

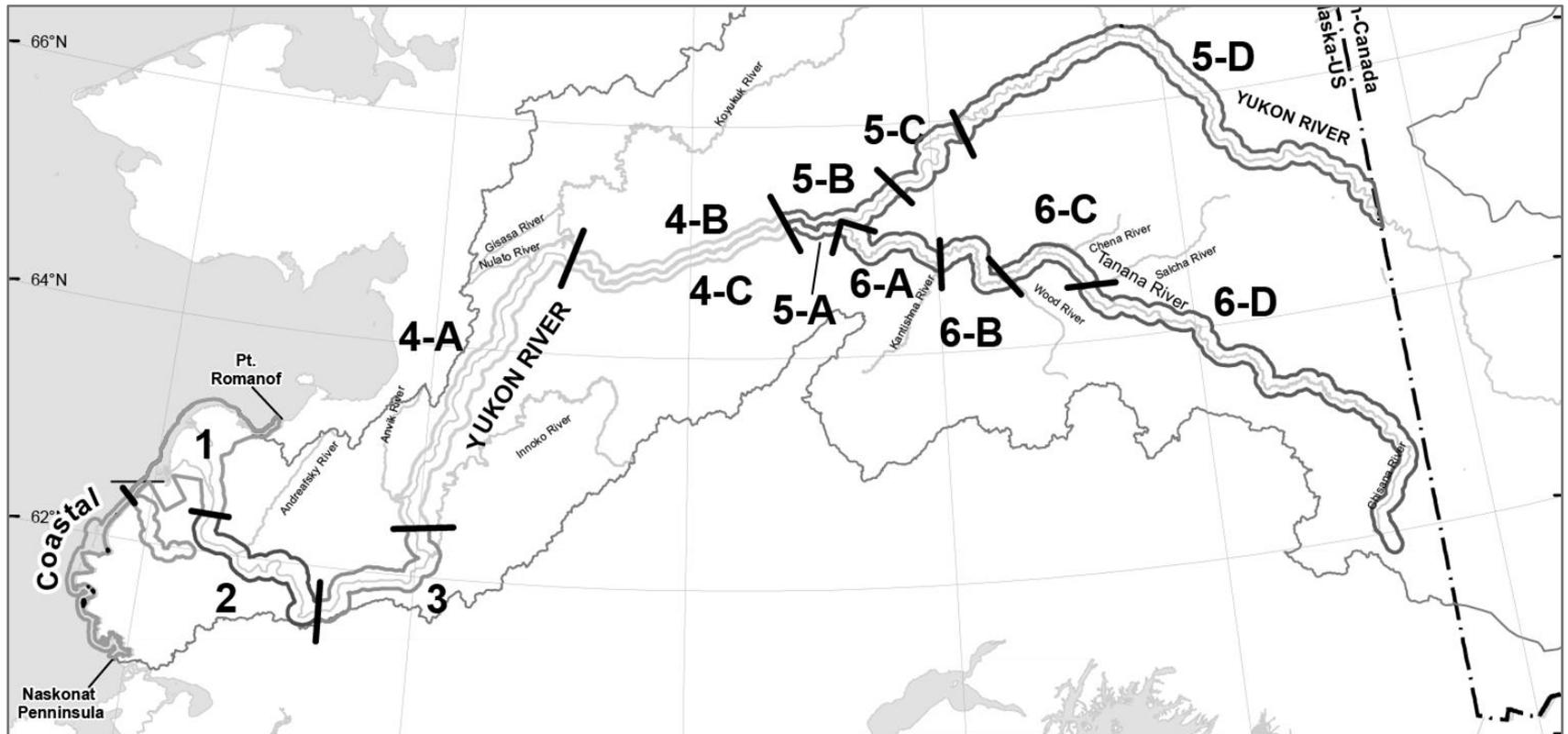
# Overview of the Subsistence Fisheries in the Yukon Management Area



