



# State of Alaska's Salmon & People

Abundance, equity, and access challenge sustainability  
of North America's last wild salmon stronghold

**Peter Westley** on behalf of 125+ team members

University of Alaska Fairbanks

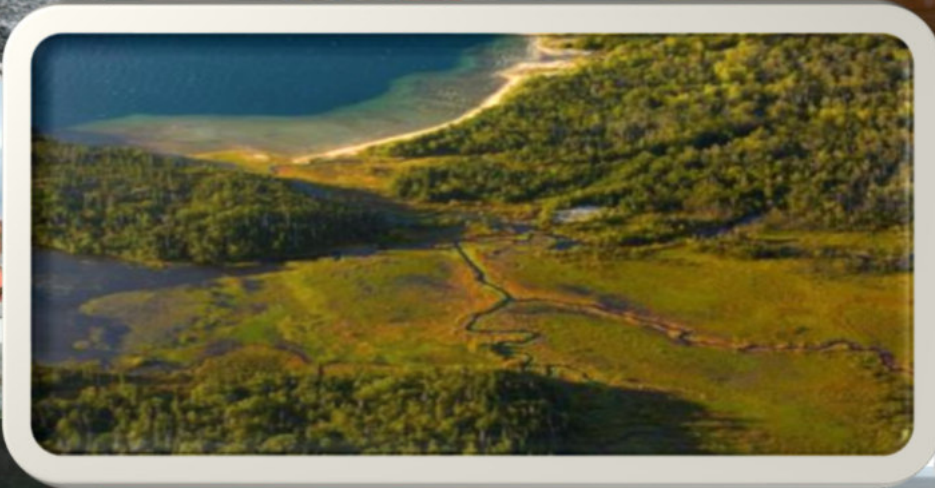
[pwestley@alaska.edu](mailto:pwestley@alaska.edu)

