

## BECKLER RIVER DRAINAGE

This section encompasses the entire Beckler River, more than 13 mainstem river miles, plus 28 tributaries adding 167 linear stream miles. The area is located north of Skykomish in northeastern King and southeastern Snohomish counties. Access is via Highway 2, and Forest Service roads. Except for a section along the lower half-mile, the entire drainage is in Snoqualmie National Forest.

### Stream Description

From the Jack Pass vicinity, the Beckler flows southeast about 5 miles to the Rapid River, then south-southwest nearly 8 miles to its confluence with the South Fork Skykomish (R.M. 66.6). The principal tributary is Rapid River (R.M. 7.7). Other smaller streams include Evergreen, 4th of July, Johnson, and Eage creeks.

Over its upper 7 miles the Beckler drops through a narrow valley with steep, densely forested side slopes, some rising sharply to over 4,000 feet. Over the lower 6 miles the valley widens slightly, containing moderate to dense mixed deciduous and conifer cover. The valley broadens considerably in the lower half-mile as it opens out onto the South Fork Skykomish valley. Side slopes along the lower river remain mostly steep with thick conifer cover. Some clear-cut logging has occurred over a few sections, generally away from the main river. Development is limited primarily to the lower mile. Skykomish is the area's only community, with a few scattered summer-vacation residences located in the surrounding area. Principal activities are logging and recreation.

The Beckler has mostly steep gradient over its upper 1 to 2 miles, to near Evergreen Creek (R.M. 11.8). Its narrowly confined channel has numerous cascades and rapids and only a few small pools and short riffles. The bottom is predominantly boulder and rubble with some patch gravel riffles. For some 6 miles below Evergreen Creek the gradient is moderately steep. The channel remains confined with fall stream widths ranging 4-12 yards above the Rapid River and 10-30 yards below. It has mainly fast riffles, a few cascades or rapids, with a few stretches of good pool-riffle conditions. The bottom is essentially rubble with some boulder sections, a few gravel riffles and patch gravel strips. The banks are earth or rock cuts, with dense deciduous and conifer cover.

From approximately R.M. 6.0 to its South Fork Skykomish confluence, the Beckler contains mostly moderate gradient with only a few steeper areas. It has mostly fast riffles but a number of areas show good pool-riffle balance. The stream is largely confined with some channel splitting which serve as high water passages. Widths range from 12 to over 40 yards, averaging 22 yards during early fall. The bottom is rubble, boulder-strewn sections and some broad, lengthy gravel-rubble riffles. Banks along the lower river are low earth or rock cuts, with stretches of gently sloping rubble-boulder beach.

Except for the Rapid River, nearly all tributaries exhibit steep mountain character over their entire lengths. They have numerous cascades and rapids within narrow, confined channels, with boulder and rubble bottoms. Some contain moderate gradients over their lowermost reaches. Most have

dense forest canopy except where clear-cut logging has occurred.

The Rapid River presents mostly steep mountain character downstream to the lower 3 or 4 miles. Through this lower stretch it reveals a moderately steep gradient as the stream cuts through fairly narrow channel with numerous cascades, rapids and a few pool-riffle areas. Bottom composition is mainly boulder and rubble with some short gravel riffles and patch gravel strips. Much of the watershed has been logged, and is in varying degrees of reforestation. Cover ranges from sparse to moderate, mainly of deciduous growth, some mixed conifer.

### Salmon Utilization

The Beckler River receives both chinook and coho salmon. Chinook spawn mainly in the Beckler, and in accessible reaches of the Rapid River. Coho utilize the mainstem's shallower side channels, as well as accessible reaches of smaller tributaries. Juvenile salmon rear throughout these waters, with coho having year-round habitation.

