

The Division of Subsistence, ADF&G: An Overview of Context, Research Methods, and Findings



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Division of Subsistence,
Alaska Department
of Fish & Game

NPFMC Social Science Planning Team Workshop

Anchorage, Alaska

May 8, 2018

Division of Subsistence: Responsibilities





- Alaska Statute 16.05.094 lists "duties"
 - 1. Research and data compilation
 - 2. <u>Data reporting and</u> <u>education</u>
 - 3. <u>Application of study</u> findings

Subsistence fishing and processing, Chignik Lake

The Division's "Mission Statement"

"To scientifically quantify, evaluate, and report information about customary and traditional uses of Alaska fish and wildlife resources."



Documentation of harvest areas,
Kuskokwim River



Processing king salmon at a fish camp on Cook Inlet, near Tyonek

Types of research projects



- Goal: "holistic" understanding of mixed economy and way of life
- Community "baseline" studies (focus on one year)
- Special topic research
- Local and Traditional Knowledge (TEK/LTK)
- Harvest monitoring (multi-year)
- Multiple methods: quantitative and qualitative
- Most projects are partnerships
- Multiple funding sources
- Guided by ethical principles

Ethical Principles





- Alaska Federation of Natives
- Office of Polar Programs,
 National Science Foundation
- State confidentiality statute
 - ✓ Informed consent
 - ✓ Anonymity
 - ✓ Community approval
 - ✓ Community review
 - ✓ Study findings provided to communities

Methods: developing a project in Togiak



Methods: Local assistant training in Noatak



Methods: conducting surveys in Emmonak



Methods: Project Review Meeting in Chignik Lake



Comprehensive Household Surveys

IARVESTS: SALMON														HOUSEHOLD	DID	
. Do you or members of your ho	ouseho	ld U	SU/	ALL	Y fi	sh f	or s	alm	on '				•		Υ	N
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the answer to QUESTION 2 is NO	D, go to	the	NEX	TP.	AGI	E.										
the answer is YES, continue on t	his pag	e														
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	USE?	TRY TO	HARVEST?	HARVEST		CHARACTO	אבטבועבי	GIVE	AWAY?	SET GILL NET	SEINE NET	FISH WHEEL	ROD & REEL	OTHER GEAR (specify type)	UNITS	tho us just do foo
Read names below				(CII	cle)					(numbe	r harveste	d by each g	ear type)	amount / type	specify	an
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113000000																
CHUM (DOG) SALMON	Y N	Υ	N	Υ	N	Y	N	Y	N					1	IND.	
111000000 SOCKEYE (RED) SALMON	ΥN	Y	N	Y	N	Υ	N	Y	N					1	IND.	
115000000 PINK SALMON (HUMPIES)	ΥN	Υ	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N					1	IND.	
114000000									1000							
COHO SALMON (SILVERS)	ΥN	Υ	N	Y	N	Υ	N	Υ	N						IND.	_
112000000 LANDLOCKED SALMON																
	Y N	Y	N	Y	N	Υ	N	Y	N					/	IND.	
116000000 UNKNOWN SALMON	YN	Υ	N	Y	N	Υ	N	Υ	N					1	IND.	
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If NO																
What KIND of salmon did you	need?									-		Property say			_	
How would you describe the im	pact to	your	hou	seh	old	of n	ot		no	(0)	? mi (1		major! (2)	Severe (3)	?	

- Provide "snapshot" of patterns in a community in a study year
- Administered in person
- Modular
- All: demography, harvests, cash economy, evaluations of change
- Other (e.g.): networks, food security, expenses
- Mapping and ethnographic components

COMPREHENSIVE SUBSISTENCE SURVEY

SAND POINT, ALASKA

From April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017

AKSSF ALASKA PENINSULA

printed: 2017-03-16

This survey is used to estimate subsistence harvests and to describe the role of subsistence in the local economy of your community. We will publish a short summary report that will be available to community members. We share this information with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service. We work with the Federal Regional Advisory Councils and with local Fish and Game Advisory Committees to better manage subsistence, and to implement federal and state subsistence priorities.

We will NOT identify your household. We will NOT use this information for enforcement. Participation in this survey is voluntary. Even if you agree to be surveyed, you may stop at any time.

HOUSEHOLD ID:		
COMMUNITY ID:	299	299
INTERVIEWER #1:		
INTERVIEWER #2:		
INTERVIEW DATE:		
START TIME:		
STOP TIME:		
	DATA CODED BY:	
	DATA ENTERED BY:	
	SUPERVISOR:	



photo by Lisa Hutchinson-Scarbrough

PAULOFF HARBOR VILLAGE PO BOX 97 SAND POINT, AK 99661 907-383-6075 QAGAN TAYAGUNGIN TRIBE OF SAND POINT VILLAGE PO BOX 447 SAND POINT, AK 99661 907-383-5616 NATIVE VILLAGE OF UNGA PO BOX 508 SAND POINT, AK 99661 907-383-5553

KATHERINE REEDY
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY
721 S. 8TH AVE. STOP 8005
POCATELLO, ID 83201-5745
208-282-6137

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE 333 RASPBERRY ROAD ANCHORAGE, AK 99518-1565 907-263-2353

Conversion Factors

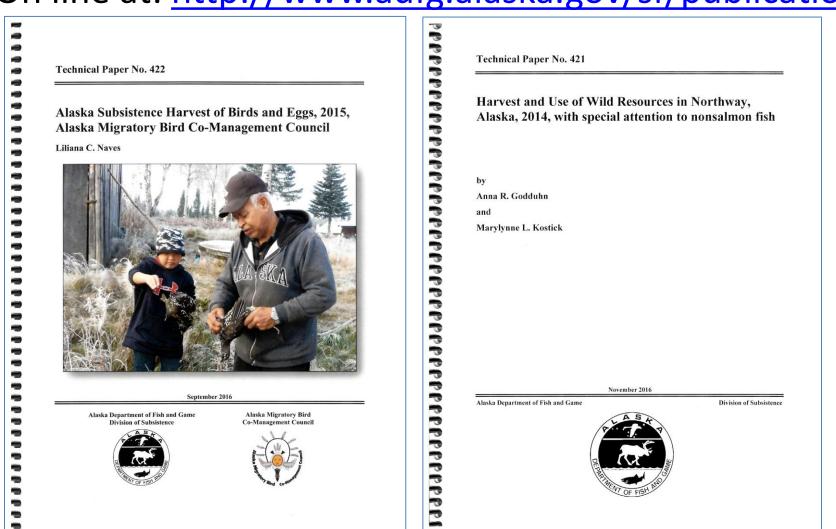




- Calculating food value: numbers of animals to usable/edible weights
- Round (whole) to usable (edible) weight
- Determining recovery rates
- Applications: food security, dietary studies, contamination, risk assessments, damage assessment
- See Naves and Fall 2017 in Arctic 70(1):86-100

Technical Paper Series

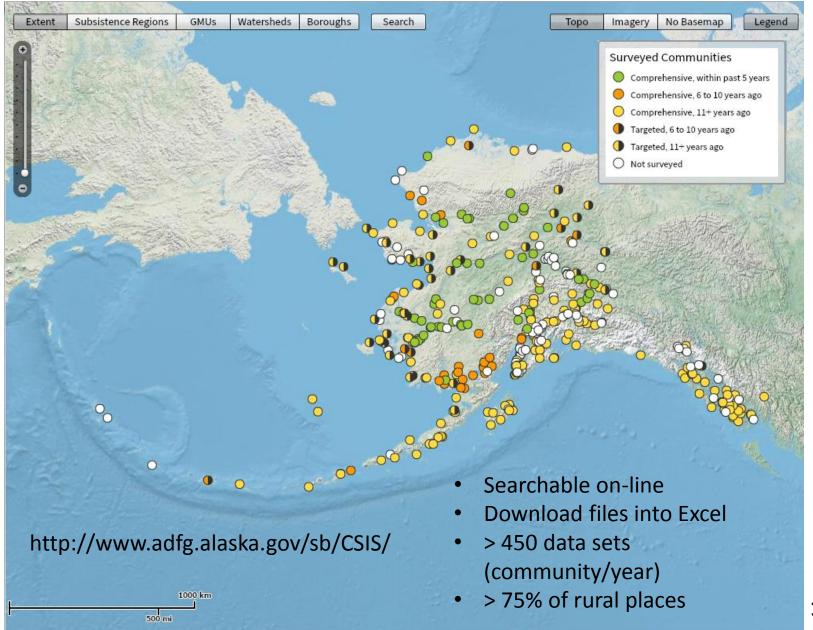
- Over 450 titles; also Special Publications Series
- On line at: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/publications/