<https://alaskasalmonandpeople.org/>

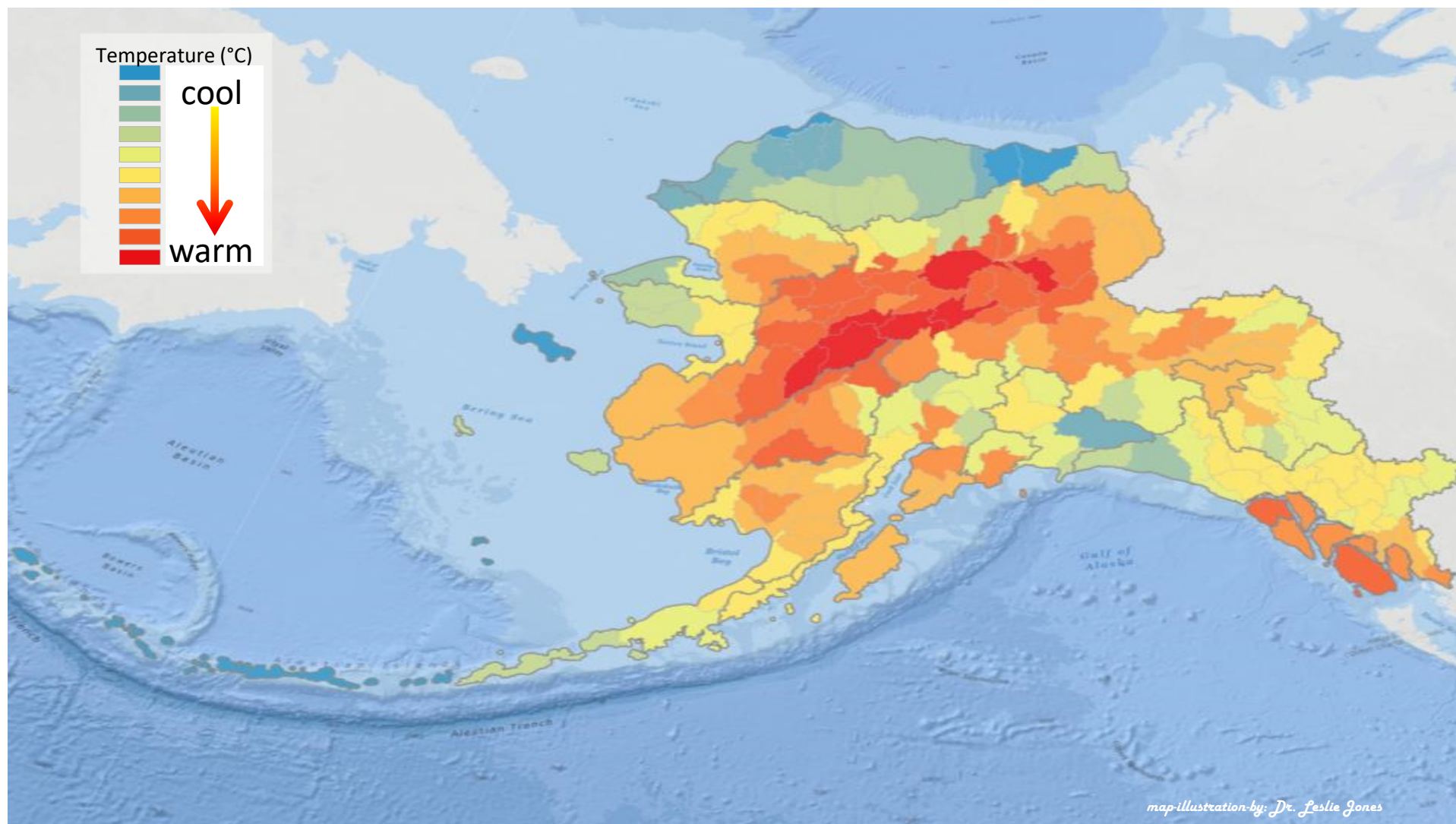


SASAP  
State of Alaska's  
Salmon and People







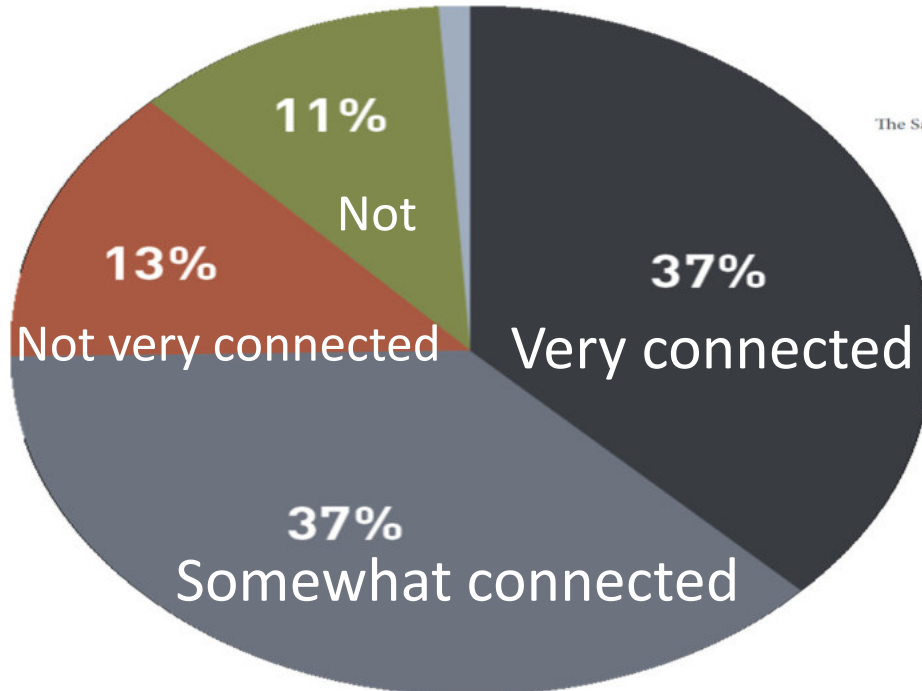






Salmon aren't just another fish in Alaska.  
They are our lifeblood.

The Salmon Project gives voice to Alaskans' deep relationships with salmon  
to ensure that Alaskans' lives will always be salmon lives.



<https://salmonproject.org/>





# Novel Salmon – People Connections in Arctic

“In years when there are a lot of pinks, I’ll pull my nets because I don’t want to have to deal with too many fish.”

“Yeah, somebody needs to shoot them things .”

“... fishermen who catch one or two Chinook salmon over the course of an entire summer fishing season are considered lucky.”



Carothers, Sformo, Cotton, George, and Westley. *In 2<sup>nd</sup> review.* Arctic

