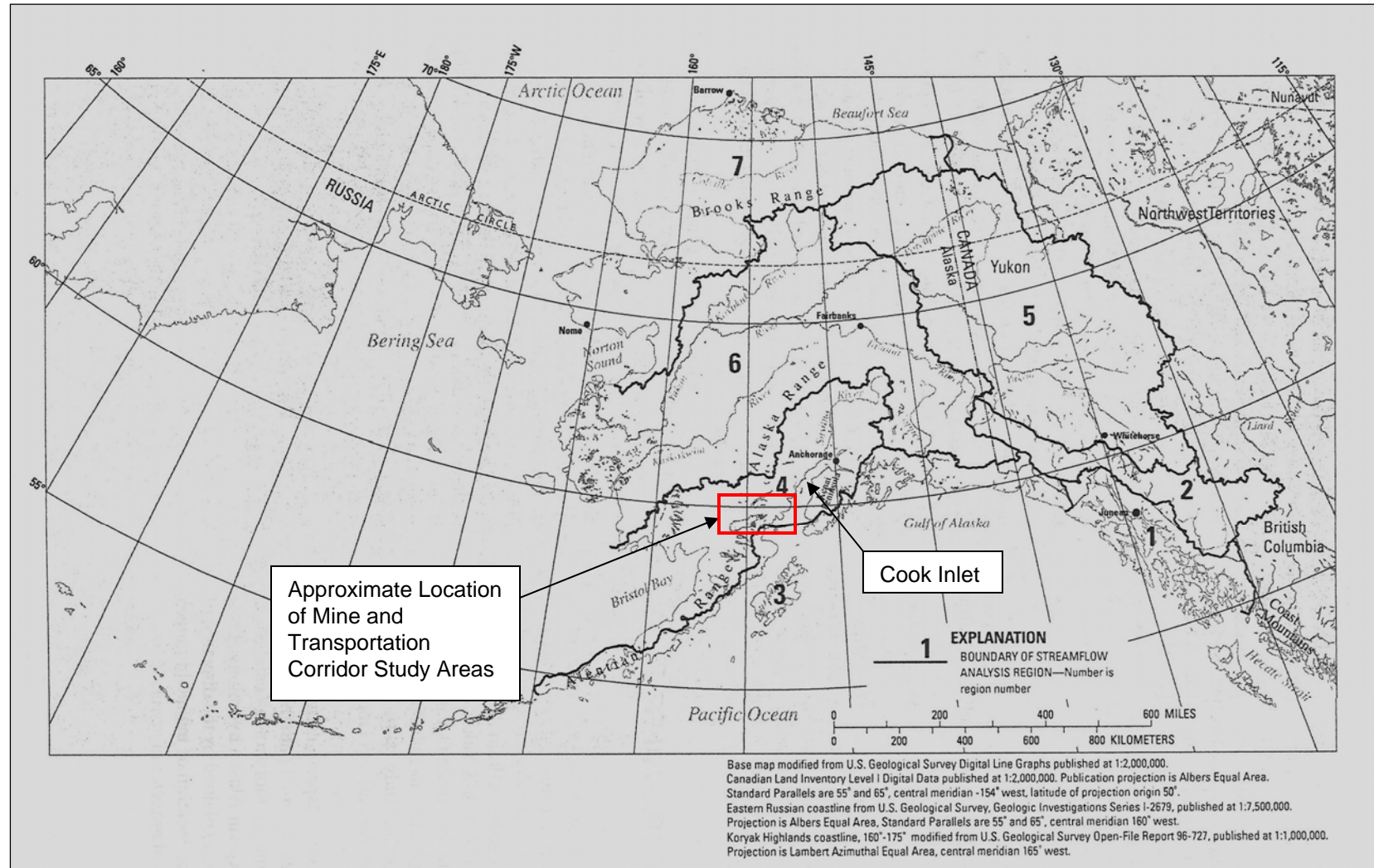


FIGURE 31-2
USGS Streamflow Analysis Regions of Alaska

Source: Curran et al., 2003.

PHOTOGRAPHS



PHOTO 31-1: Example of newly installed crest gage at No-Name Creek near North Head (Y Valley).



PHOTO 31-2: Checking staff inside crest gage for peak flood data at No-Name Creek near North Head (Y Valley).



