# Invasive Species in Alaska

# NORTHERN PIKE

## THE PROBLEM

- Northern pike are voracious apex predators not native to Southcentral Alaska
- In the right habitat, pike consume most other fish, **especially juvenile salmon**
- Pike have already eliminated salmon in **27% of lake habitats** in the Mat-Su and severely reduced populations in another 13%

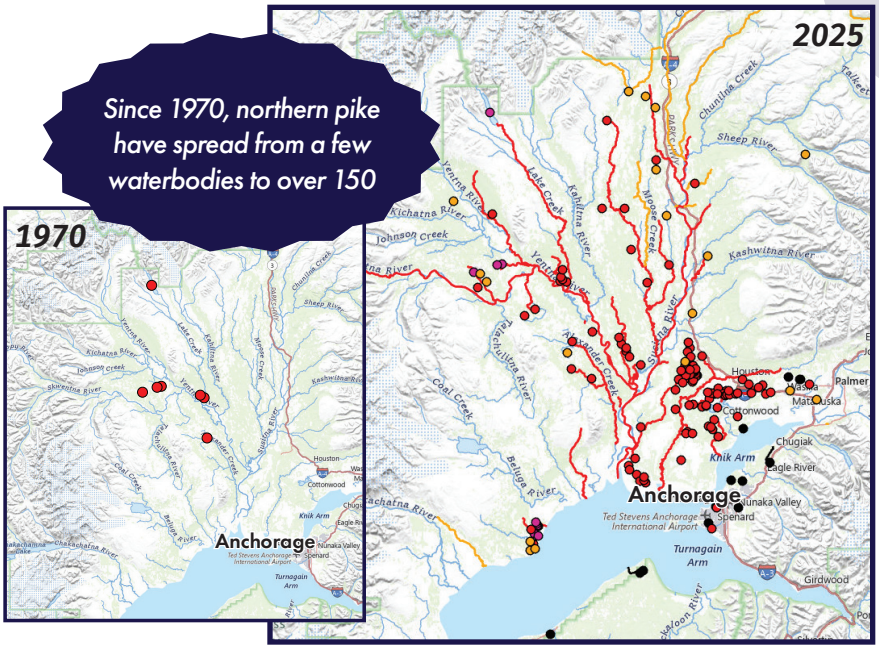




***Above:*** *A single juvenile pike with 15 coho salmon found in its stomach.* ***Left:*** *Northern pike captured in the process of eating a juvenile coho salmon*

## WHAT WE'RE DOING

- Since work began in 2008, **we've eradicated pike from 30 waterbodies**, including all known locations on the Kenai Peninsula
- Together we've manually **removed an additional 75,000 pike** from the region, conducted research on eradication methods, and acquired as much outside funding as possible to achieve common goals
- We've leveraged limited capacity through partnership with organizations, Tribes, agencies, and concerned citizens to maximize impact
- While some progress has been made, **salmon habitat is being lost as you read this**, and we need your help




***Distribution of pike populations in Southcentral***
***Red:*** *confirmed* | ***Orange:*** *suspected* | ***Black:*** *eradicated*

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

**Vote YES on HB 191 and SB 174 to help:**

- Address the drastically inadequate staffing and resources to control invasive pike
- Increase funding to control and eradicate pike to restore impacted salmon habitats

## CONSEQUENCES OF NO ACTION

- **Additional losses/reductions of salmon** returns in the Cook Inlet Region **are a guarantee if we do not take action**, further contributing to cultural and economic impacts
- Alexander Creek, historically one of the largest Chinook salmon fisheries in the region, closed in 2008 primarily due to pike predation. **In 2025, only 36 Chinook salmon were counted in Alexander Creek**. This is one of many examples and threatens to be the story in other drainages every year pike efforts are inadequately supported
- Northern pike negatively impact property values and jeopardize food security

## LONG STORY SHORT

***Nowhere else in the world has seen this degree of impact on Pacific salmon by an invasive species. Invasive pike directly threaten Alaskans' way of life and food security. By voting YES on HB191 and SB174, we can mitigate these losses.***

*For additional information, contact the Alaska Invasive Species Partnership: akispboard@gmail.com*

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ALASKA INVASIVE SPECIES PARTNERSHIP