Oral report to the Board  
November 2025

Alida Trainor  
Division of Subsistence

# Introduction to the Yukon River



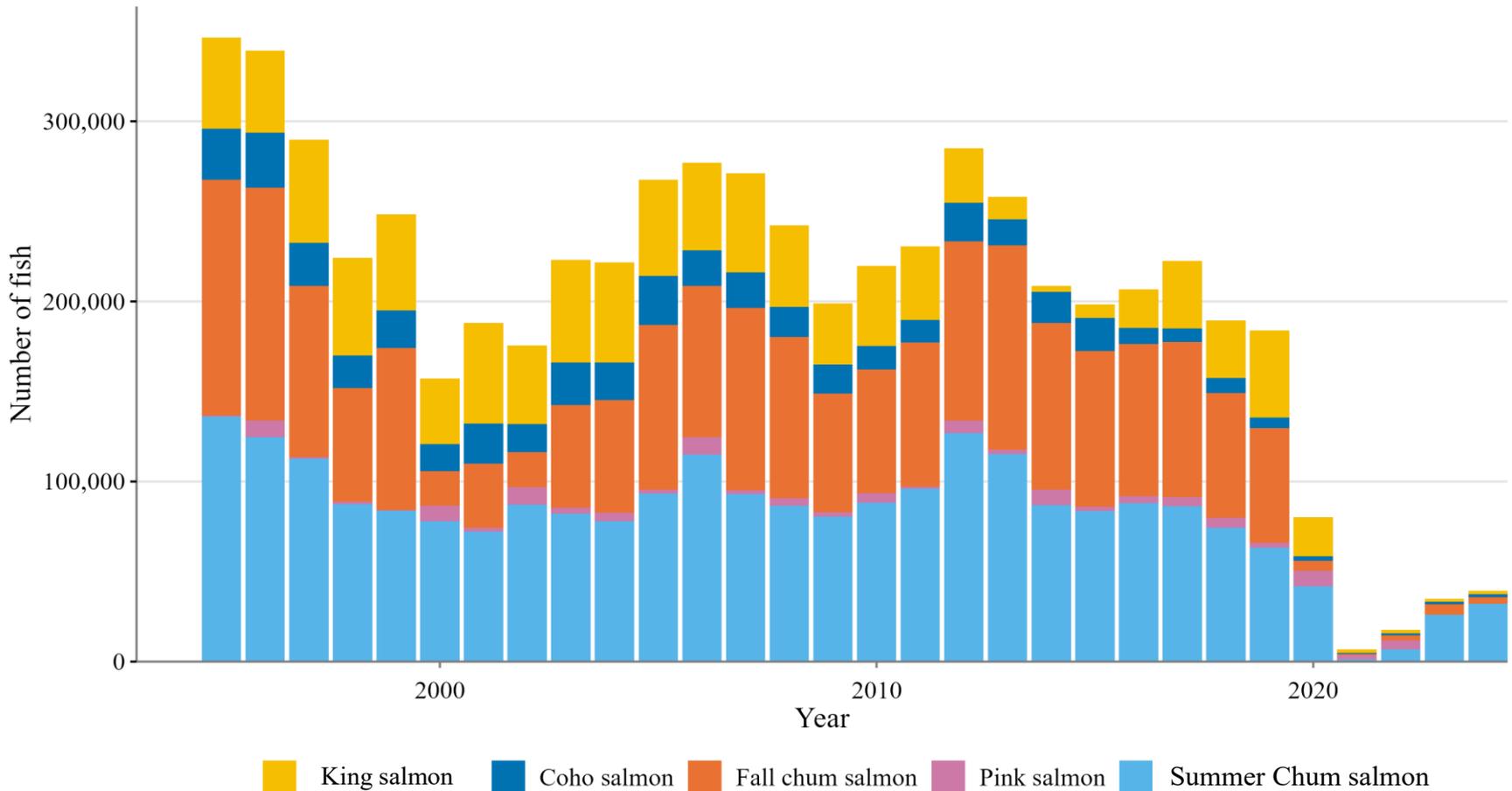
# Introduction to the Yukon River

- Over 50 communities
- Long-term reliance on salmon as a primary food source
- 5 species of salmon are present in the Yukon, not available to all regions of the river
- Diverse social, economic, and cultural impacts to communities from salmon declines

