

# MMS Alaska OCS Region

# News Release

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## **Sockeye Salmon Diet Revealed in New MMS Study**

A recent study released by the Minerals Management Service reveals Sockeye salmon eating habits. The study investigated the diet and feeding behavior of maturing Sockeye salmon during the final marine phase of the spawning migration from early June to late August. The salmon feed primarily on decapods, sandlance and pteropod and appear to gradually stop feeding prior to entering freshwater.

*"Feeding Ecology of Maturing Sockeye Salmon (Oncorhynchus nerka) in Nearshore Waters of the Kodiak Archipelago,"* OCS Study MMS2001-059, is available from the Coastal Marine Institute (CMI), School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99775-7220. Requests may be placed with Ms. Ruth Post, CMI, by phone (907) 474-6782, by fax (907) 474-7204, or by email at [rpost@sfos.uaf.edu](mailto:rpost@sfos.uaf.edu). The report is also available via the internet at [www.mms.gov/alaska](http://www.mms.gov/alaska) or from the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services at [ww.arlis.org](http://ww.arlis.org).

MMS began the Coastal Marine Institute in 1993 to take advantage of local environmental scientific expertise. Through a 5-year Cooperative Agreement, the MMS commits up to \$1 million per year for studies to be conducted by the CMI, if it can obtain matching funds. The University of Alaska Fairbanks administers the Alaska CMI. The MMS, State of Alaska and the University participate in the CMI Technical Steering Committee who reviews research proposals and helps to assure the scientific quality of the studies.

MMS is the federal agency in the U.S. Department of the Interior that manages the nation's oil, natural gas and other mineral resources on the outer continental shelf in federal offshore waters. The agency also collects, accounts for and disburses mineral revenues from federal and Indian leases. These revenues totaled nearly \$8 billion last year and more than \$110 billion since the agency was created in 1982. Annually, nearly \$1 billion from those revenues go into the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the acquisition and development of state and federal park and recreation lands.

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