

## **Traditional Ecological Knowledge of Tlingit People Concerning the Sockeye Salmon Fishery of Dry Bay, A Cooperative agreement between National Park Service and the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe, Yakutat, Alaska**

**Abstract:** The Yakutat Tlingit Tribe and the National Park Service have collaborated to document Tlingit traditional ecological knowledge about salmon ecology and fisheries management in the Dry Bay/Alsek River Delta. Historically Northwest Coast Peoples including Tlingit have managed fishing and fish populations. Each Tlingit clan house managed and controlled specific rivers or in larger river's sections of rivers in southeast Alaska. Traditional beliefs about reincarnation of animal spirits and a kinship with animals contribute to how Tlingit traditionally treated and handled salmon and animals. In recent decades, sockeye salmon have dramatically declined in the Dry Bay/Alsek area. It is hoped that this study, by showing how the Tlingit's historically understood and managed sockeye habitat, population and harvest in the Dry Bay/Alsek area, will aid in developing a restoration plan.

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