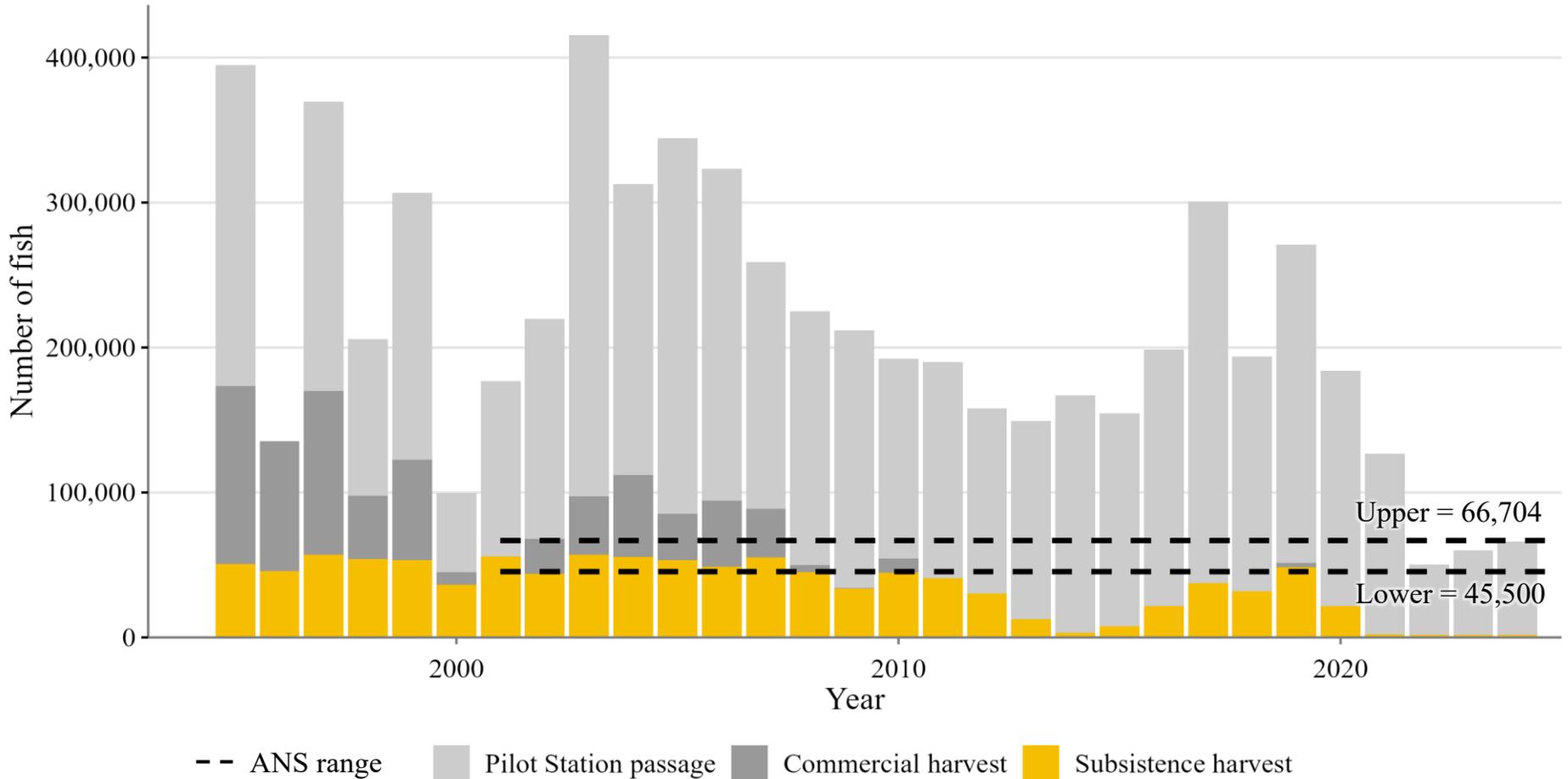


*Fish camp near Pilot Station. Photo credit: UAF Digital Archives*

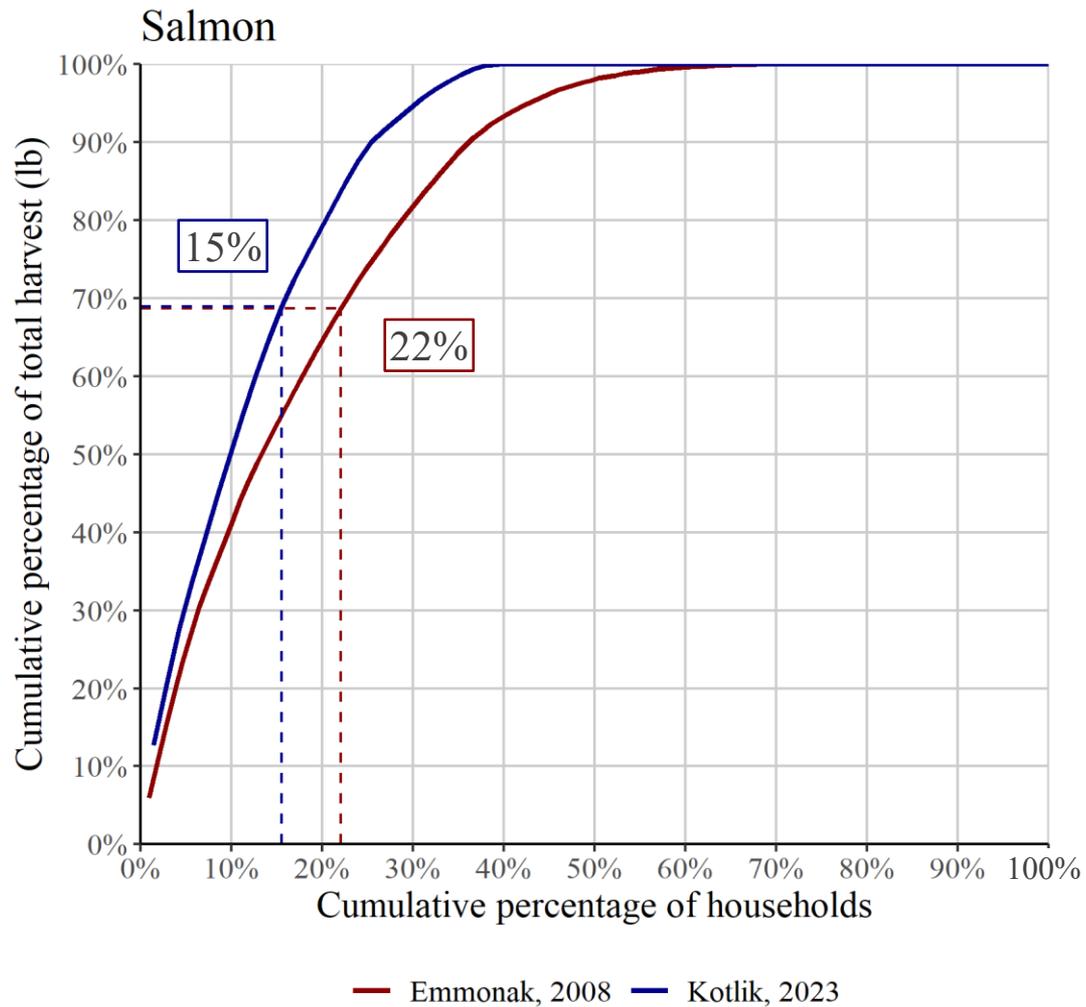
# Subsistence salmon harvests, 1995–2024



