Salmon Run Collapse

The king salmon run in the Yukon River has collapsed. Changes in the physical environment may have contributed to this collapse. All of the items on the list below are things that can affect the salmon. Put an X by the items on the list that are features of the physical environment.

- course of the river
- fishing regulations
- algae bloom
- runoff from mining
- riverbed materials
- number of fish caught by predators
- flood
- amount of shade
- amount of sediment in the river water
- dam in the river
- ocean temperatures
- price of salmon
- timing of breakup
- earthquake
- salmon fat reserves
- amount of rainfall
- amount of food for salmon
- water chemistry
- population of fish parasites
- cloud cover
- direction of wind
- boat traffic
- peoples' eating choices
- landslide
- age of the salmon
- discarded fishing nets in the water

Explain your thinking. How did you decide whether something is a part of the physical environment?