PHOTO 31-3: Example of survey for stream cross section.



PHOTO 31-4: Field crew taking a discharge measurement using the wading method on Williams Creek.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 31A

Gage Station Files Transportation Corridor Study Area

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Attachment 2; Gaging Station GS-22, Williams Creek

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| cfs | cubic feet per second |
| ft | foot (feet) |
| °F | degrees Fahrenheit |
| mi ² | square mile(s) |

GAGE STATION FILES, TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR STUDY AREA

1. INTRODUCTION

Data were collected at two sites on two streams within the Cook Inlet drainages. The following is a brief description of each stream at the gage station location. Gaging records and basin characteristic files of each stream are included in Attachments 1 and 2.

2. RESULTS

2.1 Gage Station GS-21, Creek in Y Valley

The locally named Y Valley is an officially unnamed valley that encompasses the central portion of the headland between Iliamna Bay and Iniskin Bay. The primary creek starts as two tributaries that join in the upper portion of the valley to form a “Y.” The drainage basin is steep in the upper reaches but generally flat to gently sloping over the lower reaches where the gage was located. Flows in the creek are characterized by low to moderate velocities, with typical bed materials consisting of silt, sand, and small gravel. The drainage is well vegetated but contains no ponds or other visible water storage. Outflow from the stream is influenced by a large tidal pond at the mouth.

2.2 Gage Station GS-22, Williams Creek

Williams Creek is a high-velocity shallow stream. It was included in the study because of the potential for flooding along the transportation corridor. The bed material in the stream is generally composed of large cobbles and small boulders. The stream is generally well contained in a single channel until it reaches the broad plain at its mouth, where it branches into numerous small channels before discharging into Iliamna Bay. Local resident and owner of the property at Williamsport, Ray Williams, stated that the stream often jumps its banks and floods the existing port area. The banks of the stream have been mechanically stabilized to prevent future flooding of the property. Vegetation at the head of the drainage is sparse. The drainage contains no ponds or other visible storage. This creek responds rapidly to runoff events.

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT 1

Gaging Station GS-21 Creek in Y Valley

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1, GS-21 – Creek in Y Valley: Basin Characteristic File Data

Table 2, GS-21 – Creek in Y Valley: Monthly Discharge

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 31A1-1, Transportation Corridor, Cook Inlet Drainages, GS-21 Drainage Basin, Y Valley

TABLES

TABLE 1
GS-21 - Creek in Y Valley: Basin Characteristic File Data

| Parameter | Variable | Unit | Value |
|--|----------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Latitude | Lat | ddmmss | 59° 38' 30" |
| Longitude | Long | ddmmss | 153° 31' 48" |
| Drainage area | Da | Square miles | 12.39 mi ² |
| Storage area (lakes and ponds) | St | Square miles | 0.0 mi ² |
| Glacier area | Gl | Square miles | 0.0 mi ² |
| Forested area | Fr | Square miles | 6.32 mi ² |
| Mean basin elevation | El | Feet | 1,165 ft |
| Main channel slope | Sl | % | 6% |
| Main channel length | C | Miles | 5.48 mi |
| Mean annual precipitation | Pr | Inches | 70 in |
| Mean minimum January temperature | T | °Fahrenheit | 12°F |
| Stream classification at gage site (Montgomery method) | Level 1 | Description | 3b; unstable; overbank flow |

TABLE 2
GS-21 - Creek in Y Valley: Monthly Discharge

| Date | Water Year | Peak Gage Reading | Water Surface Elevation (ft) | Stream Width (ft) | Number of Sections | Total Discharge (cfs) | Comment |
|--------|------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 18-Aug | 2004 | New Set | 97.60 | 32.9 | 16 | 27.01 | |
| 26-Sep | 2004 | 0 | 97.48 | 32.0 | 8 | 16.12 | |
| 15-Oct | 2004 | 9" | 98.72 | 51.0 | 9 | 121.83 | Estimated discharge-partial measure |
| 15-Feb | 2005 | 0 | 97.00 | 41.5 | 18 | 24.12 | Estimated discharge-partial measure |
| 2-Apr | 2005 | 0 | - | 32.3 | 20 | 20.692 | |
| 3-May | 2005 | 0 | 98.92 | 68.0 | 31 | 164.841 | New location for discharge measurement -300' upstream, rebar set |
| 13-Jun | 2005 | 5" | 98.60 | 65.4 | 16 | 113.756 | |
| 13-Jul | 2005 | Down | 97.40 | 59.0 | 30 | 112.693 | Water surface taken at rebar |
| 9-Aug | 2005 | Down | 95.02 | 52.8 | 27 | 44.924 | Water surface taken at rebar |
| 9-Sep | 2005 | Down | 97.32 | 58.3 | 15 | 108.345 | Water surface taken at rebar |
| 6-Oct | 2005 | Down | 95.68 | 59.0 | 31 | 57.572 | Water surface taken at rebar |