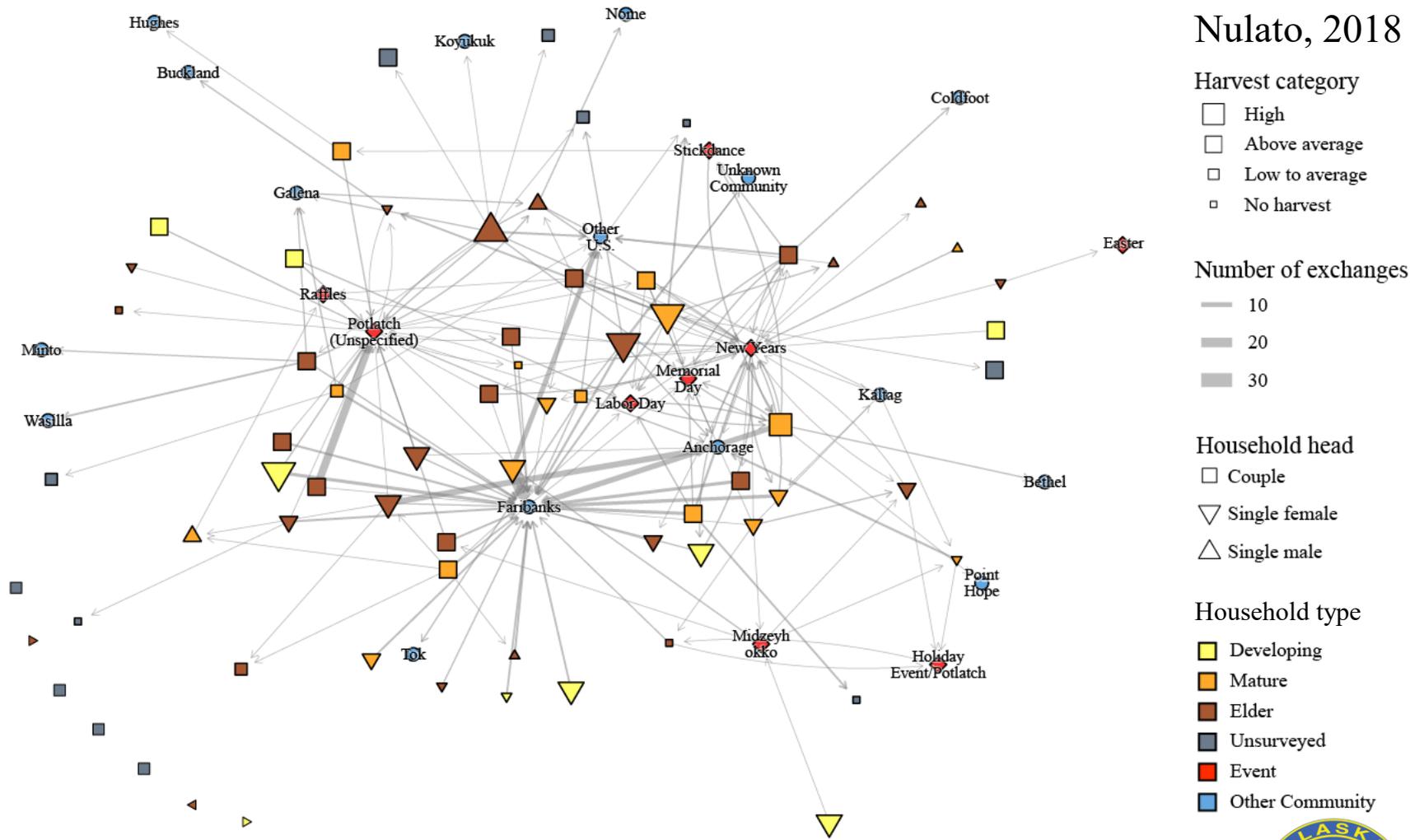
# Subsistence king salmon harvests, 1995–2024



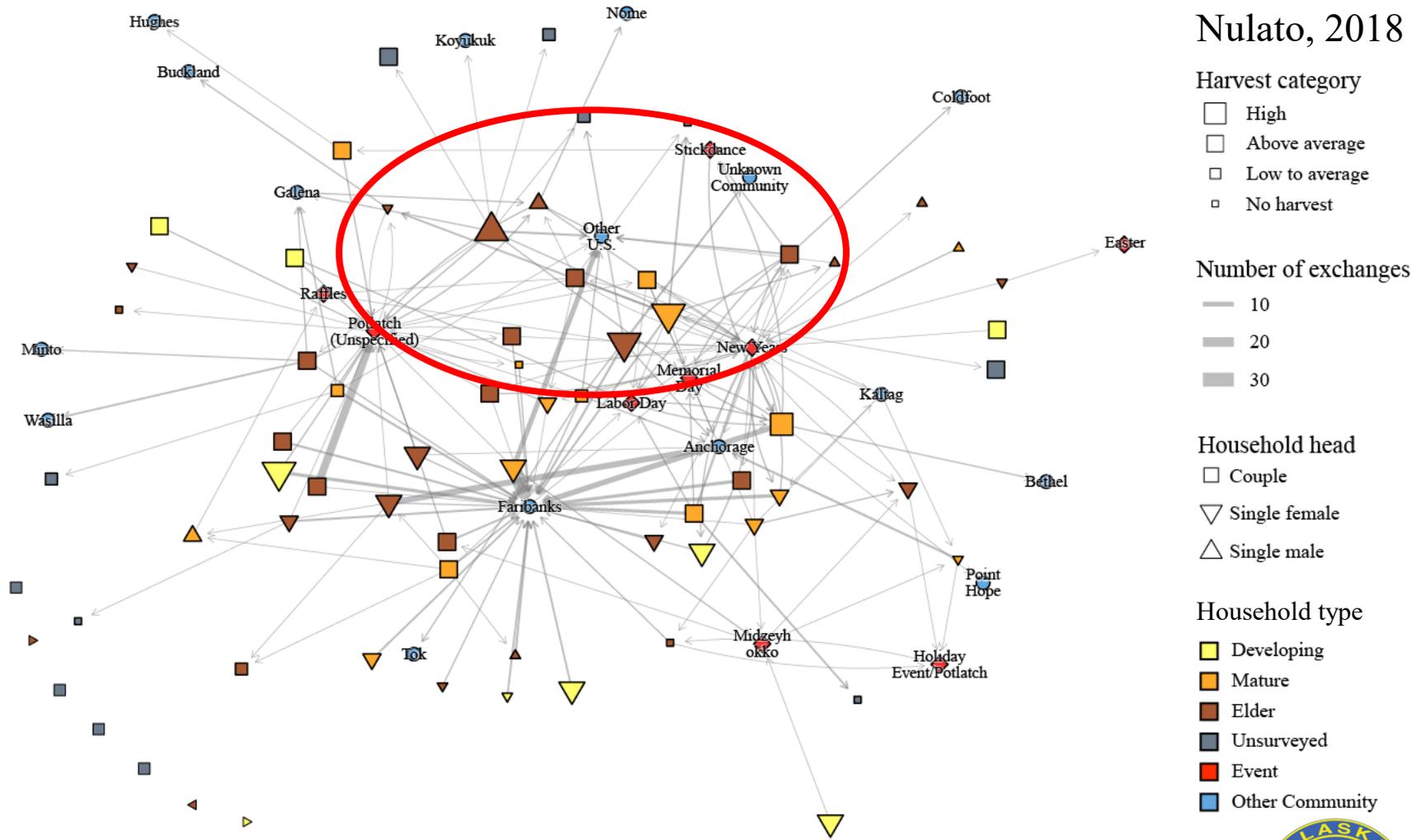
# Production of subsistence harvests of salmon