Community Subsistence Information System or "CSIS"

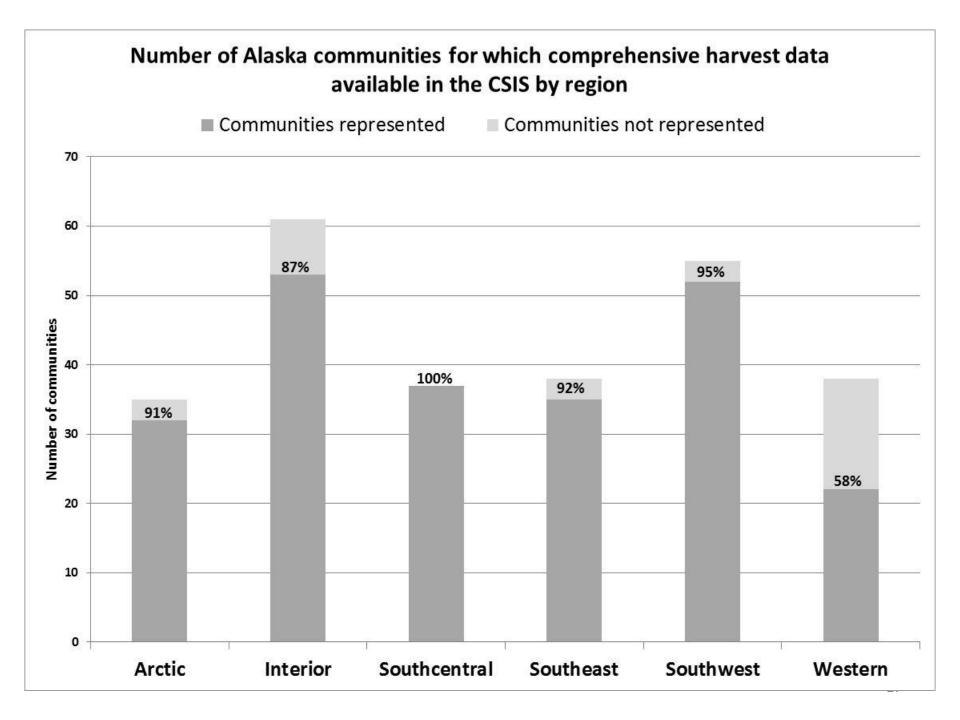
- Online at http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sb/CSIS/
- Searchable by resource, area, or community
- Export data into Excel file
- Data in CSIS for 87.5% of rural places (231 of 264)
- Number of comprehensive data sets in CSIS = ~515 (study community/year combinations)
- Number of CDP/year estimates = ~563
- Also includes category-focused projects (e.g. marine mammals only, land mammals only)

Community Subsistence Information System

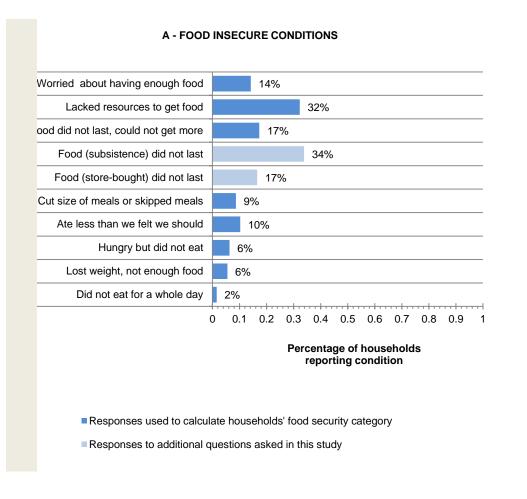


Special CSIS reports

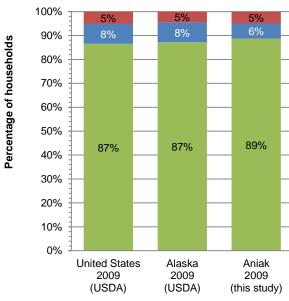
- "Overview of Availability of Comprehensive Harvest Survey Data for Alaska Communities" (July 2017
- "Estimated Harvests of Fish, Wildlife, and Wild Plant Resources by Alaska Region and Census Areas, 2014"
- Find these at CSIS homepage, "Special Topics Reports/Downloadable Special Reports": http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sb/CSIS/



Food Security

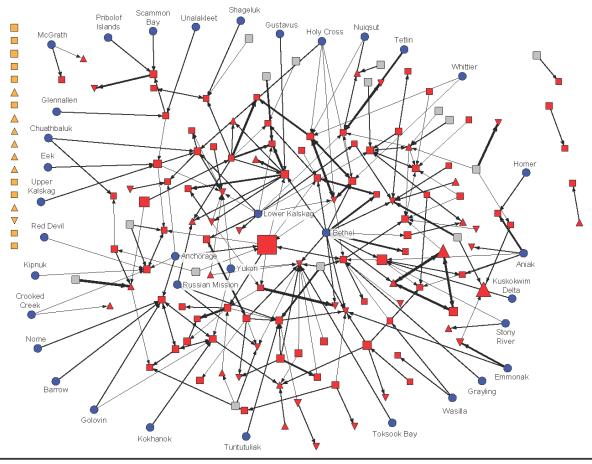


B - FOOD SECURITY CATEGORIES



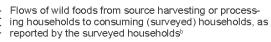
- INSECURE very low food security
- INSECURE low food security
- SECURE high & marginal food security

Sharing Network Analysis



- Survey household, male & female heads^a
- ▲ Survey household, single male head®
- ▼ Survey household, single female head®
- Other household in study community
- Unknown household (usually in another community)

LEGEND

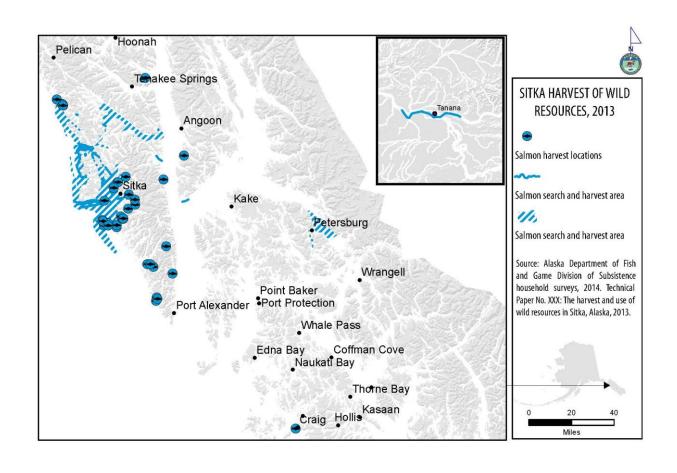


 Household that reported no harvesting or processing by members of another household or community

^a SYMBOLS are scaled to show surveyed households' total wild food harvests in edible pounds. Surveyed households with many sources of wild foods appear near the center of the figure. Households with fewer sources appear around the edges.

^b LINES are scaled to show the number of households named as wild food harvesters or processors by surveyed households. Arrows point from source households or communities to surveyed households. Households' own production is not shown.

