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TITLE: Streambank Stabilization versus the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers.

ABSTRACT

The Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers are high energy streams and have riverbanks primarily consisting of easily erodable fine silt. When development began in Alaska, communities sprang up along these rivers which provided the livelihood of the residents. These early communities were mobile. They were able to move their structures as the river moved. Permanent structures were eventually built which are now in the path of the constantly moving rivers. The Corps of Engineers began studying erosion problems in Alaska in 1941 and continues to search for solutions to combat this hazard to life, property, and the economic livelihood for the communities on these rivers. The primary focus has been on the communities of Bethel and Galena, where the city, state and Federal governments are cooperating to stop the destructive forces of mother nature. Some success has been achieved but the battle continues.