### Limiting Factors

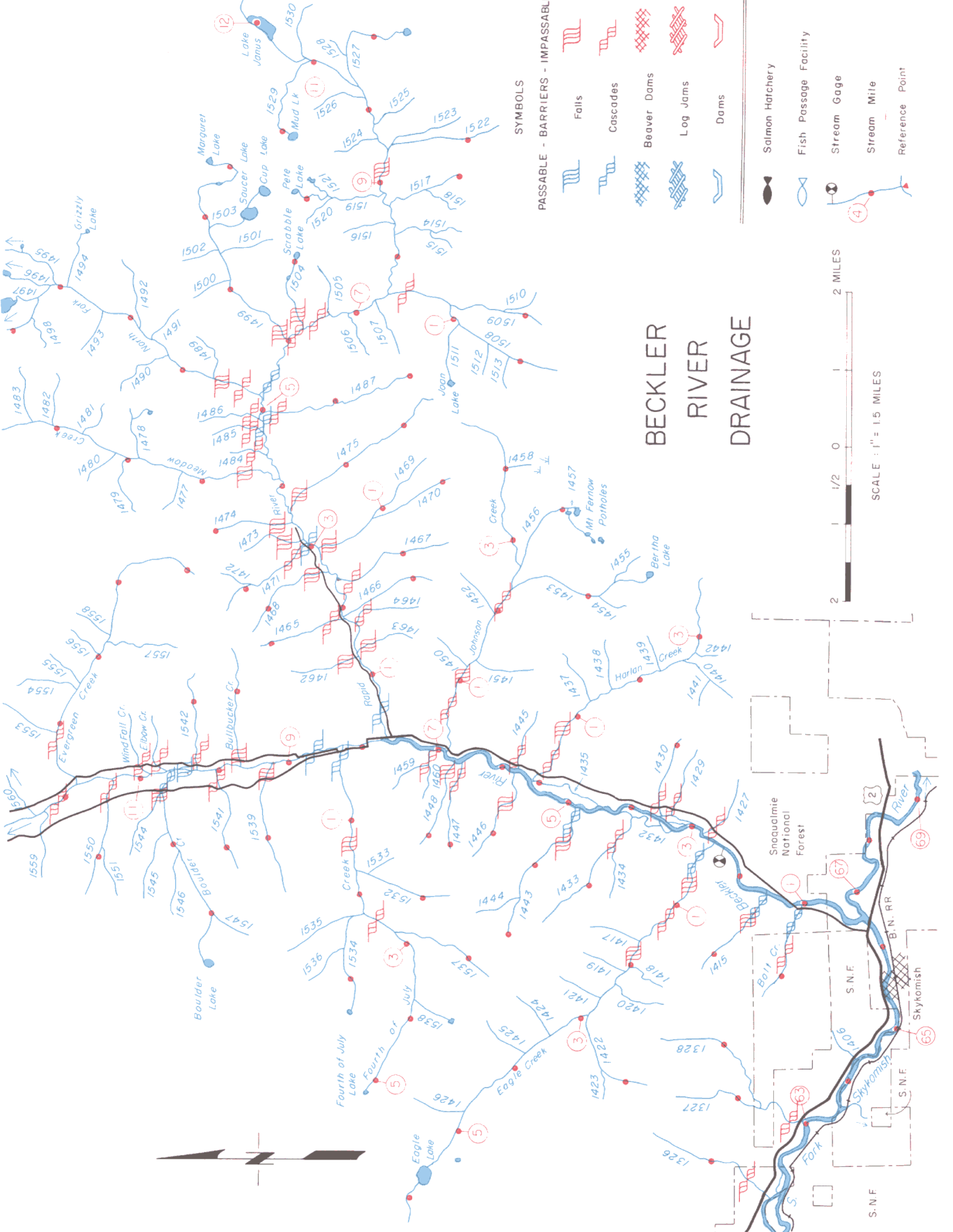
The only factor limiting salmon production is the natural steepening gradient in the higher mountain reaches. A potential limiting factor involves possible loss of stream-side cover, from logging or stream-side development.

### Beneficial Developments

Adult salmon reaching the Beckler have benefitted from a truck-and-haul operation, transporting them over a barrier on the lower South Fork Skykomish.

### Habitat Needs

Principal requirements to maintain the production capabilities in the drainage include preservation of existing stream-side cover, and maintenance of stream and streambed conditions in as near a natural state as possible.