Documenting Hunting, Fishing, and Gathering Areas through Maps



Harvest assessment: best practices



Salmon harvest assessment workshop, Kotzebue, Alaska, November 2002

- Harvest Assessment Conference, 1995
- Joint ADF&G/AITC project: 2000 - 2003
- Working group
- 10 regional workshops
- Guiding principles and recommendations
- Final reports available

Salmon: Annual Harvest Assessment Methods

Alaska Department of Fish & Game	Community
Bristol Bay Subsistence Salmon Fishery Permit	Permit No.
ALASKA RESIDENTS ONLY	Year
irst Name Initial Last Name	
Permanent Mailing Address City	
State Zip Code Phone number	
	round residents in household
Names of household members who will assist in operation of subsistence	e net:
1 2	3
4 5	6
Drainage to be fished: Naknek Kvichak Egegik	Ugashik
Nushagak Togiak Other	
Primary fishing location (specific):	
Number of fathoms allowed at this site: 10 25 Gear type:	Please specify set gear, drift gear, spear, or dip net.
I understand that I am applying for a subsistence fishing permit for my household in acc hereby swear the information contained on this application is a true statement as witnes have been an Alaska resident for the last calendar year.	
Applicant's signature Date	S <u>1014 - 162 - 2</u>
TO BE COMPLETED BY ISSUING OFFICER	ONLY
The above-named person and designated household members are auth subsistence purposes in the Bristol Bay Area during the calendar year of according to current laws and regulations of the State of Alaska.	
Authorizing Officer D	ate

- 1. Only one subsistence salmon fishing permit may be issued to each household per year. People using the net/site and not of this household are required to have their own permit and file a separate report of their harvest.
- 2. Fish caught for subsistence uses may not be sold or allowed to enter commercial use.
- An accurate record of fish taken under authority of this permit must be returned to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game when the
 permit expires. Failure to return subsistence catch records is grounds for denial of future permit privileges.

NOTE: Commercially-caught salmon may also be utilized for subsistence purposes and must be reported on the back of this form as well as a Commercial Fish ticket.

Return form to: (fax) 907-267-2450/ (email) dfg.sub.permits@alaska.gov/ or Division of Subsistence, ADF&G, 333 Raspberry Rd, Anchorage, AK 99518

- Permits
- Post-season household surveys
- Harvest calendars

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ate	Specific location	Method*	Red	King	Chum	Pink	Coho	Date	Specific location	Method*	Red	King	Chum	Pink	Coho
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-			-							_			-	+	+
			+				-	-	-		+-	-			
_		-	1								+-				1
				•	•			+	TOTAL SUBSISTENCE						
hat	was your tot	al SUBS	ISTE	ICE h	arves	st?	•	Red	King	С	hum	Pir	nk	Coh	10
d y	ou COMMERC	CIAL fist	n? YE	S	or	NO									
								+	TOTAL SALMON RET	AINED FROM	СОММЕ	RCIAL CATCH	FOR SUBS	STENCE U	SE ♦
CO	rd additional	salmon	taken	trom	the		•	Red	King	С	hum	Pir	ık	Coh	10

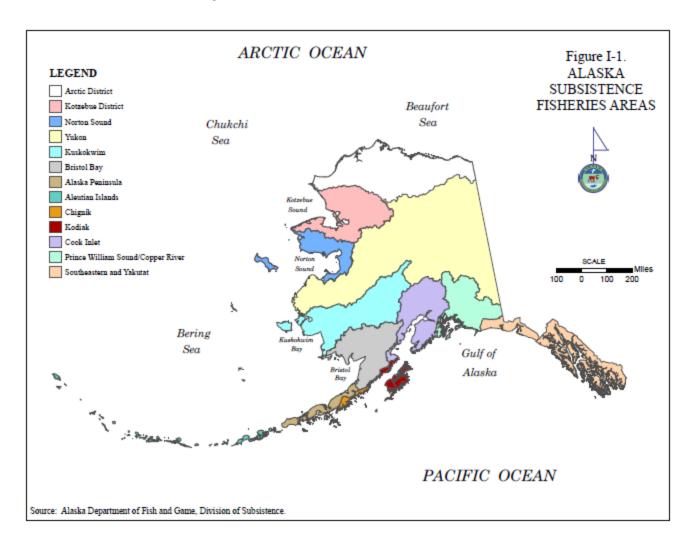
Salmon Harvest Calendar

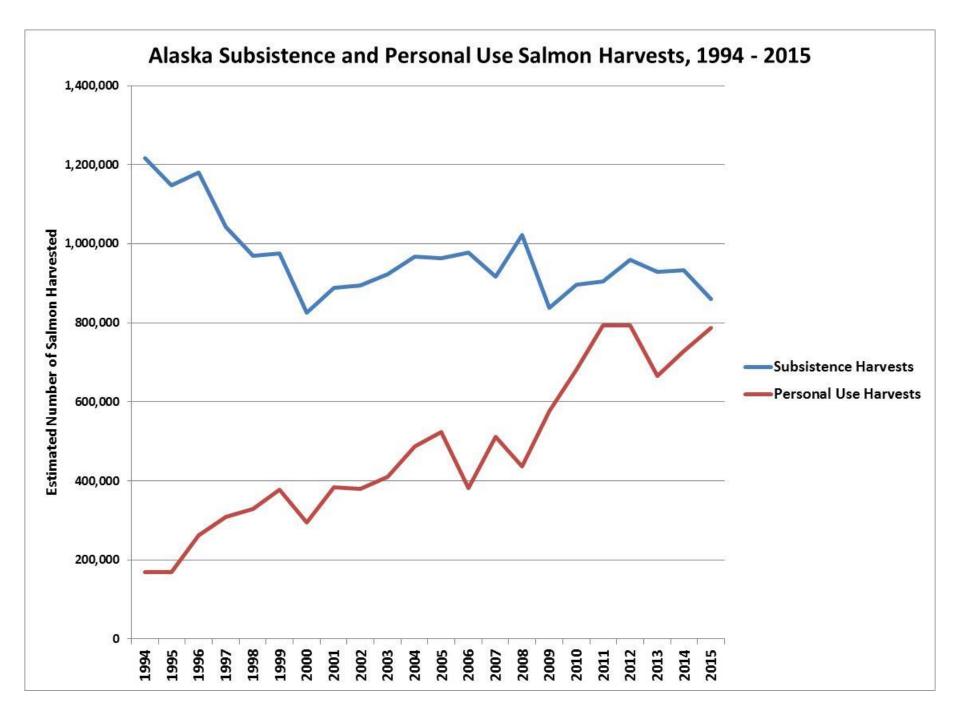
June 2012

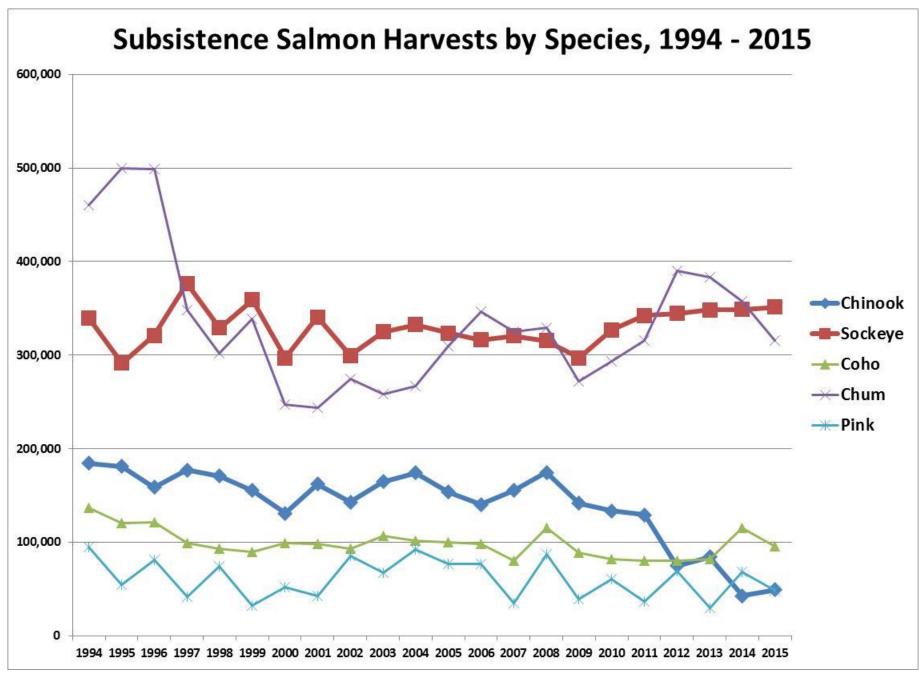
SUNDA	Y	MOND	AY	TUESD	AY	WEDNE	ESDAY	THURSI	OAY	FRIDA	1 Y	SATURI	DAY
			<u>)</u>					3		King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho _	1 	King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho _	
	3		4		5		6		7		8		9
King Chum Sockeye Coho		King Chum Sockeye Coho	_	King Chum Sockeye Coho		King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho		King Chum Sockeye Coho		King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho _		King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho _	
	10		11		12		13		14	11	15		1
King Chum Sockeye Coho		King Chum Sockeye Coho	5x 5x 5x	King Chum Sockeye Coho		King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho _		King Chum Sockeye Coho		King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho _		King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho _	
King Chum Sockeye Coho	17 — —	King Chum Sockeye Coho	18	King Chum Sockeye Coho	19	King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho _		King Chum Sockeye Coho	21	King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho _	22	King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho _	2.
	24	\$	25	Y	26	2	27	20.30,8010,00	28	2,	29		3
King Chum Sockeye Coho	- 50 - 20	King Chum Sockeye Coho		King Chum Sockeye Coho		King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho		King Chum Sockeye Coho		King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho		King _ Chum _ Sockeye _ Coho	2