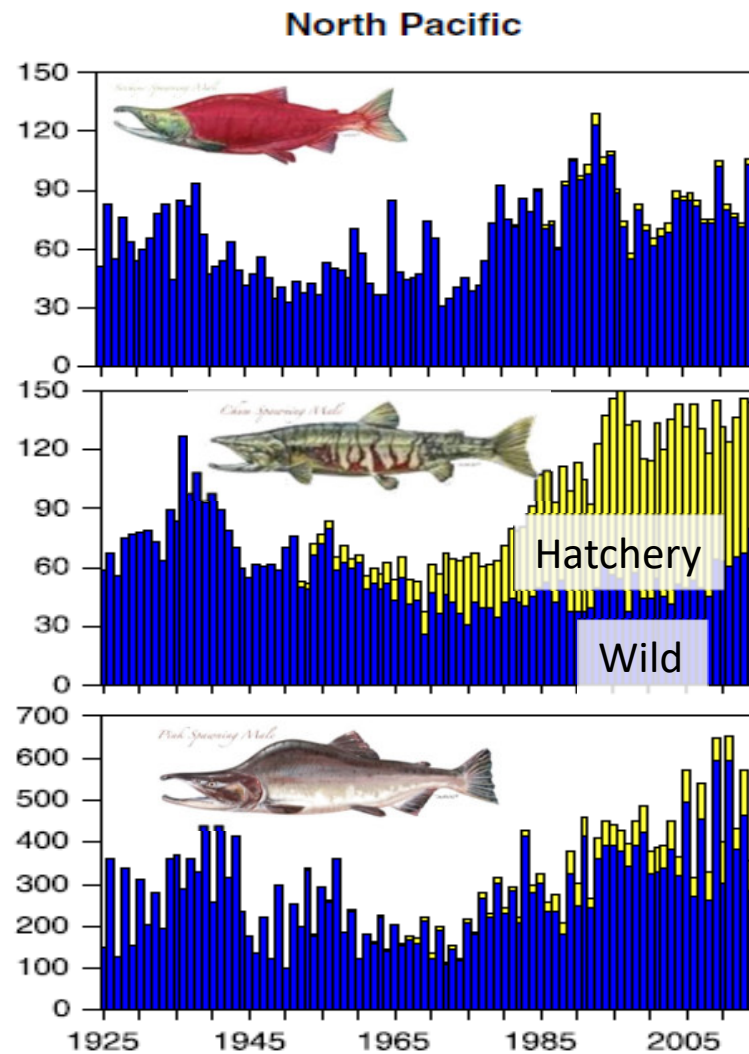


# The Abundance Paradox



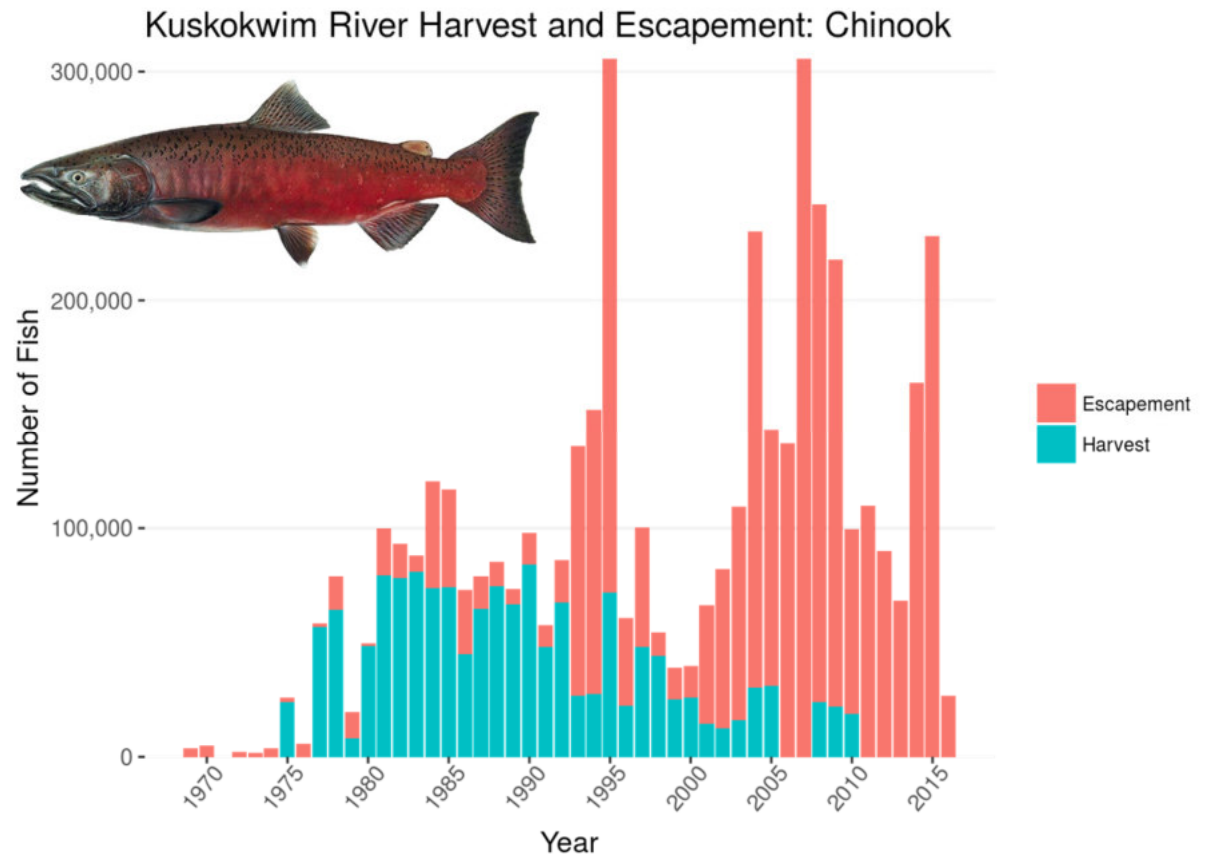
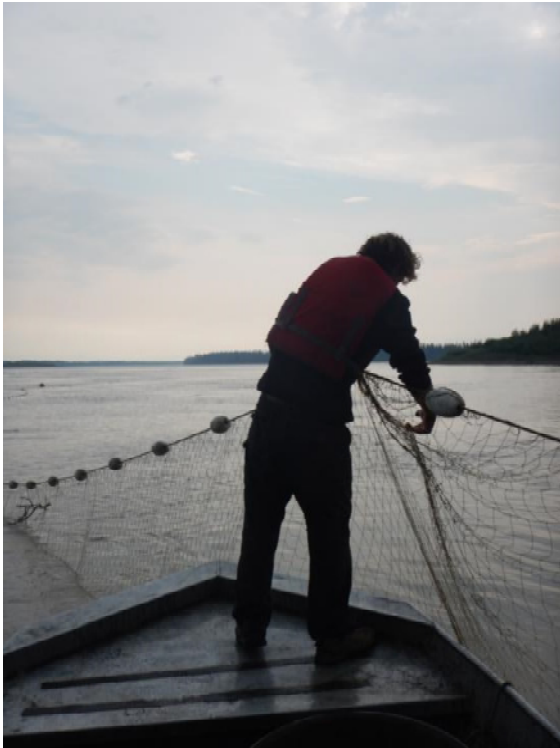


