

The Pink Salmon



Where Have the Pink Salmon Gone?



Environmental factors often drive migratory behavior patterns in animals. For salmon, migration is a behavioral adaptation that is important to their survival, because the fish swim from the ocean and up freshwater streams to spawn (females lay eggs in the water).

In Auke Creek, Alaska, one pink salmon population is migrating about two weeks earlier than it was 40 years ago as local water temperatures increased about one degree Celsius on average during that same time period. Earlier migrating fish are better fit to handle warmer waters.