Annual Subsistence Fisheries Report

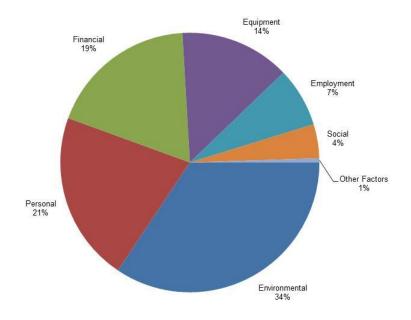
- Draws from all annual harvest monitoring programs
- Organized in data base by management area and by community
- Part of the Technical Paper Series

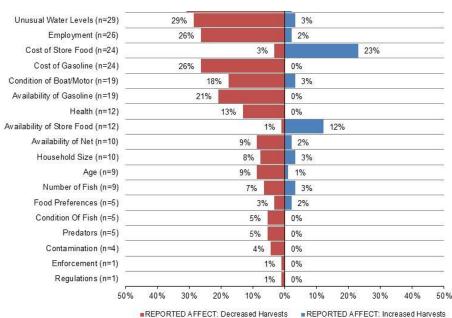






"Patterns and Trends" Projects





- Time series of household harvests
- Household interviews
- Declining chum harvests
- Higher sheefish and Dolly Varden harvests
- Range of explanations
- See TPs 294, 366

Categories of factors reported as affecting fish harvests, 6 NW Alaska communities, 1994-2004

Migratory Birds Harvest Monitoring Project





- Amendment to MBTA
- Subsistence regulations, 2003
- Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council: AMBCC
- Annual harvest monitoring project
- Annual reports
- On-line at:
 http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/
 index.cfm?adfg=subsistence.
 migratorybird cmc

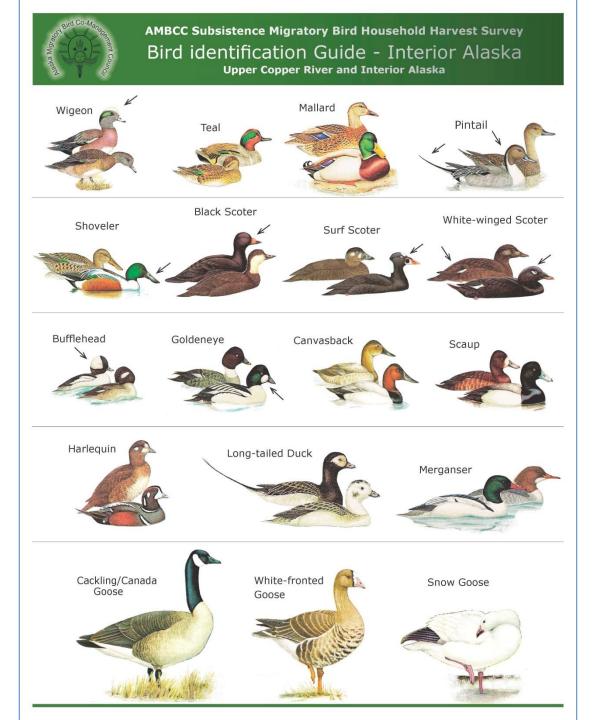


AMBCC Subsistence Migratory Bird Household Harvest Survey

Western Alaska Harvest Report - SPRING

Y-K Delta, Bering Strait-Norton Sound, NW Arctic, Bristol Bay (except South AK Pensinsula)

Did the household	harvest birds or egg	s from April 1 to Jun	e 30? YES NO
Village:	Household ID	: Harvest Year:	Date: / /
American wigeon	Teal	Mallard	Northern pintail
birds	birds	birds	birds
eggs	eggs	eggs	eggs
Northern shoveler	Black scoter	Surf scoter	White-winged scoter
birds	birds	birds	birds
eggs	eggs	eggs	eggs
Bufflehead	Goldeneye	Canvasback	Scaup
birds	birds	birds	birds
eggs	eggs	eggs	eggs
Common eider	King eider	Spectacled eider	Steller's eider
birds	birds	birds	birds
eggs	eggs	eggs	eggs
Harlequin duck	Long-tailed duck	Merganser Merganser	Unknown duck
birds	birds	birds	birds
eggs	eggs	eggs	eggs
birds	Cackling/Canada goose birds	Greater white-fronted Em goose birds	peror goose Snow goose birds
eggs	eggs	eggsegg	gs eggs



Harbor Seal/Sea Lion Harvest Assessment Project

- 1992: RFP from NMFS; estimate total annual subsistence take of harbor seals and sea lions
- ADF&G lead, 1992 to 2001
- RuralCAP and IPCoMM as early partners
- Transition to ANHSC lead, 1997 2002
- Study years 1992 2008 except 1999
- 4 partial surveys: 2011, 2012, 2014, 2017
- Surveys in western AK (TPs 242, 255, 257)

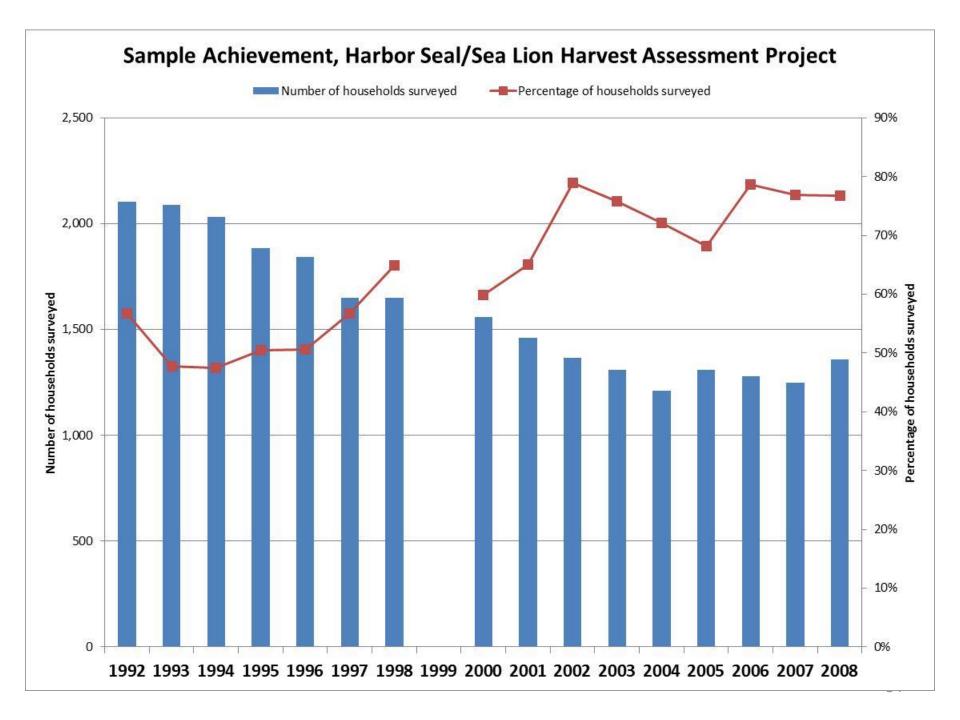
Harbor Seal and Sea Lion Harvest Assessments: Research Methods