# Millions of adult salmon



Ruggerone & Irvine 2018.  
Marine and Coastal Fisheries:  
Dynamics, Management, and  
Ecosystem Science 10:152-168

# Chinook abundances declining





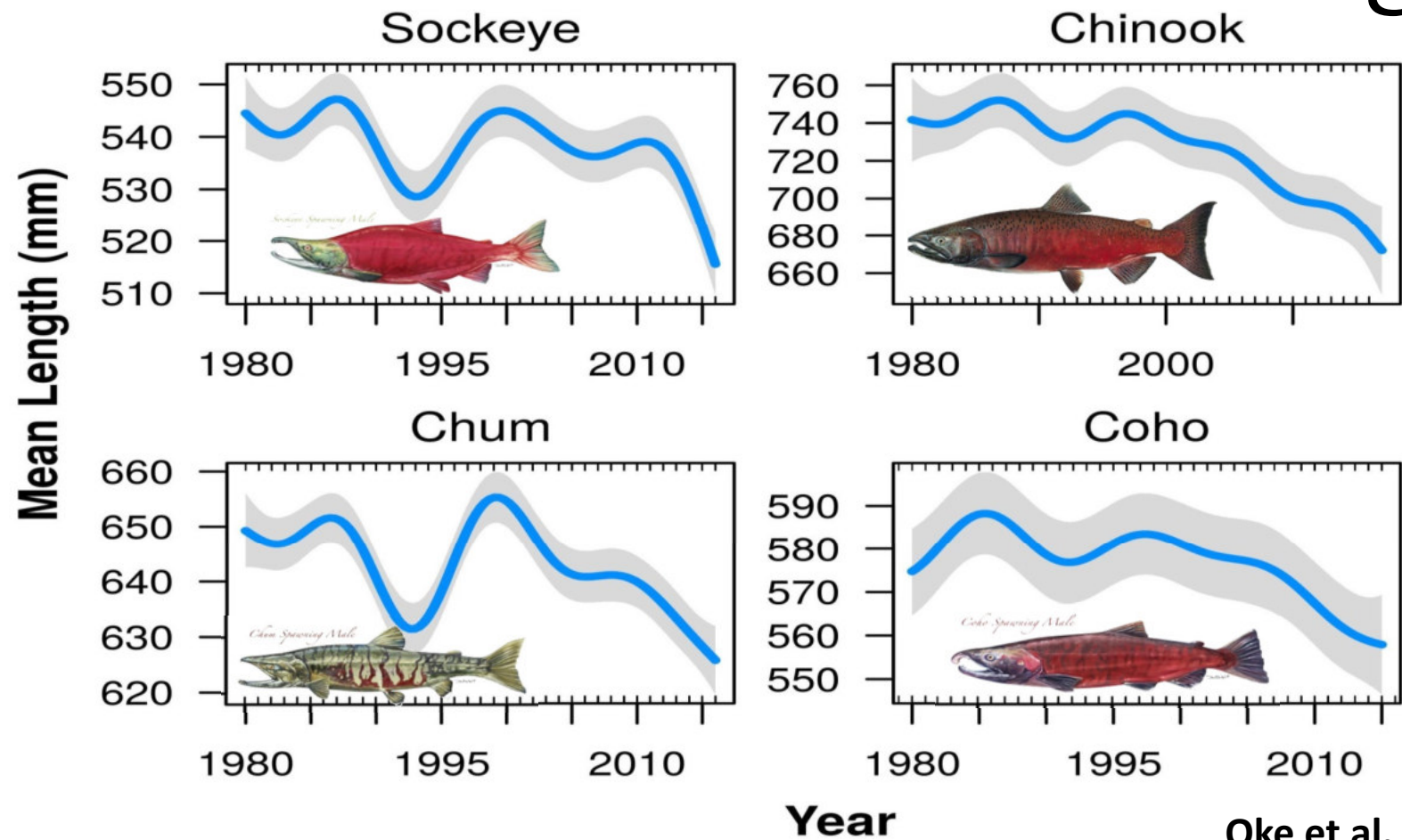






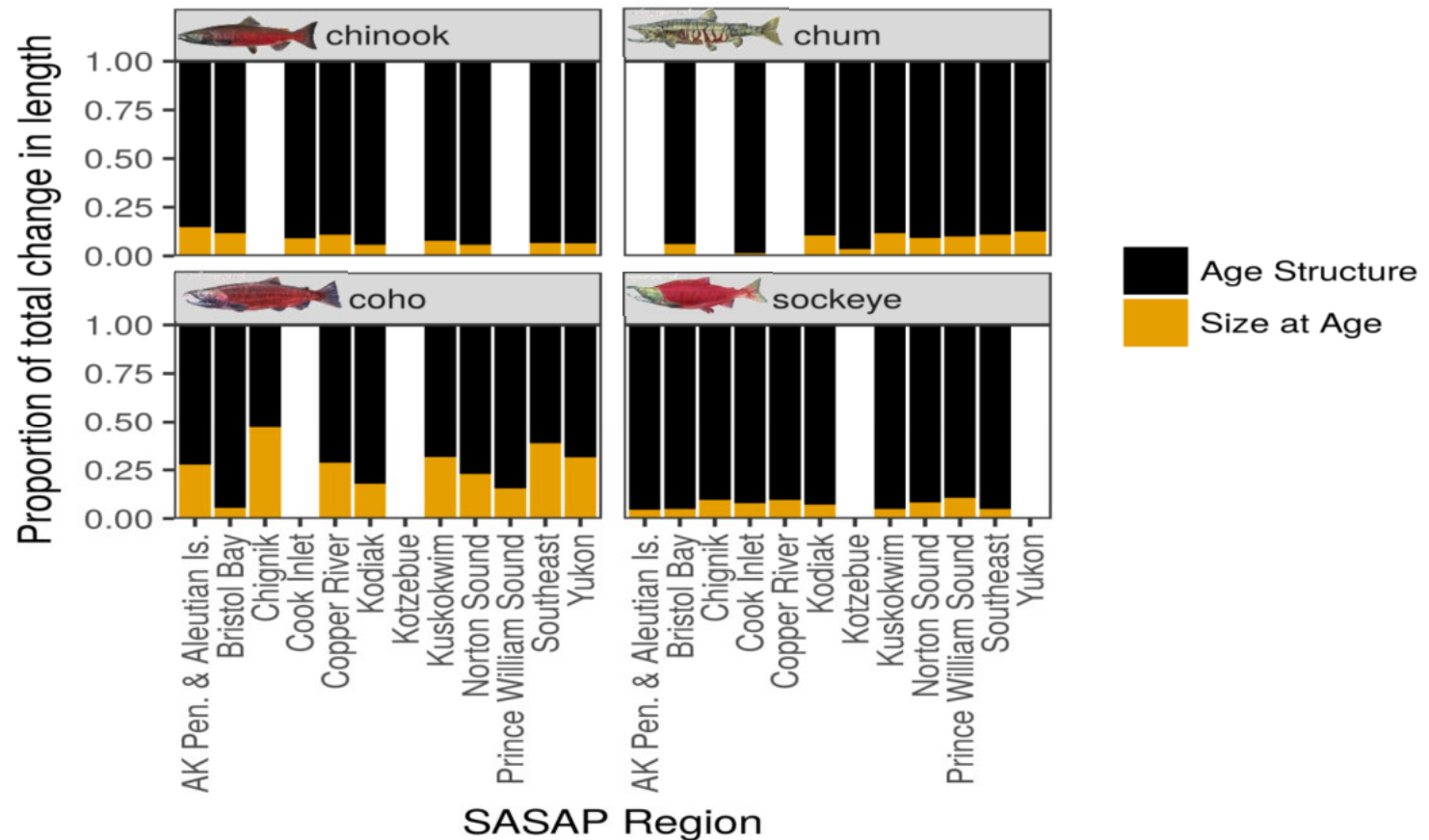


