Yukon Placer Fish Habitat Suitability Map - Klondike River Watershed (Category A)

Reach Model Classification, Reach Score
Water Quality
- Low Suitability
- Moderate-Low Suitability
- Moderate Suitability
- High Suitability
Areas of Special Consideration - Ecological
- Areas of Special Consideration - Cultural
Areas of Special Consideration - Biological
- Areas of Special Consideration - Geological
Areas of Special Consideration - Cultural
- Areas of Special Consideration - Paleontological
Areas of Special Consideration - Historical
- Areas of Special Consideration - Conservation
Areas of Special Consideration - Environmental
- Areas of Special Consideration - Recreation
Reach Score
- High Suitability
- Moderate Suitability
- Low Suitability
Areas of Special Consideration - Biological
- Areas of Special Consideration - Geological
Areas of Special Consideration - Historical
- Areas of Special Consideration - Conservation
Areas of Special Consideration - Environmental
- Areas of Special Consideration - Recreation
Areas of Special Consideration - Cultural
- Areas of Special Consideration - Paleontological
Areas of Special Consideration - Ecological
- Areas of Special Consideration - Cultural
Previous Development Designation
In this fish habitat classification system, the suitability of fish habitat is determined by considering watersheds, the priority of stream to the reaches used by Chinook salmon for spawning and migration, and water quality. The classification is based on the degree to which the habitat features and conditions have been affected by human activity, but the predicted habitat features and conditions may not be present in streams already affected by placer mining.

For this reason, the Fish Habitat Management System for Yukon Placer Mining includes a "Previous Development" designation. It will adjust the classification of streams that have been affected by placer mining. A grey buffer indicates current activity, a black buffer shows where placer mining occurred in the past, and a grey buffer describes environmental development. The coloured line immediately within a buffer deposits the habitat suitability that was predicted if mining had never occurred on the stream. The coloured line in the very center reveals the habitat suitability ranking that will be assigned to the reach, taking the previous development designation into account.

It should be noted that while the Previous Development designation applies to placer mining activity on streams that may not have been properly restored, all future restoration work must achieve the standard required for the predicted (or higher) habitat suitability classification.

Areas of Special Consideration
Areas within watersheds that contain ecologically or culturally important fish, fish habitat or aquatic resources or provide significant, critical linkages to upstream habitats, or those that have been designated as "Areas of Special Consideration" in previous studies, will be considered areas of special consideration. These areas are located in sensitive, ecologically rich, or culturally significant species and/or areas which directly support subsistence, traditional, commercial or sport fisheries.

Areas of Special Consideration may be established for anadromous or non-anadromous species of fish. At a minimum, Areas of Special Consideration include spawning areas and migration routes for such fish. Suitable spawning areas, as well as spawning areas for rainbow trout, must be protected.