# Salmon sharing networks

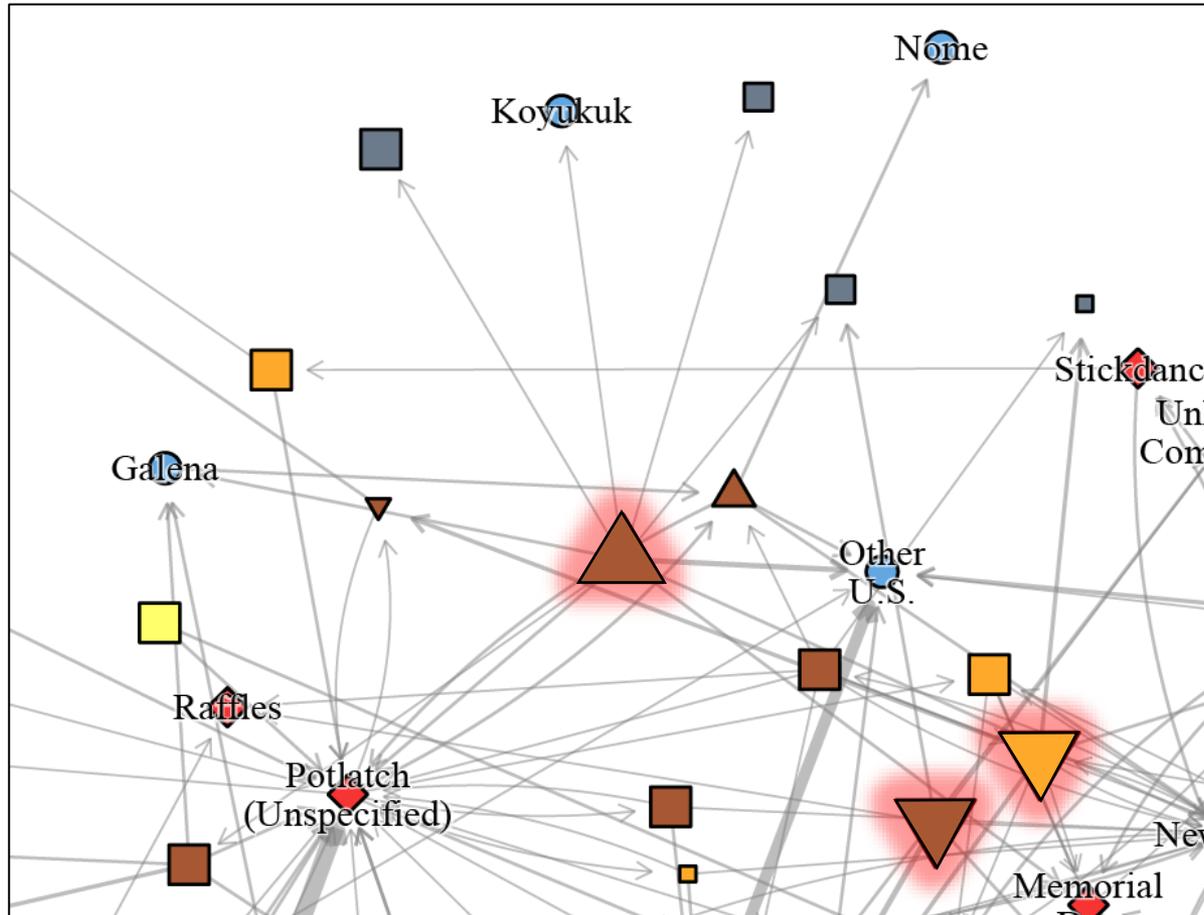


# Salmon sharing networks



# Salmon sharing networks

Nulato, 2018



Harvest category

- High
- Above average
- Low to average
- No harvest

Number of exchanges

- 10
- 20
- 30

Household head

- Couple
- ▽ Single female
- △ Single male

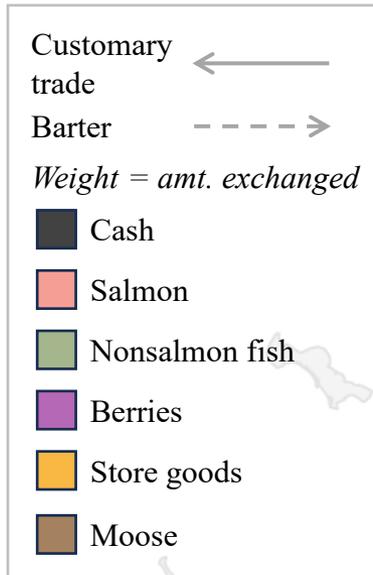
Household type

- Developing
- Mature
- Elder
- Unsurveyed
- Event
- Other Community



