

Mary Olympic was born between Lake Iliamna and Lake Nuvianak (Quqaklik, known as the middle lake) in 1921. Mary grew up in this area and moved to Iliamna in 1947, where she became a reindeer herder with her father, Pete Anrnuqak and a friend named Upatii. Her father fished in a sailboat when the price was 1¢ a fish at the time. Mary fished four summers with Wassillie Andrew back in 1980-1984. Mary was also the boat operator.

Mary remembers packing a part of a fish and used a rock and let it sink in the middle of the river and that would let the fish come ashore. Mary was raised not to dispose of any parts of the fish on the beach where it can be stepped on the fish parts only to dump them on land. There was a main food, for instance bread and fish shouldn't be wasted. There was three fish that didn't disappear, the sticker fish, socker fish and black fish. They made soup broth out of black fish and some mice as well and that way they survived hunger.

1. Mary opposes the lengthening of the boats.
2. Mary opposes any new proposals that are not from the old ways for instance the 32 boat limit, and not good for preservation of the fish returning to their spawning grounds.

Years ago the area had a lot of fish. Now a days, the abundance of fish have declined because of all the noise around. The fish and other wildlife do not like noise.