# Alaska salmon are shrinking

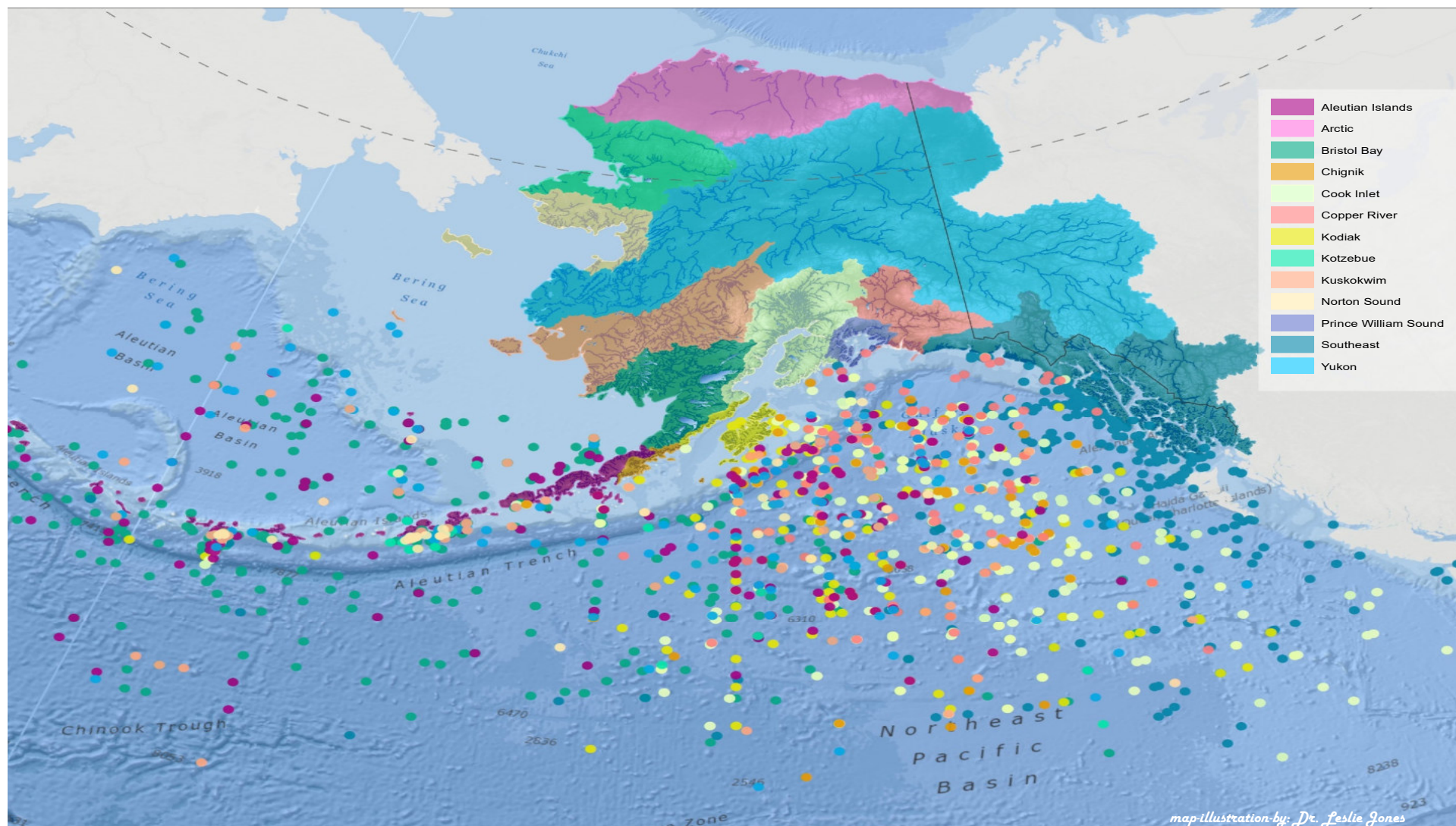




# The old fish are disappearing



Oke et al. in prep









# Criminalization of Subsistence

## **Yupiiit Fight for Restoration of Indigenous Fishing Rights in Alaska**

Gale Courey Toensing • November 3, 2012