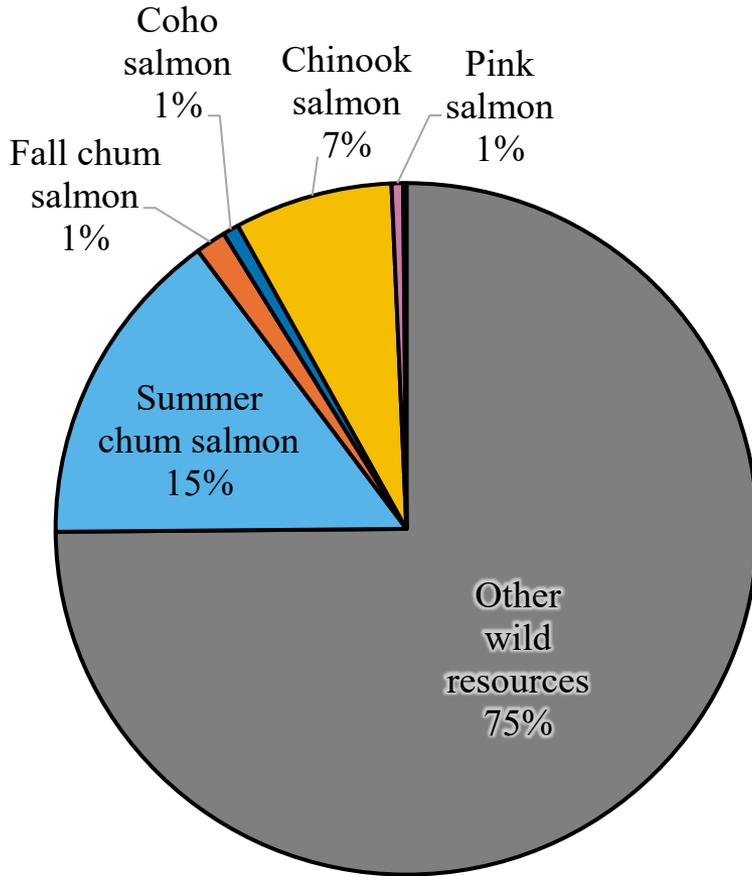
# Barter and customary trade of salmon

Kaltag, 2021

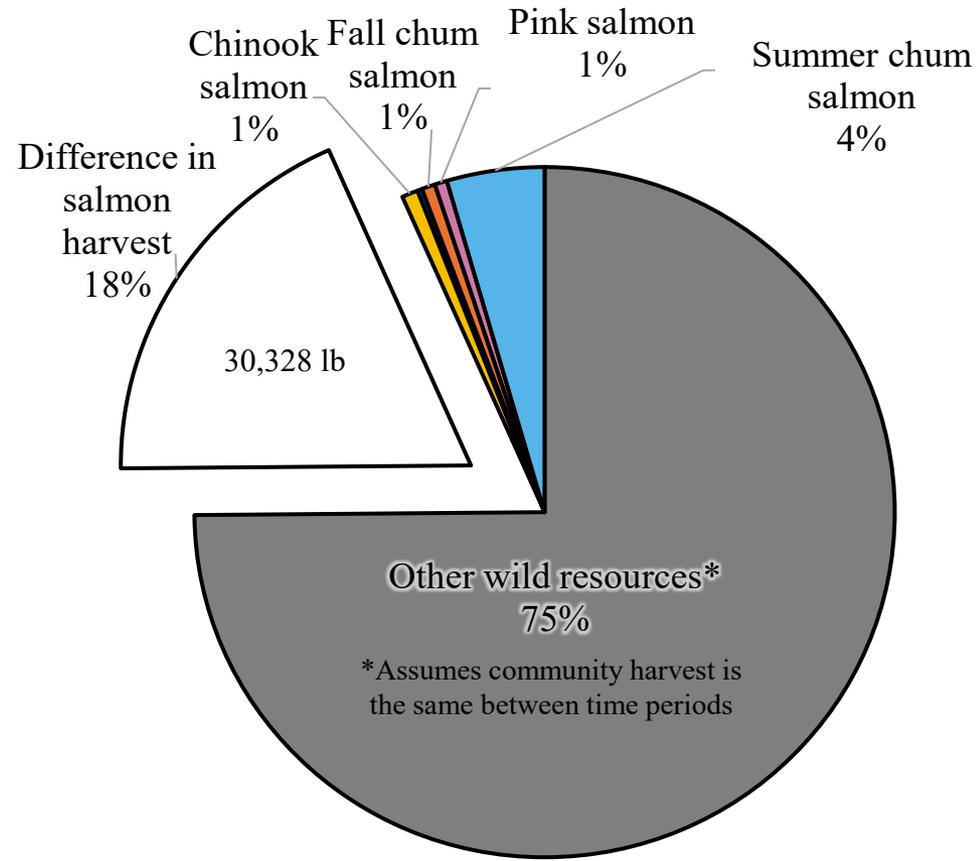


# Subsistence harvest composition: Lower Yukon

Average community harvest (lb) of all wild resources, 2011–2020: **164,510 lb**



Average community harvest (lb) of salmon, 2021–2024: **10,926 lb**



Note: Resources totaling <1% of total are unlabeled  
 Source: ADF&G Division of Subsistence CSIS database