Notes:

a. ft = feet, cfs = cubic feet per second.

FIGURE

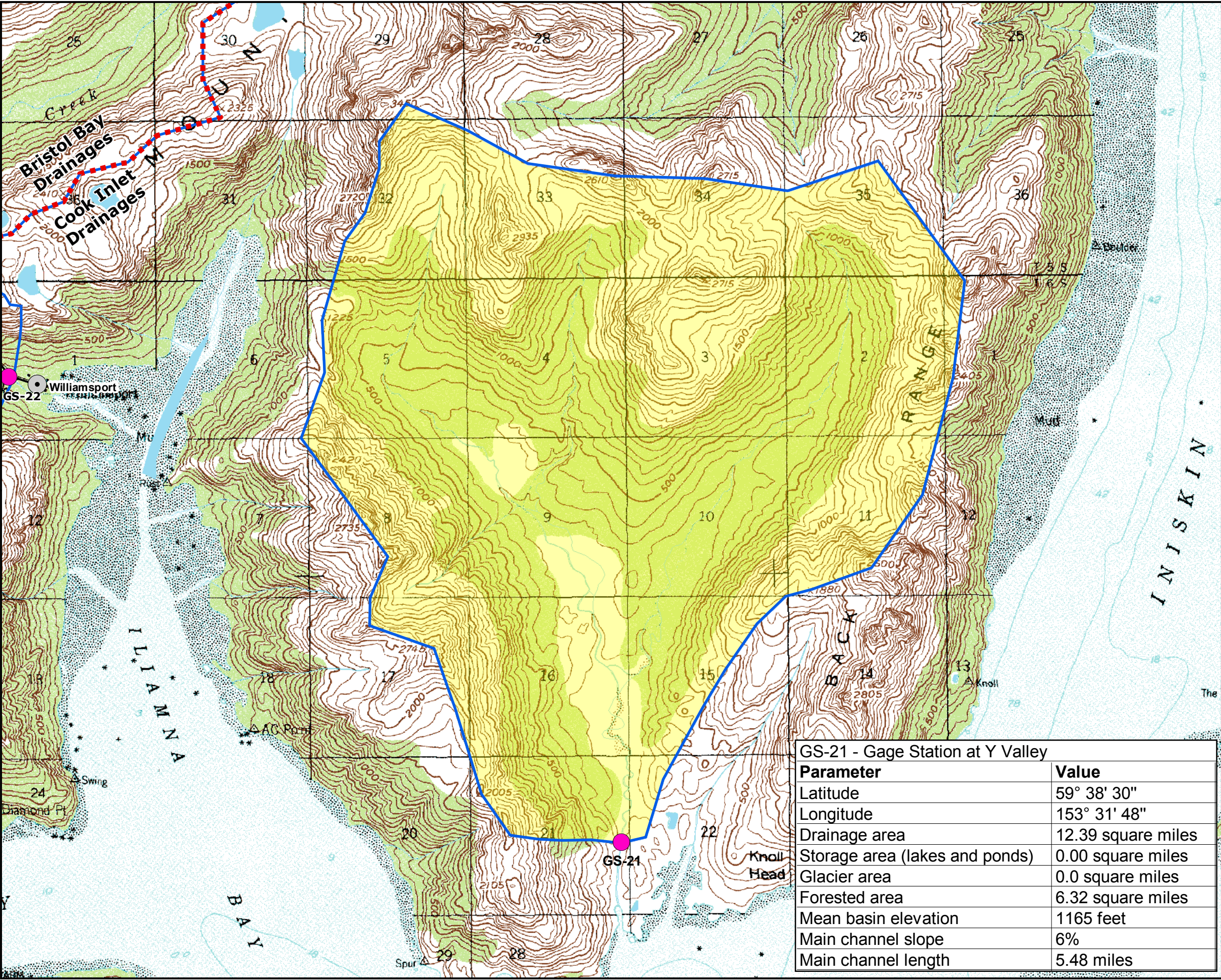
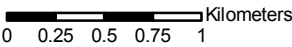
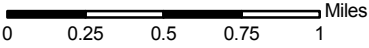