- Study communities (~63) and regions (9)
- Obtained harvest data from separate St. Paul harvest monitoring program from 2001 - 2008
- Several sampling strategies
- Local research assistants hired and trained
- Retrospective recall surveys, mostly in people's homes
- Information collected: harvest, struck and lost, age category, sex, month; also assessment questions
- Analysis: estimates for each community
- Reporting: 16 annual reports; 2 partial supplements
- LTK study: Whiskers! Database; TP249
- Methodological study: TP 254

SEA LION

2014 MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

DID YOU OR	MEMBERS	S OF YOUR	R HOUSEHO	LD HUN1	OR USE	SEA L	IONS I	N 2014?	YES	NO					
	(IF YES, F	PLEASE C	OMPLETE T	HE FOLL	OWING (QUEST	IONS:)		(IF NO, T	HAT COMPL	ETES THIS	SURVEY.	THANK YO	OU.)	
During 2014,	did you or	your hous a lions (me	sehold: at, hides, or o	oil)?				Yes	No	I					
	2. Hunt se	ea lions?	If yes, go to 2 sea lions?	a and 2b						2a. How n	nany Sea L	ion hunters	in your hou	sehold? (
	4. Receiv	e sea lions	from other h	ouseholds	s or comm	nunities	?.			2b. If you I	nunted out	tside your r	egion,		
	5. Give av	way sea lio	ns to other he	ouseholds	or comm	nunities	?			where did	you hunt?				
IF YES TO Q	F YES TO QUESTION 2 OR 3 ABOVE, GO TO QUESTION 6. IF NO, THIS COMPLETES THE SURVEY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION. 6. How many sea lions did your household kill and retrieve? [Enter total number in box.]														
										the numbers	by month.	l			4
SEA LIONS	7. III WIIIO		FEBRUARY		APRIL		JUNE	JULY		SEPTEMBER			DECEMBER	UNKNOWN	TOTAL
TOT	AL														
8. Of the	sea lions ki	illed and re	trieved in (Ja	nuary, etc	.), how m	any we	re male	, female, a	and how m	any were pup	s, juveniles	, or adults?	[Enter the n	umbers by	month]
SEA LIONS			FEBRUARY				JUNE	JULY		SEPTEMBER					TOTAL
	MALE														
ADULT	FEMALE														
L	NKNOWN														
	MALE														
JUVENILE	FEMALE														
	JNKNOWN														
	MALE														
PUP	FEMALE														
L	JNKNOWN														
UNKNOWN	MALE														
AGE	FEMALE														
L	JNKNOWN														
During 2014	How r		ons were stru were they str						ber in total	box.]					-
SEA LIONS			FEBRUARY				JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	UNKNOWN	TOTAL
STRUCK A	ND LOST														
Supplement		1:										THANK YO	U FOR YO	UR COOPE	RATION
During 2014,								crease	(Decease	_ No (Change	_		
During 2014,	what was t	he conditio	n of the sea li	ions you h	arvested'	?									_
Community: _				٦	HHID: (_)	List:	Hunter	Random		Interviewe	r:		Date:	
Alaska	a Native Harbo	or Seal Comm	ission (ANHSC)	345-0554											33





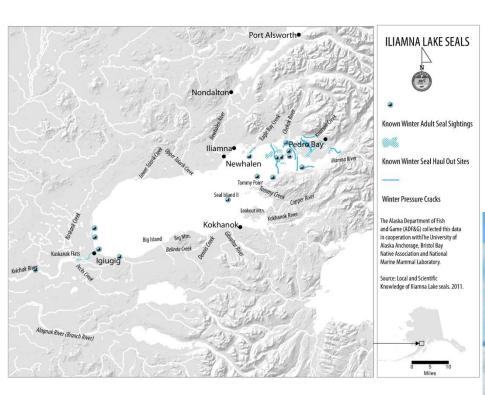
Participant Observation



- Key to ethnographic research
- Enhances understanding of harvest assessment projects



TEK/LTK: Iliamna Lake Freshwater Seals Project



- Freshwater seals: with UA, NMFS, BBNA
- Multi-disciplinary approach
- TP 416



Findings: Rural Alaska's mixed economy

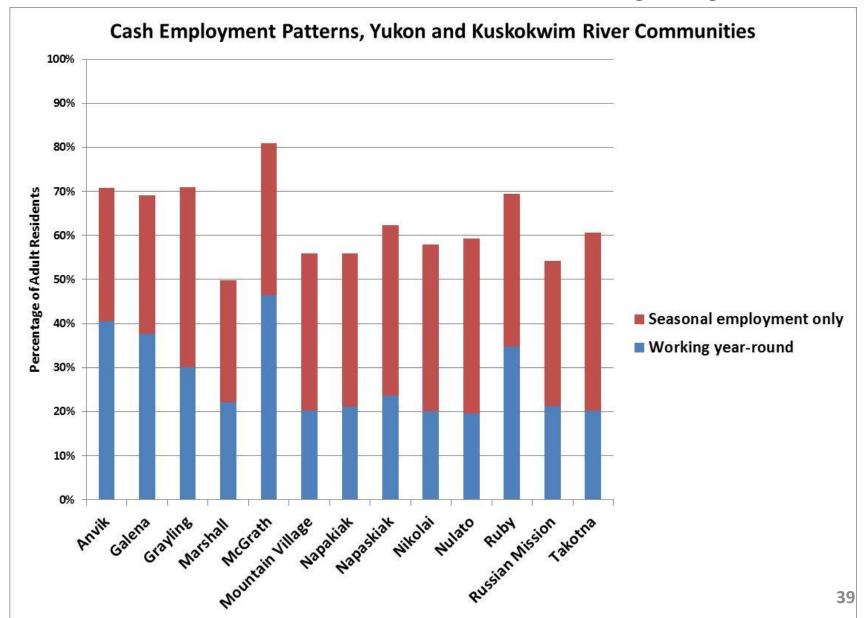




- Two interrelated sectors: cash and subsistence
- Features of "remote rural economy" (Goldsmith 2007)
- Cash sector = less stable/less reliable;
- Subsistence sector = more stable/reliable

Top: subsistence waterfowl hunting, Yukon River; Bottom: salmon for winter, Chignik Lake

Cash sector: limited cash employment



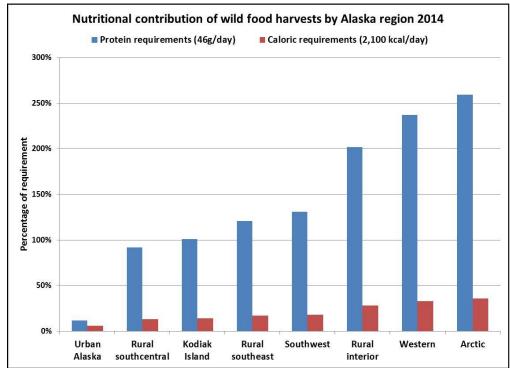
Subsistence sector of mixed economy

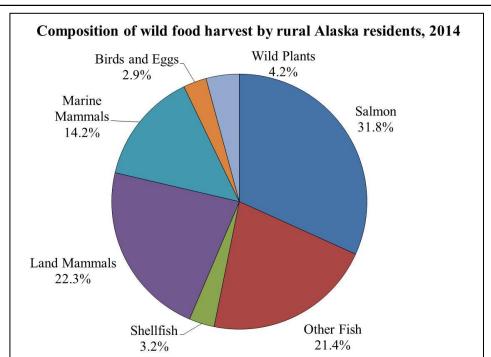




- High levels of subsistence food production
- Diverse harvests
- Domestic mode of production
- Specialization and efficiency
- Patterned seasonal round
- Traditional harvest areas
- Non-market sharing and distribution networks

