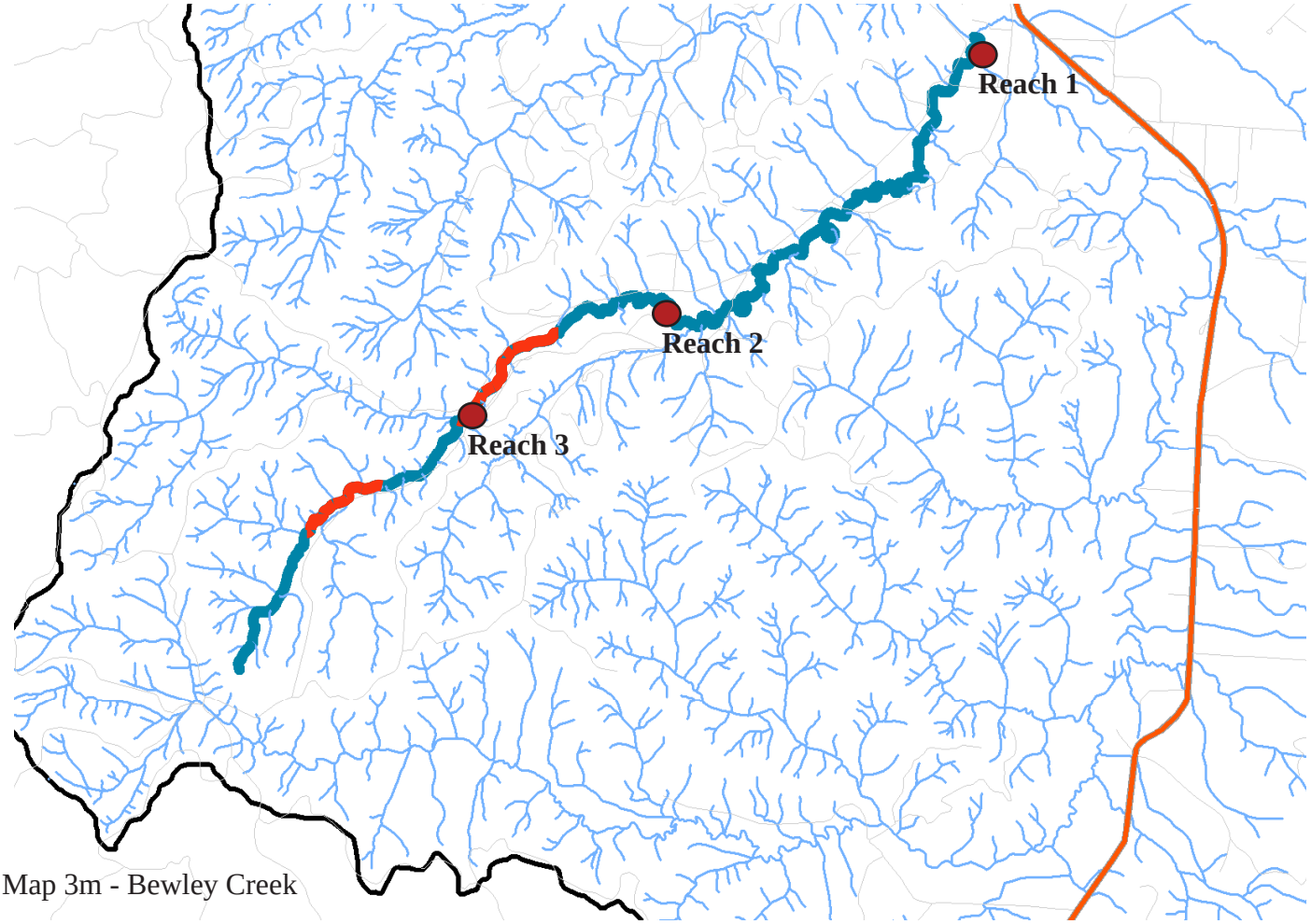

Map 3m - Bewley Creek

Overview

Bewley Creek is the largest western tributary and drains a mixed lithology (predominantly erodible with resistant outcroppings). Entering the mainstem downstream of Killam Creek and at the head of tide, Bewley Creek contains the longest functional reach within the entire Tillamook River watershed. Land-use from the mouth to the forestry boundary are mixed rural residential and agricultural. These reaches are characterized by low gradients, a sinuous channel, and a poor to moderate riparian canopy. The entire stream is confined by hillslope or terrace. CHT modeling indicates that reaches 1 & 2 should be unconfined. While agricultural and residential ownership riparian conditions are low, conditions on forestry ownership are good with well sorted spawning gravels, complex pools, and side channel habitat frequent. LWD recruitment potential is good on land managed for forestry. Spawning gravels (basalt and sand/silt/mudstone) begin to appear at the confluence with Coates Creek, one of three tributaries providing important spawning and rearing habitat. The second tributary providing this habitat meets with Bewley upstream of the road crossing upgraded in the summer of 2008 by Stimson Lumber. In addition to providing some spawning and rearing habitat, this tributary has an active slump (with an associated spring) near the upper end of Coho distribution which can provide future inputs of LWD. Bewley Creek is often entrenched upstream of this tributary junction and the condition of the riparian area suggests that multiple timber harvests (to the channel) severely depleted the potential for LWD inputs and thus floodplain connectivity. A third major tributary meets with Bewley Creek and is characterized by an extensive series of beaver dams which have impounded the mouth. Fish passage is possible through this dam but does not appear to happen every year (estimated at 1 in 4). Nonetheless the winter rearing potential is very high, and conservation is a priority.