## **Some of Alaska's best and biggest rivers closed to king salmon fishing**

## **Alaska Natives Advocate for Co-Management of Traditional Hunting & Fishing Resources as Criminalization Continues**

Rural Alaska

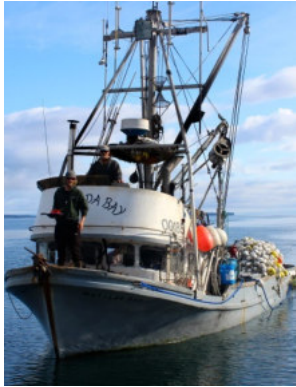
## **Alaska Supreme Court dismisses salmon overharvesting case involving ex-state senator**

✍ Author: [Pat Forgey](#) ⌚ Updated: September 28, 2016 📅 Published November 20, 2015

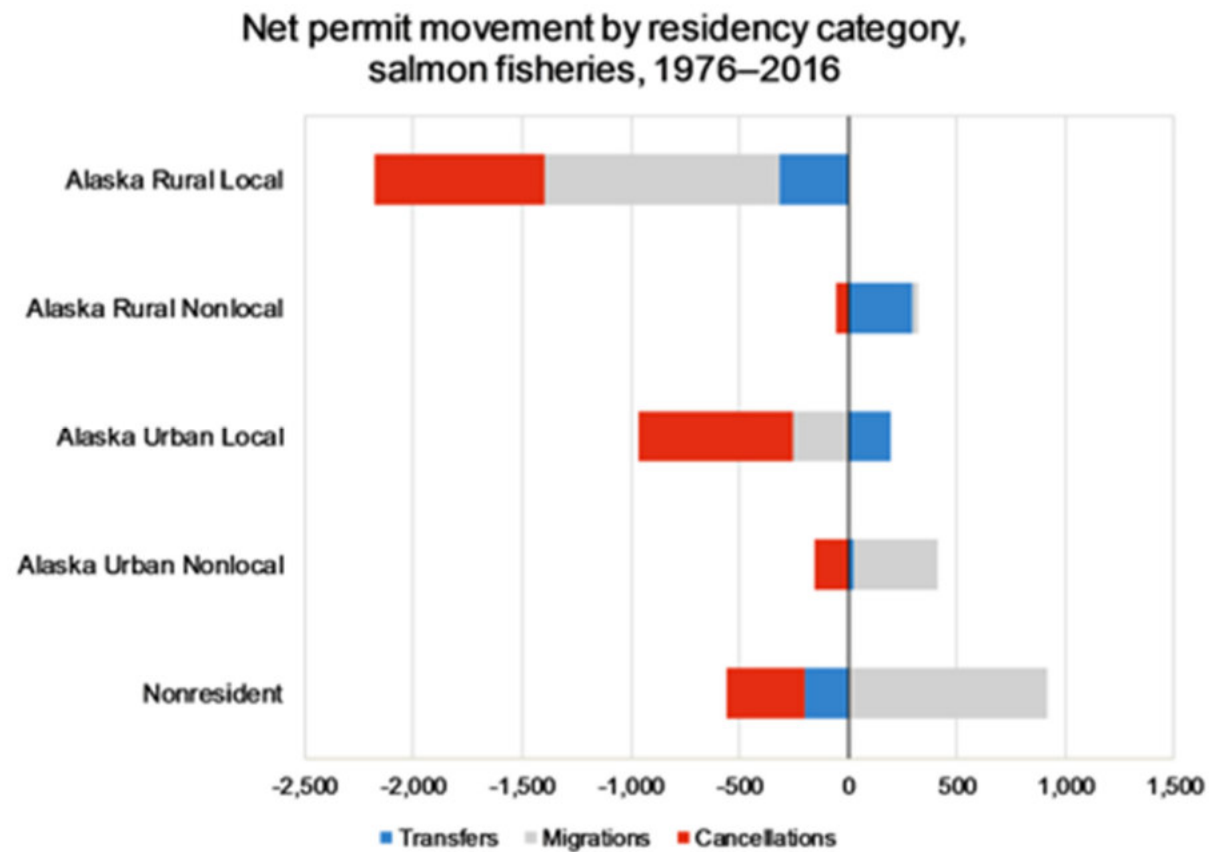
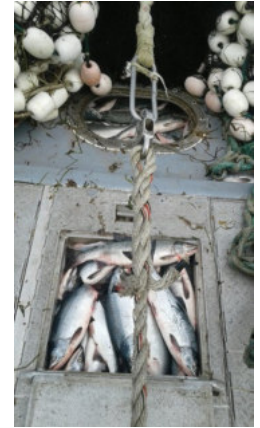
## **Trials of Native fishermen begin in Bethel, Alaska**