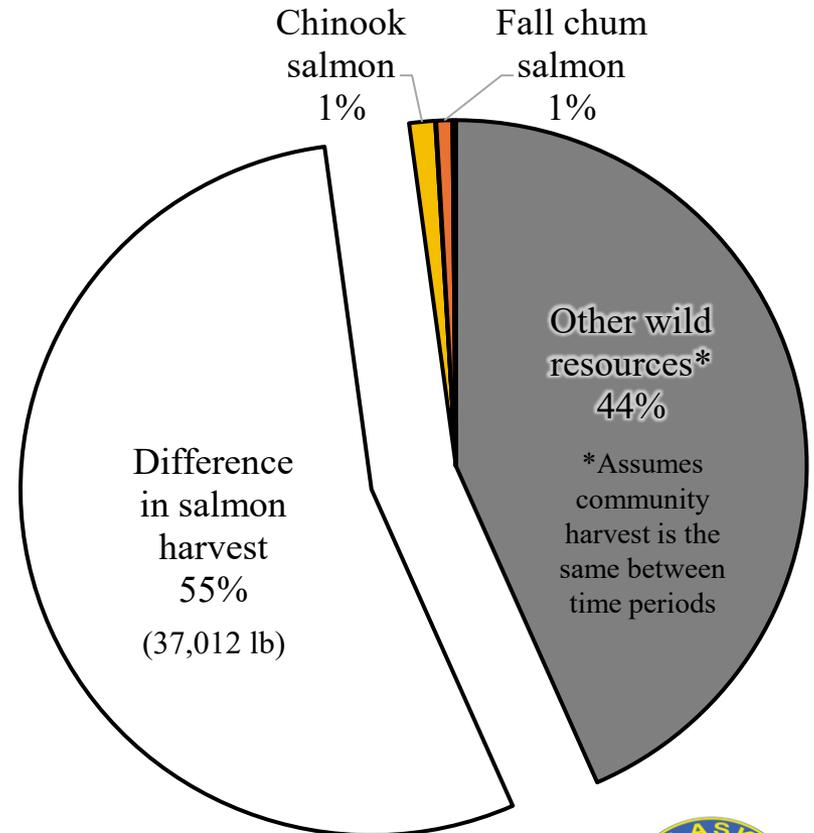
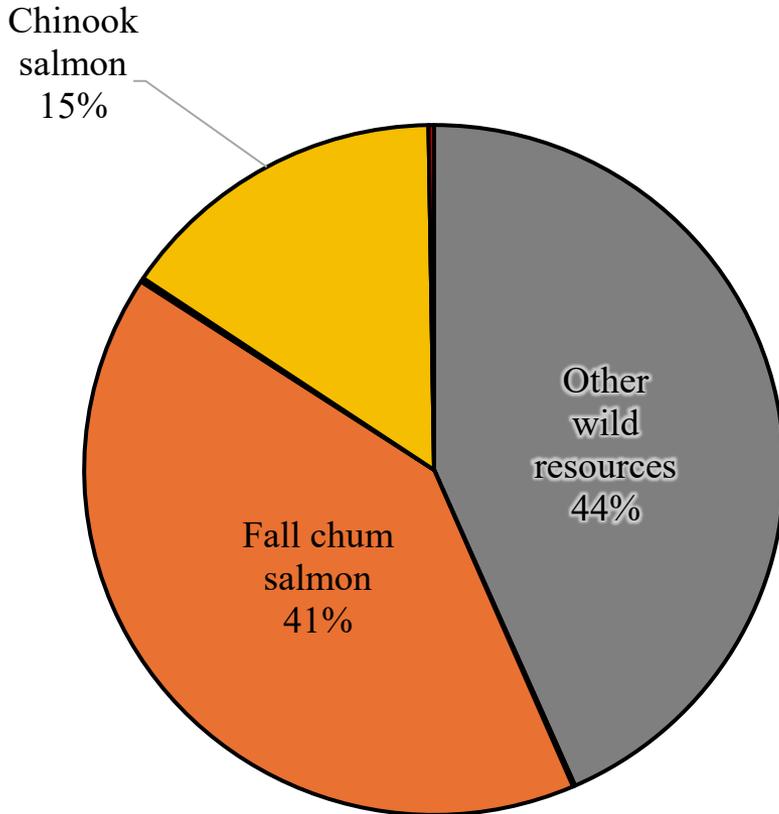
Source: ADF&G Division of Subsistence Post-season Subsistence Survey (salmon data)