Top: king salmon fishing in Cook Inlet; Bottom: putting up salmon, Nikolai, upper Kuskokwim River

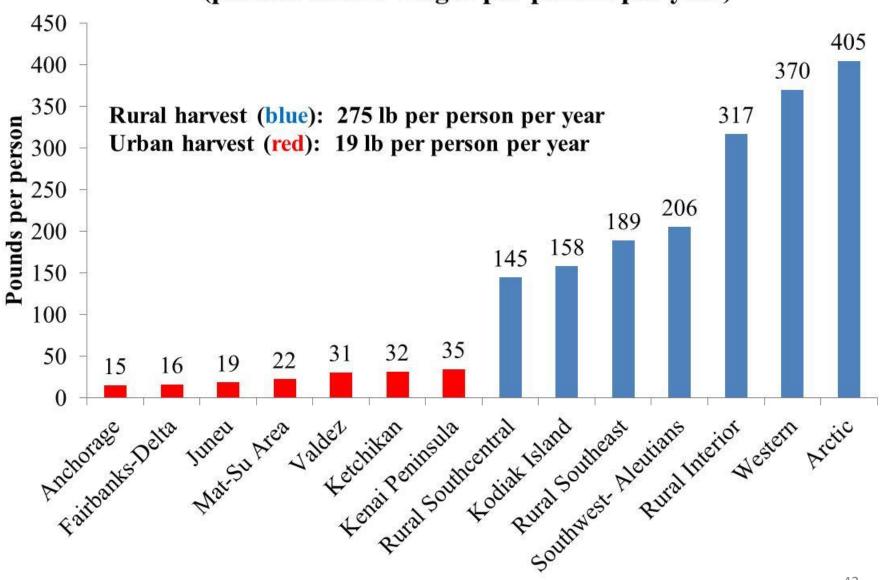


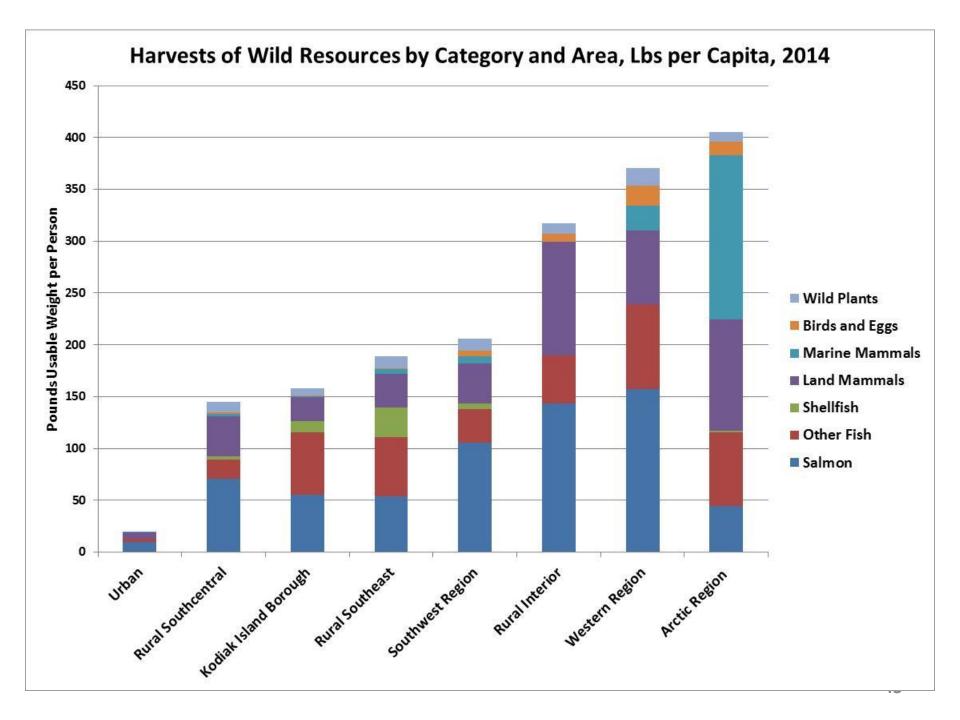


Subsistence food production

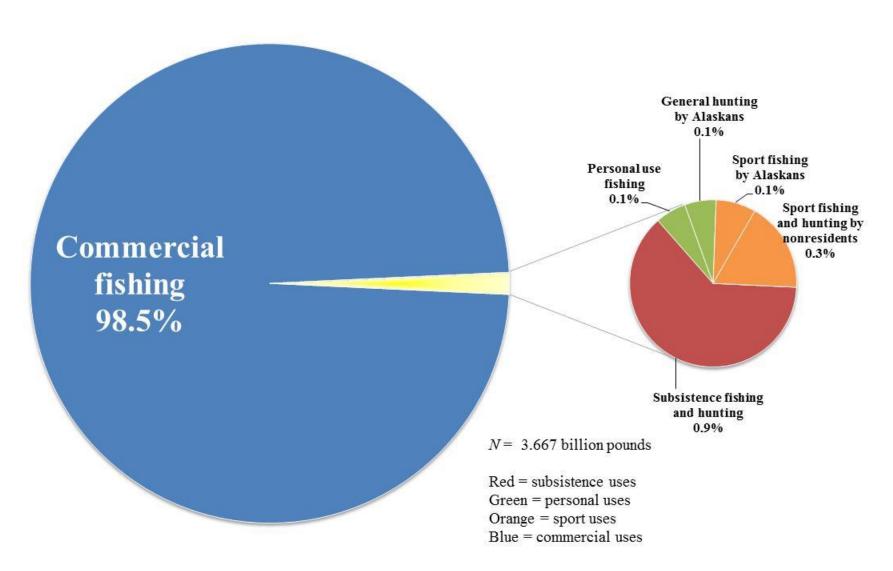
- Rural Alaska harvest = 275 lb per person; 34 million lb of food
- Provides 176% of daily protein requirements
- Provides 25% of daily caloric requirements
- Diverse harvests

Wild food harvests in Alaska by area, 2014 (pounds usable weight per person per year)





Who harvests fish and game? Resource harvests by use in Alaska



Labor: domestic mode of production





- Nuclear & extended families work together
- Resemble economic firms (efficiency)
- Self-limiting harvest goals
- Context for instruction in skills, values, and traditional knowledge

Top: processing spring duck harvest at Nondalton Bottom: drifting for king salmon, Kaltag, Yukon River

Skills, values, oral traditions



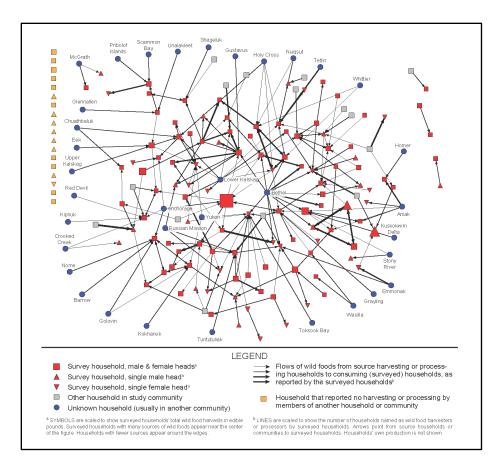


- Learned in the context of subsistence activities
- Learning across generations
- Values such as nonwaste, respect, and sharing

