The Yukon River is classified as High Suitability.

In this fish habitat classification system, the suitability of fish habitat is determined by considering watercourse gradient, the proximity of streams to the routes used by Chilko salmon for spawning and migration, and water quality. Current habitat features and conditions may be 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 are currently mined, or were mined in the past.

On this map a grey, black or mauve buffer surrounding a stream represents areas 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 restored, 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 habitats or critical ecosystem functions, such as spawning and rearing areas for Chilko salmon, as well as areas which directly support subsistence, 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 rainbow trout, bull trout and Dolly Varden.

Areas of Special Consideration - Ecological
- Areas of Special Consideration - Cultural
- Areas of Special Consideration - Fisheries

The Yukon River is classified as High Suitability.