# Subsistence harvest composition: Upper Yukon

Average community harvest (lb) of all wild resources, 2011–2023: **67,958 lb**

Average community harvest (lb) of salmon, 2021–2024: **1,450 lb**

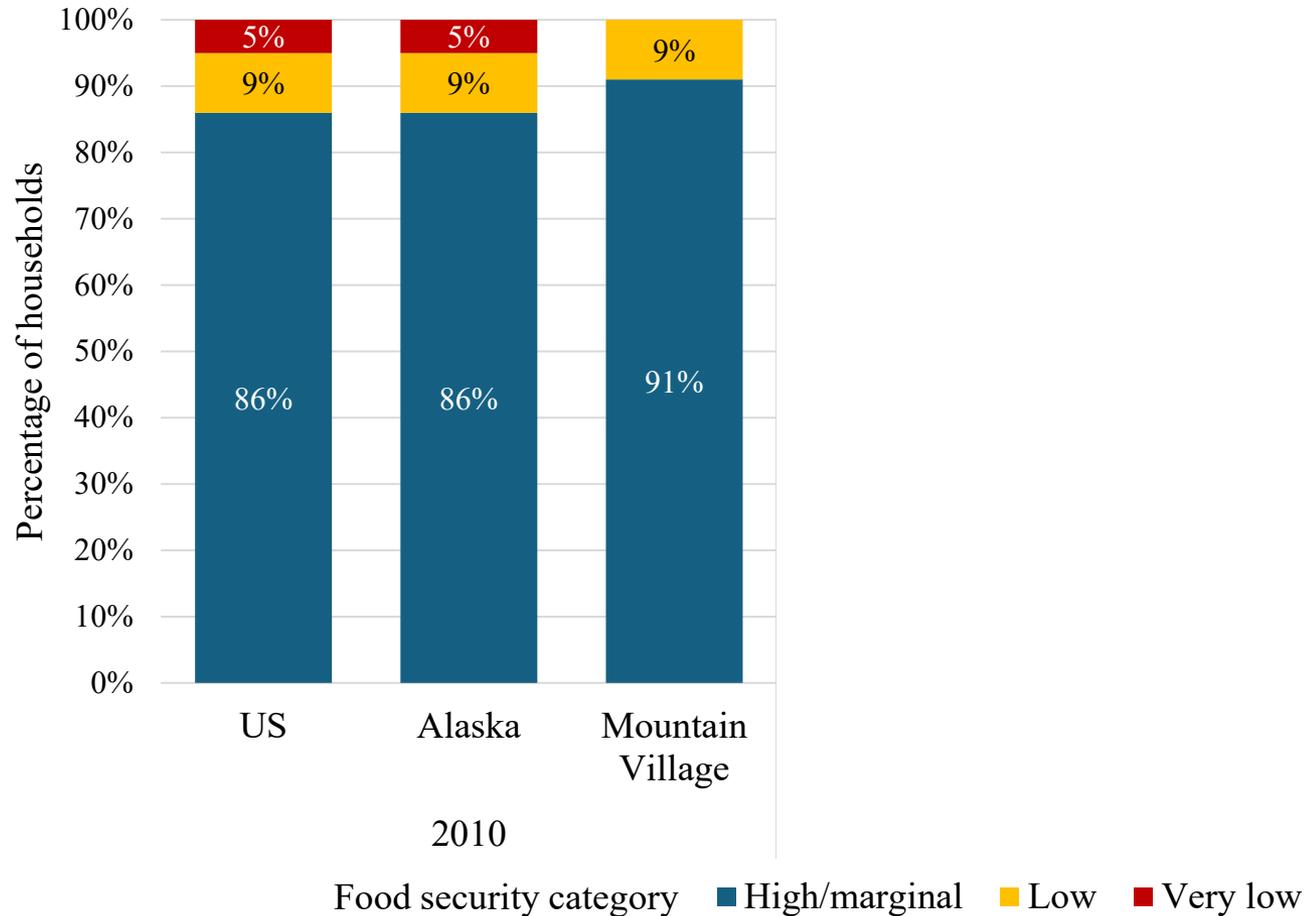


Note: Resources totaling <1% of total are unlabeled  
Source: ADF&G Division of Subsistence CSIS database

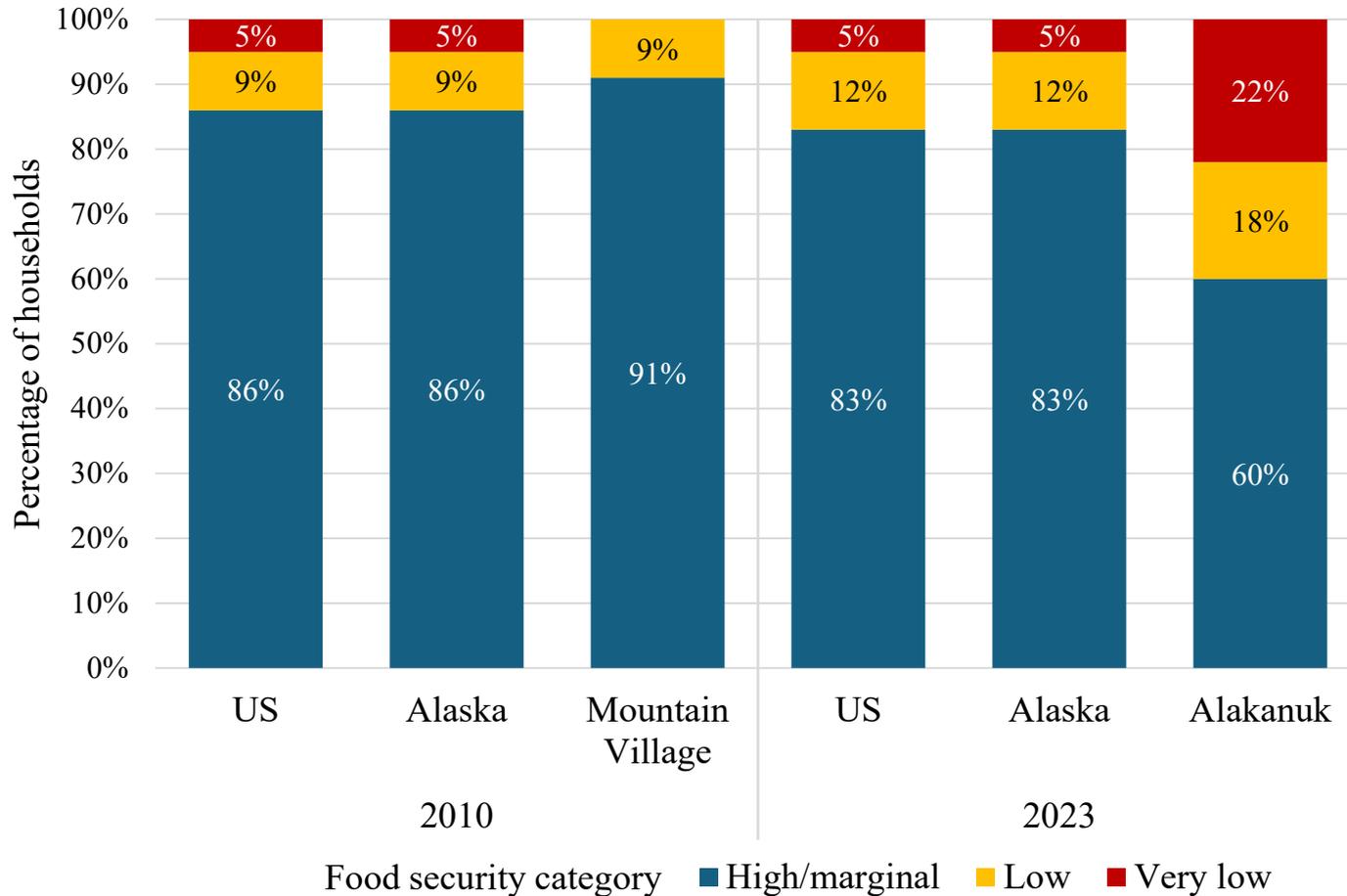
Source: ADF&G Division of Subsistence Post-season Subsistence Survey (salmon data)



# Food security in the Lower Yukon



# Food security in the Lower Yukon



# Conclusions

- Despite historic reliance, salmon are no longer functional foundation of wild food harvests by Yukon River communities
- Regional differences in experiences and responses to salmon declines
  - Impact to food security
  - Simultaneous loss of subsistence and commercial salmon harvesting opportunities in lower and middle river
  - Ever shrinking production (harvesting) base, disruption to statewide subsistence economies
  - Reduced resilience of subsistence-based economies



Questions?