Top: helping to put up salmon, Nondalton; Bottom: sharing salmon,

Chignik Lake

Noncommercial (non-market) distribution and exchange



A sharing network, Kuskokwim River village

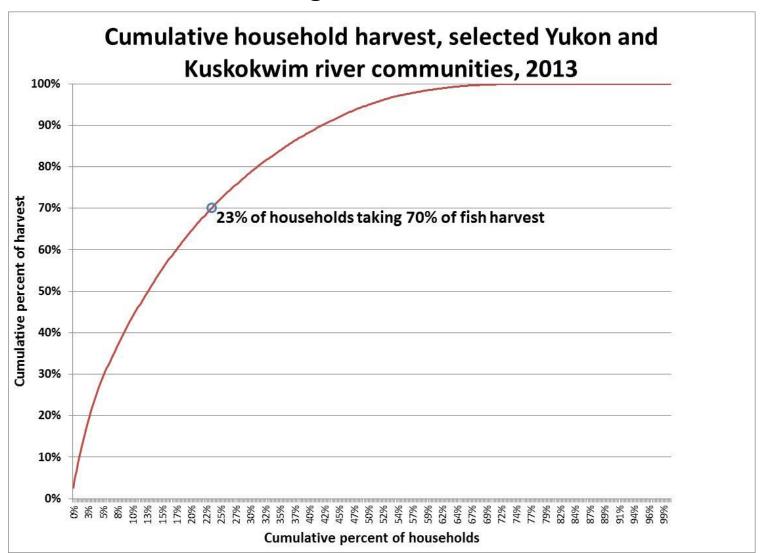
- Sharing
- Barter
- Customary trade
- Kinship and partnership networks
- Link families and communities



Distribution of Round Island walrus harvest at Togiak

Harvest specialization

- "30/70 rule" and the "super-household"
- Correlations with high levels of harvests



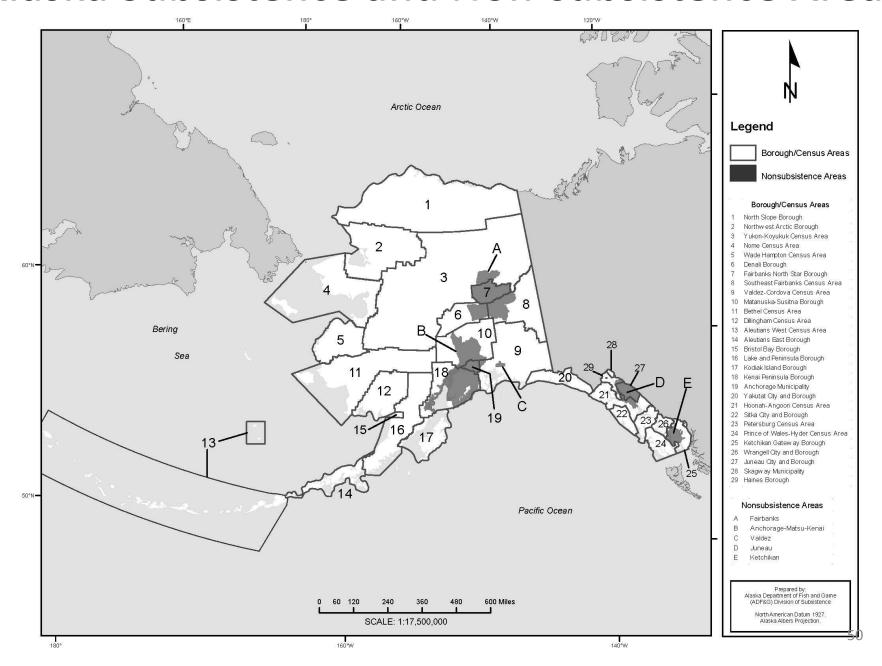
Applications of study findings



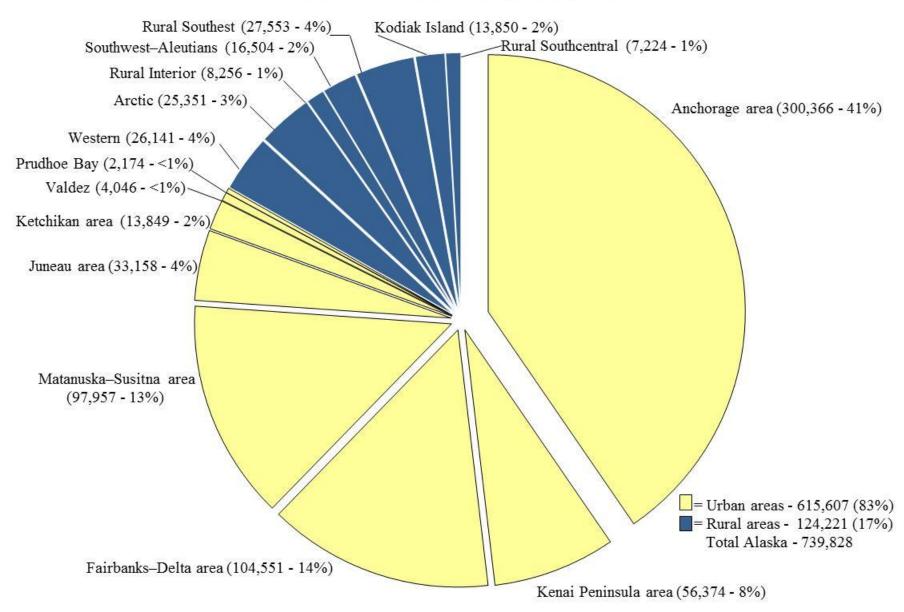
A smokehouse full of sockeye salmon, Nondalton

- Obligations at Board of Game and Board of Fisheries
- C&T Determinations
- ANS Findings
- Regulations that provide reasonable opportunity
- Obligations to Joint Board: nonsubsistence area findings
- Role at the NPFMC
- Informing resource development projects
- Health impacts assessment
- Other applications

Alaska Subsistence and Non-subsistence Areas



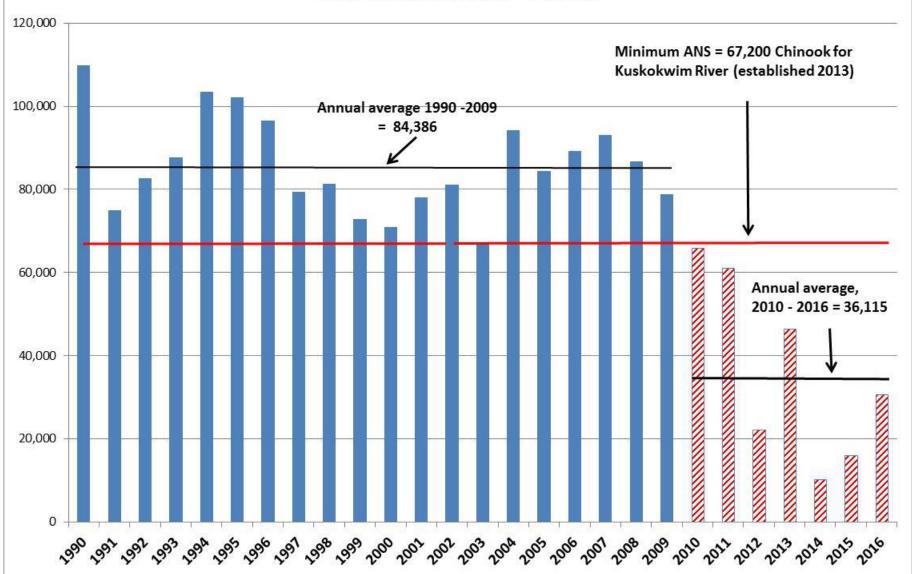
Alaska's population by area, 2016



Amount Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence: "ANS"