Figure 31A1-1
Transportation Corridor
Cook Inlet Drainages
GS-21 Drainage Basin
Y Valley

- Legend**
- Surface Water Gage Station
 - Communities
 - Existing Roads
 - Bristol Bay/Cook Inlet Drainages Boundary
 - Drainage Basin GS-21

| GS-21 - Gage Station at Y Valley | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Parameter | Value |
| Latitude | 59° 38' 30" |
| Longitude | 153° 31' 48" |
| Drainage area | 12.39 square miles |
| Storage area (lakes and ponds) | 0.00 square miles |
| Glacier area | 0.0 square miles |
| Forested area | 6.32 square miles |
| Mean basin elevation | 1165 feet |
| Main channel slope | 6% |
| Main channel length | 5.48 miles |



Scale 1:38,890

Alaska State Plane Zone 5 (units feet)
1983 North American Datum



| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| File: Hydro_EBDao_V6.mxd | Date: March 28, 2011 |
| Version: 6 | Author: BEESC-ME |

ATTACHMENT 2

Gaging Station GS-22 Williams Creek

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1, GS-22 – Williams Creek: Basin Characteristic File Data

Table 2, GS-22 – Williams Creek: Monthly Discharge

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 31A2-1, Transportation Corridor, Cook Inlet Drainages, GS-22 Drainage Basin, Williams Creek

TABLES

TABLE 1
GS-22 - Williams Creek: Basin Characteristic File Data

| Parameter | Variable | Unit | Value |
|--|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Latitude | Lat | ddmmss | 59° 41' 03" |
| Longitude | Long | ddmmss | 153° 38' 03" |
| Drainage area | Da | Square miles | 4.6 mi ² |
| Storage area (lakes and ponds) | St | Square miles | 0 mi ² |
| Glacier area | Gl | Square miles | 0.31 mi ² |
| Forested area | Fr | Square miles | 1.3 mi ² |
| Mean basin elevation | El | Feet | 1775 ft |
| Main channel slope | Sl | % | 15% |
| Main channel length | C | Miles | 3.5 mi |
| Mean annual precipitation | Pr | Inches | 70 in |
| Mean minimum January temperature | T | °Fahrenheit | 11°F |
| Stream classification at gage site (Montgomery method) | Level 1 | Description | 2; unstable; high velocity |

TABLE 2
GS-22 - Williams Creek: Monthly Discharge

| Date | Water Year | Peak Gage Reading | Water Surface Elevation (ft) | Stream Width (ft) | Number of Sections | Total Discharge (cfs) | Comment |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| 14-Jul | 2005 | New Set | 99.00 | 35.0 | 18 | 47.648 | |
| 9-Aug | 2005 | 0 | 98.76 | 28.8 | 30 | 14.269 | |
| 9-Sep | 2005 | 0 | 100.00 | 38.0 | 20 | 87.511 | Flooding |
| 6-Oct | 2005 | 6" | 98.80 | 33.0 | 17 | 18.039 | |

Notes:

- a. ft = feet, cfs = cubic feet per second.