📅 30 octobre 2012 👤 Alaska Dispatch News 💬 Aucun commentaire

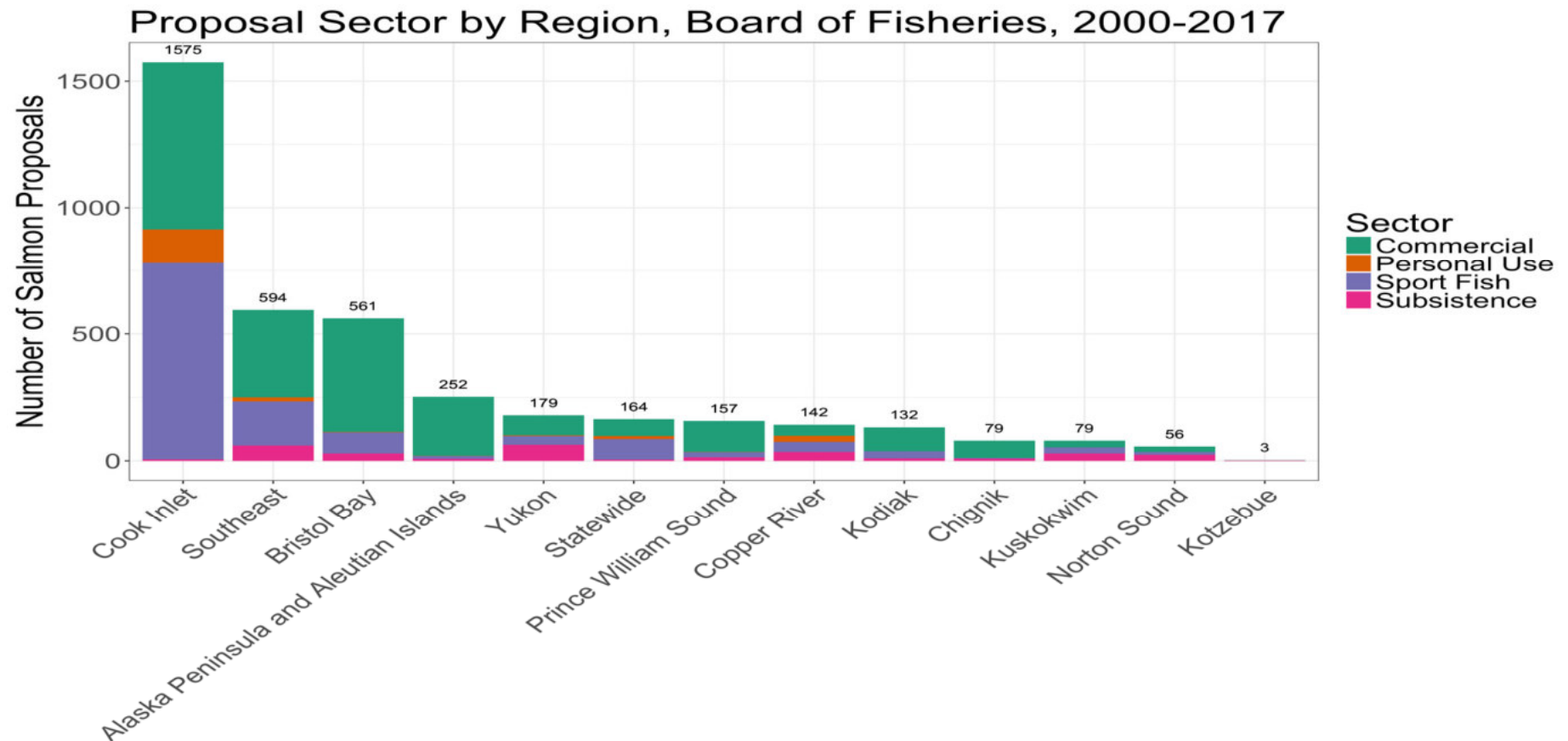




# Loss of fishing access



# Urban voices dominate discourse



**The Board of Fish Dataset is located here:** Krupa, M. B. and M. M. Cunfer. 2017. Alaska Board of Fish Proposals 1959–2016. Knowledge Network for Biocomplexity (KNB), <https://knb.ecoinformatics.org/view/doi:10.5063/F17H1GS8>







