

Many of our loved ones are passing without seeing our salmon runs return with abundance, to set their nets with family, eat fresh fish, or be given a bag of dry fish. Our AK Native salmon dependent communities will continue to suffer and our fish camps empty. Salmon is central to our well-being, way of life, and culture in the AYK region and beyond. Subsistence priority and ANS is not being met on the Yukon and we are experiencing multi-specie crashes of salmon. 2023 will not be a promising year for reasonable opportunity to harvest any salmon specie. The state uses the unscientific word “hope” when mentioning future returns of salmon (listen/watch Commissioner DVL’s fisheries house report Jan. 2023).

Changes in Sharing and Participation are Important Predictors of the Health of Traditional Harvest Practices in Indigenous Communities in Alaska

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An excerpt from publication- Additionally, disruptions to Indigenous ways of life and Traditional harvest practices have been associated with the rise of suicide and mental health disparities in Alaska Native populations (Allen et al., [2011](#); Gone & Trimble, [2012](#)). Efforts to reduce risk and promote well-being in young people and communities often indicate that active THPs are a primary prevention strategy (Rasmus et al., [2014a](#), [2019](#)). There are multiple plausible causes for the decline in participation in THPs. Declining Chinook salmon returns to the Yukon River since 2000 have led to many commercial and subsistence fisheries closures, which resulted in economic disaster declarations (Brown et al., [2015](#)). This may help to explain why the Interior Region had a more significant proportion of participants (45%) reporting a decrease in participation in fishing activities compared to the Western Coastal region (29%). The rising costs of equipment and fuel for travel to traditional harvest areas may also reduce participation (Brinkman et al., [2014](#)), forcing a trade-off between working wage-employment jobs and having the time necessary to conduct THPs (Kofinas et al., [2010](#)). Participants in the Interior Region more strongly agreed that fuel and energy costs had challenged THPs compared to the Western Coastal Region (Fig. [2](#)).

Please read the entire publication @

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10745-022-00342-4>