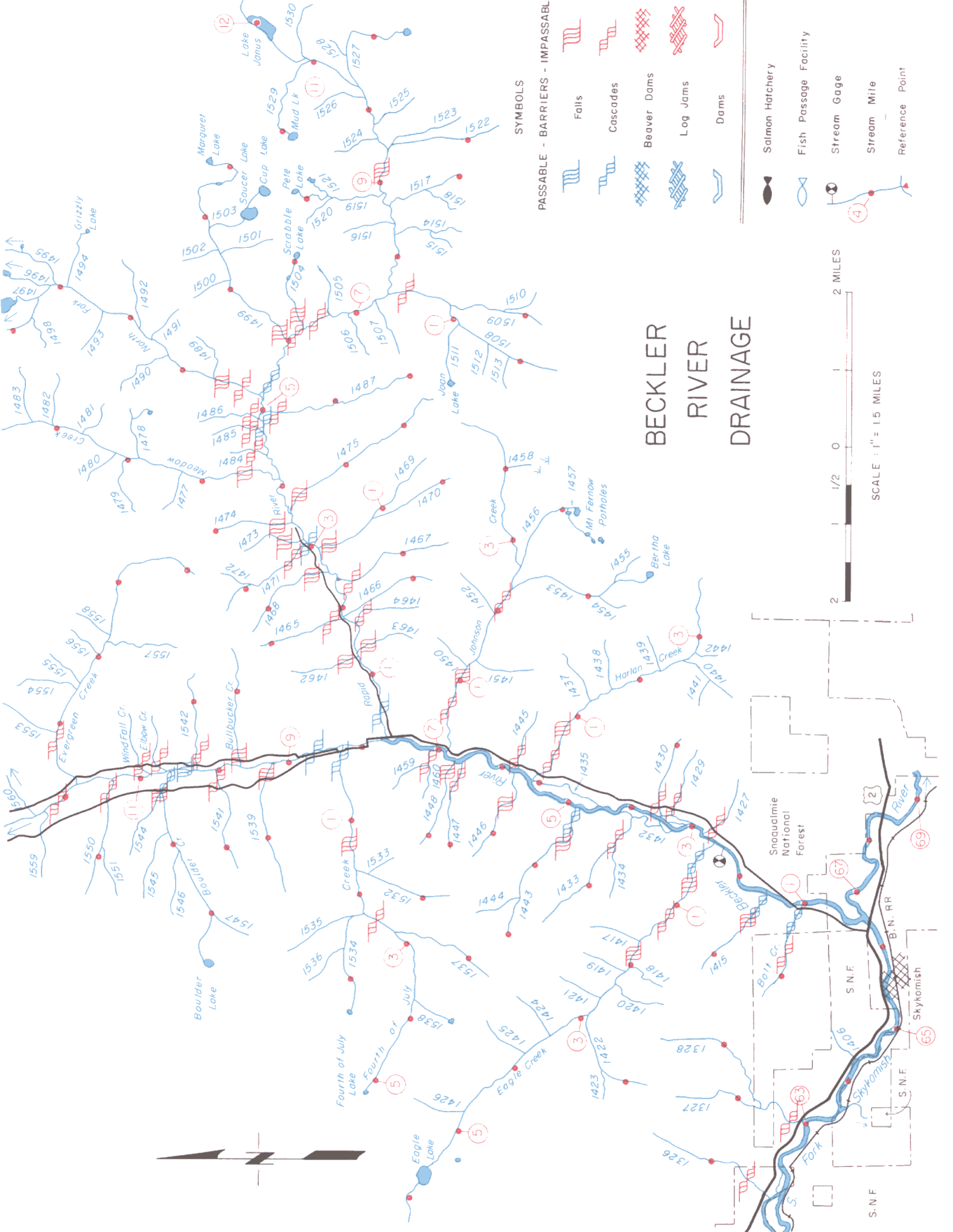
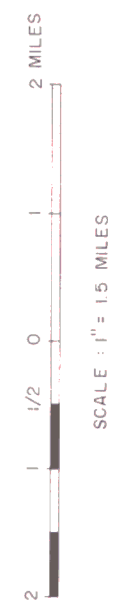


# BECKLER RIVER DRAINAGE

## SYMBOLS

PASSABLE - BARRIERS - IMPASSABLE	
	Falls
	Cascades
	Beaver Dams
	Log Jams
	Dams

	Salmon Hatchery
	Fish Passage Facility
	Stream Gage
	Stream Mile
	Reference Point



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**BECKLER RIVER DRAINAGE**  
**Snohomish River Basin — WRIA 07**