FIGURE

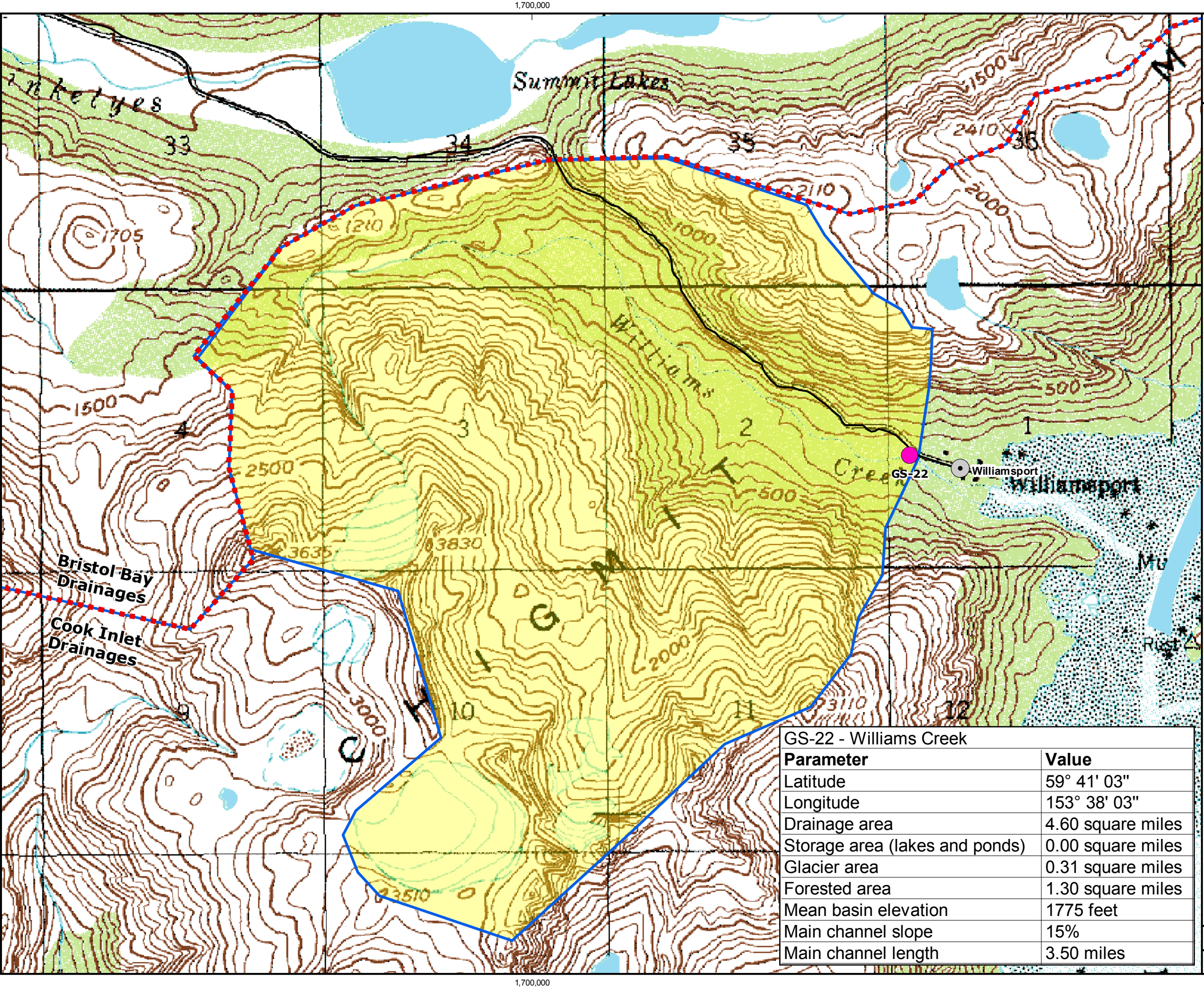
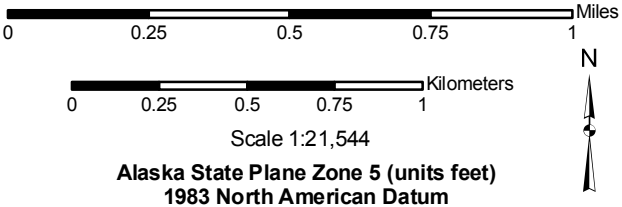


Figure 31A2-1
Transportation Corridor
Cook Inlet Drainages
GS-22 Drainage Basin
Williams Creek

- Legend**
- Surface Water Gage Station
 - Communities
 - Existing Roads
 - Bristol Bay/Cook Inlet Drainages Boundary
 - Drainage Basin GS-22



| GS-22 - Williams Creek | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Parameter | Value |
| Latitude | 59° 41' 03" |
| Longitude | 153° 38' 03" |
| Drainage area | 4.60 square miles |
| Storage area (lakes and ponds) | 0.00 square miles |
| Glacier area | 0.31 square miles |
| Forested area | 1.30 square miles |
| Mean basin elevation | 1775 feet |
| Main channel slope | 15% |
| Main channel length | 3.50 miles |