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

Reach Model Classification, Reach Score
- Water Quality
  - Low Suitability
  - Moderate-Low Suitability
  - Moderate-Moderate Suitability
  - Moderate-High Suitability
  - High Suitability

Development
- Current
- Historical
- Extensive

Areas of Special Consideration
- Ecological
- Cultural

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, or were mined in the past.

On this map a grey, black or mauve buffer surrounding a stream represents reaches 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 mauve buffer describes extensive development. The coloured line immediately within a buffer depicts the habitat suitability that would be predicted if mining had never occurred on the stream. The coloured line in the very centre 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 protected, all future restoration work must achieve the standard required for the predicted or higher habitat suitability classification.

Areas of Special Consideration
Areas within watercourses that contain ecologically or culturally important areas of aquatic resources or provide significant, critical linkage to downstream habitats for fish have been designated as Areas of Special Consideration. These areas are the result of consultation with local communities and government agencies on 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 chum, Coho or sockeye salmon, as well as spawning areas for various trout, but trout and other species...