Stream Number	Stream Name	Location Of Mouth	Length	Drainage Area	Salmon Use
0012	Snohomish River				
	Snohomish R. cont. as Skykomish River	@ mi. 20.51	—	—	
	Skykomish R. cont. as S. Fk. Skykomish River	@ mi. 49.61	—	—	
1413	Beckler River	RB-66.6	13.2	101.0	Chin.,Coho,(Pink)
1414	Bolt Creek	RB-1.0	1.4	—	(Coho)
1415	Unnamed	RB-1.55	1.2	—	Unknown
1416	Eagle Creek	RB-2.6	6.3	—	(Chin.), (Coho)
1422	Unnamed	RB-2.95	1.3	—	None
	Eagle Lake	Outlet-5.6	—	—	
1428	Unnamed Side Channel	LB-2.95	0.55	—	(Chin.), (Coho), (Pink)
1430	Unnamed	LB-0.54	1.1	—	Unknown
1432	Unnamed Side Channel	RB-3.3	0.85	—	(Chin.), (Coho) (Pink)
1433	Unnamed	RB-0.7	1.75	—	Unknown
1435	Unnamed Side Channel	LB-4.55	1.05	—	(Chin.), (Coho) (Pink)
1436	Harlan Creek	LB-1.0	3.9	—	(Coho)
1443	Unnamed	RB-4.85	2.0	—	(Coho)
1446	Unnamed	RB-5.9	1.4	—	Unknown
1447	Unnamed	RB-6.7	1.05	—	Unknown
1448	Unnamed	RB-6.75	1.1	—	Unknown
1449	Johnson Creek	LB-6.9	4.9	—	(Chin.), (Coho)
1453	Unnamed	LB-2.4	1.9	—	None
	Bertha Lake	Outlet-1.9	—	—	
1456	Unnamed	LB-2.65	1.6	—	None
	Mt. Fernow Pothole No. 1	Outlet-1.1	—	—	
	Mt. Fernow Pothole No. 2	Outlet-1.5	—	—	
	Mt. Fernow Pothole No. 3	Outlet-1.6	—	—	
1461	Rapid River	LB-7.7	12.7	42.0	(Chin.), (Coho), (Pink)
1465	Unnamed	RB-1.8	1.1	—	Unknown
1466	Unnamed	LB-1.81	1.3	—	Unknown
1467	Unnamed	LB-2.4	1.6	—	Unknown
1468	Unnamed	RB-2.6	1.3	—	Unknown
1469	Unnamed	LB-2.9	1.9	—	Unknown

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Stream Number	Stream Name	Location Of Mouth	Length	Drainage Area	Salmon Use
1470	Unnamed	LB-0.8	1.1	—	Unknown
1471	Unnamed	RB-3.15	1.25	—	Unknown
1474	Unnamed	RB-3.45	1.0	—	Unknown
1475	Unnamed	LB-3.5	2.5	—	(Coho)
1476	Meadow Creek	RB-4.1	3.7	—	(Coho)
1487	Unnamed	LB-4.95	2.0	—	Unknown
1488	N. Fork	RB-5.21	4.0	—	(Coho)
1495	Unnamed	LB-3.15	1.3	—	None
1499	Unnamed	RB-6.0	3.3	—	None
	Margaret Lk.	Outlet-3.3	—	—	
1504	Unnamed	RB-6.25	1.0	—	None
1508	Unnamed	LB-7.45	2.5	—	None
1509	Unnamed	RB-0.8	1.3	—	None
1517	Unnamed	LB-8.65	1.0	—	None
1519	Unnamed	RB-8.85	1.1	—	None
	Pete Lake	Outlet-1.1	—	—	
1522	Unnamed	LB-9.4	1.4	—	None
1527	Unnamed	LB-10.25	1.4	—	None
	Unnamed Lake	Outlet-1.4	—	—	
1529	Unnamed	RB-11.0	1.1	—	None
	Lake Janus	Outlet-11.65	—	—	
1531	Fourth of July Cr.	RB-8.3	5.2	7.32	(Coho)
1532	Unnamed	LB-1.7	1.3	—	None
1534	Unnamed	LB-2.3	1.45	—	None
	Unnamed Lake	Outlet-1.45	—	—	
1537	Unnamed	RB-2.8	1.4	—	None
	Fourth of July Lk.	Outlet-5.2	—	—	
1539	Unnamed	RB-9.2	1.8	—	Unknown
1540	Bullbucker Creek	LB-9.65	1.5	—	Unknown
1541	Unnamed	RB-10.05	1.35	—	Unknown
1542	Unnamed	LB-10.25	1.3	—	Unknown
1543	Boulder Creek	RB-10.6	2.7	—	(Coho)
	Boulder Lake	Outlet-2.7	—	—	
1550	Unnamed	RB-11.35	1.55	—	Unknown
1552	Evergreen Creek	LB-11.8	4.15	—	(Coho)
1560	Unnamed	LB-12.5	1.5	—	None