

The Forty Mile River Watershed

The Forty Mile River, a tributary to the Yukon River, drains an area of approximately 16,600 square kilometres and has an overall channel length of approximately 97 km. The drainage basin is located 96 km north west of Dawson.

In 2008, water samples were collected at 5 different sites in the Forty Mile River basin. The site upstream of Marten Creek was not accessible at the time of sampling. Sampling commenced on May 24th, 2008 and a total of 15 samples were collected up until the end of the season on August 21st, 2008. A grab sampling method was used in the basin

Flow data for the individual tributaries to the Forty Mile River was collected at the time of sampling by the staff of E.M.R CS&I using the methodology outlined in the Yukon Placer Secretariats, Water Quality Monitoring Protocol.

In 2008, the effluent discharge standards for the Forty Mile River Basin were those set under the existing *Yukon Placer Authorization*. Beginning in 2009, the effluent standards for all 19 separate watersheds in the Yukon, including the Forty Mile, will be set under the *Fish Habitat Management System*. The *Fish Habitat Management System* replaces the YPA with approximately 19 separate watershed authorizations, each of which are class authorizations under Section 35(2), governing placer mining in specific drainage basins.

Site Codes and Global Position of Water Quality Sampling Locations in the Forty Mile River Watershed

SITE CODE	LOCATION	LAT_Y	LONG_X
40M 01	Forty Mile River mouth	64.42394	-140.55965
40M 02	Forty Mile Creek u/s Clinton Creek	64.36924	-140.73253
40M 03	Forty Mile River u/s Marten Creek	64.35772	-140.79825
40M 04	Forty Mile River Above All Mining (AAM)	64.32178	-140.93283
40M CLI 01	Clinton Creek mouth	64.40357	-140.59813
40M MAR 01	Marten Creek mouth	64.35361	-140.81006

Water Quality Objective monitoring, Yukon River North Watershed – Summary

The overall water quality in the basin, met the objectives set under the *Fish Habitat Management System* throughout the monitoring season. None of the 15 samples collected exceeded the Water Quality Objectives.