Reach Model Classification, Reach Score

Water Quality:
- Current
- Low Suitability
- Moderate-Low Suitability
- Moderate-Moderate Suitability
- Moderate-High Suitability
- High Suitability

Development:
- Historical
- Extensive
- Lakes

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

The Yukon River is classified as High Suitability

Previous Development Designation

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 Chinook salmon for spawning and migration, and water quality. The suitability of habitat is influenced by the history of placer mining in the area, and whether or not the watercourse had never occurred on the stream. The coloured line in the very centre reveals the previous development designation 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 fisheries or aquatic resources or provide significant, critical linkage to upstream habitats for fish have been designated as Areas of Special Consideration. Reaches assigned this designation may include habitats for rare or locally 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 Arctic chum, bull trout and Dolly Varden.

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