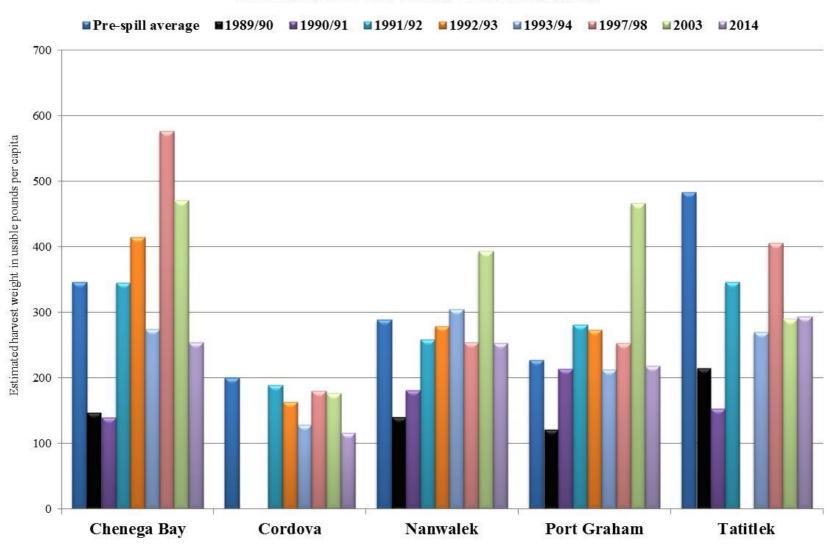
- Required by Alaska statute (AS 16.05.258(b))
- Established in regulations by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF)
- ANS might provide a range for all salmon, or be specific for stocks
- Provides reference to assess annual harvests and trends





Impact Assessment: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

Estimated Harvests, Pounds Usable Weight per Person, Selected EVOS-Area Communities

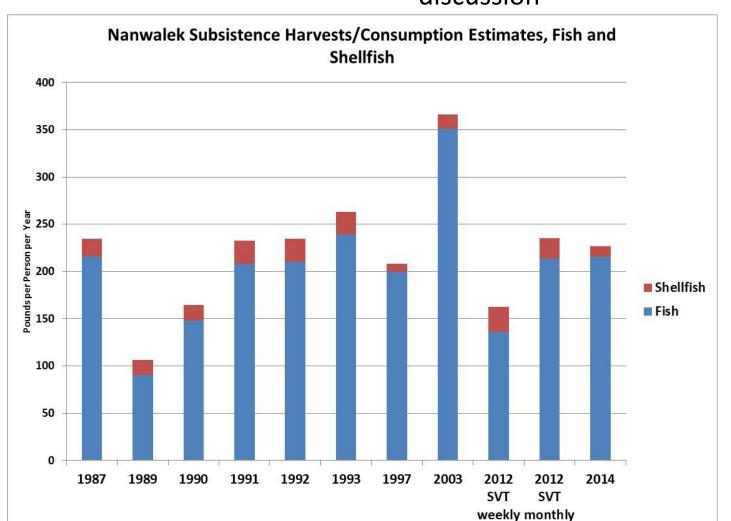


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Wild foods consumption

- Harvest vs "consumption"
- Water quality standards review

- Comparison with Seldovia Tribe's study
- TP 261 for methodological discussion



Restoring the Round Island Walrus Hunt



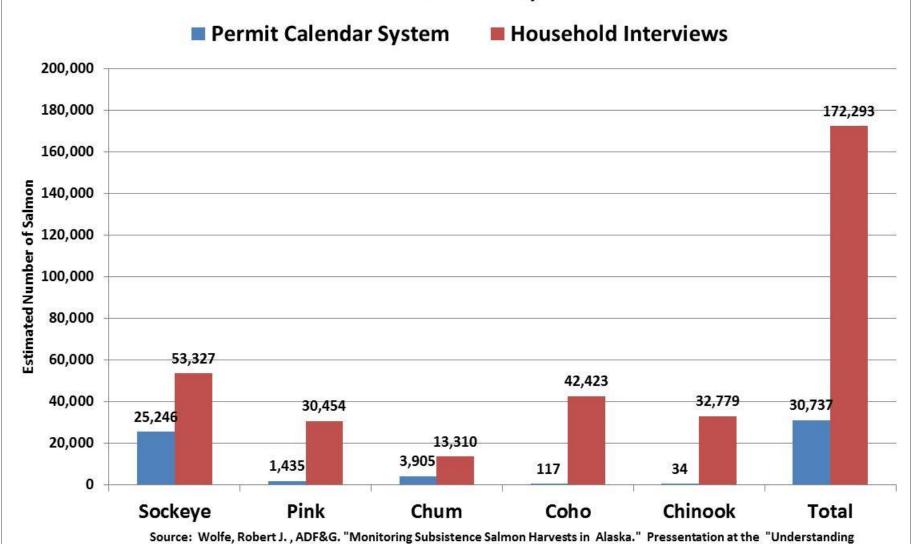
Subsistence harvests of walrus by Togiak hunters at Round Island, Bristol Bay

- Role of TEK and key respondent research
- Qayassiq
- Round Island Sanctuary
- Research: TP 212
- The Board of Game Process
- A Co-Managed Hunt
- See Cultural Survival Quarterly 1998 (Vol. 22, Issue 3)

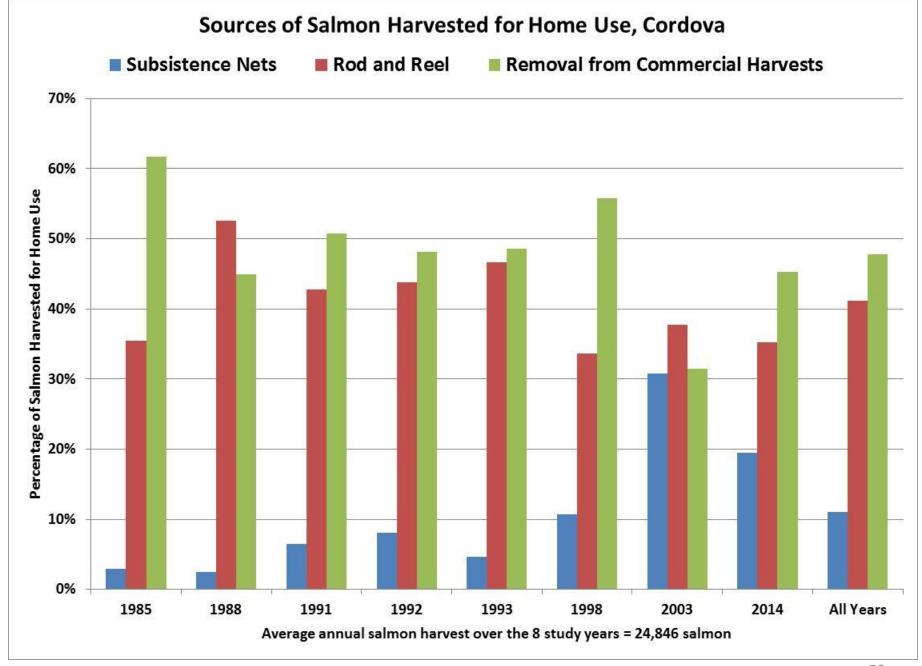
Some Data Limitations

- Uneven temporal coverage
- Uneven areal coverage
- Uneven participation in permit systems and/or surveys
- Potential recall bias
- Potential strategic bias
- Incomplete documentation of sources of salmon (e.g. rod and reel, "home pack")

"Subsistence" Salmon Harvest Estimates, Rural Southeast Alaska, 1987



Harvest Assessment in the North" Conference, Girdwood, Alaska; April 1995

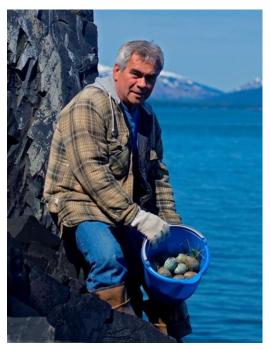




Conclusions

- State and federal regulations recognize the importance of subsistence harvests
- Significant investment has been made in describing and monitoring subsistence harvests and uses
- Subsistence has been the most reliable sector of rural Alaska's mixed economy
- Strong economic, social, cultural,
 & spiritual significance
- Access to a variety of wild resources is necessary to support food security in resilient, sustainable communities

For more information:





- ADF&G website:

 http://www.adfg.alaska
 .gov/index.cfm?adfg=su
 bsistence.main
- CSIS (Community Subsistence Information System)
- Technical Paper Series
- 2014 Subsistence Update