

**COMMFISH: ALL ABOUT ALASKA'S COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
COLLECTIONS**

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**Abstract:** One of the more unique holdings in the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services (ARLIS) stands out due to its extensive size and breadth—the CommFish collection. The entire management history related to Alaska's commercial fisheries is documented here, including controversies over fishing rights, subsistence, and much more. These reports, including primary source data reported nowhere else, precede statehood and capture in great detail the extent, scope, successes, failures, policy decisions, and inventories of Alaska's fisheries statewide.

When statehood was realized in 1959, the agency responsible for managing commercial fisheries was also established: the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). Fishery managers in the newly created agency recognized early on that much of the data compiled would be of professional interest, while other information

clearly had a public right-to-know component. As a result, a diverse number of series to meet each of these information needs was initially established. Over time, however, these series have been subject to the familiar vagaries common to all gray literature, such as title changes, name irregularities, and murky bureaucratic authorship.

ARLIS inherited these extensive collections from several ADF&G libraries over a period of years. Most of the items had never been distributed outside of the agency, and ARLIS often owns the only copy. Recently, ARLIS has spent much time and effort to provide original cataloging for these materials in OCLC. ARLIS' approach to cataloging these complex series may also be of interest to librarians facing similar challenges.

**Keywords:** Alaska; Commercial fishing; Fishing industry; Fisheries; Special libraries; Cataloging; Serial publications; Salmonidae

## Introduction

The economic role that fisheries play in Alaska is equivalent to that of wheat farming in North Dakota or corn production in Iowa (Robinson & Gilbertsen 2006). A world-scale industry, commercial fisheries in Alaska generated \$1.3 billion gross earnings in 2005 (Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Year 2006 Overview). A recent National Marine Fisheries Service press release reported that over 55 percent of the total U.S. fisheries harvest by volume was taken in Alaska waters, which translates into nearly one-third of the total U.S. harvest by value (Robinson & Gilbertsen 2006). The fishing industry is also a major source of employment in the state, particularly in rural Alaska. Fishing is the most important source of income, taxes, infrastructure, and utilities for coastal communities, as well as an integral part of Alaska culture (Ulmer 2007).

So, who is ultimately responsible for managing these valuable fisheries that are so important to the 49<sup>th</sup> state? Commercial fisheries in Alaska fall under a sometimes complex mix of state and federal management jurisdictions. In general, the State of Alaska through its Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has management authority for all salmon, herring, and shellfish fisheries within its geographic limits. The federal government, specifically the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service has management authority for the majority of groundfish fisheries, except for those within three nautical miles of shore (ADF&G, Alaska's Commercial Fisheries, General Information). Halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) is not considered a groundfish and is managed by the International Pacific Halibut Commission. See Table 1 for the list of commercial fish species harvested in Alaska waters.

**Table 1.** Commercial fish species harvested in Alaska waters (ADF&G, Division of Commercial Fisheries).

TYPE OF FISHERY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
Salmon Fisheries	<i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i> <i>O. gorbuscha</i> <i>O. keta</i> <i>O. tshawytscha</i> <i>O. kisutch</i>	sockeye (red) salmon pink salmon chum (dog) salmon king (Chinook) salmon coho (silver) salmon
Herring Fisheries	<i>Clupea pallasii</i>	Pacific herring
Groundfish Fisheries	<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i> <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i> <i>Anoplopoma fimbria</i> <i>Pleurogrammus monopterygius</i> <i>Ophiodon elongates</i> <i>Sebastes sp.</i> <i>Limanda aspera</i> , etc.	walleye pollock Pacific cod sablefish Atka mackerel lingcod various rockfish species yellowfin sole, other flatfish species
Shellfish Fisheries	<i>Paralithodes camtschaticus</i> <i>P. platypus</i> <i>Lithodes aequispinus</i> <i>Chionoecetes bairdi</i> <i>C. opilio</i> <i>Erimacrus isenbeckii</i> <i>Cancer magister</i> <i>Pandalus borealis</i> <i>P. platyceros</i> <i>Pandalopsis dispar</i> <i>Pandalus sp.</i> , etc. <i>Patinopecten caurinus</i> <i>Parastichopus californicus</i> <i>Strongylocentrotus sp.</i> <i>Protothaca staminea</i>  <i>Siliqua sp.</i> , etc. <i>Enteroctopus dofleini</i> <i>Berryteuthis magister</i>	red king crab blue king crab golden king crab Tanner crab snow crab hair crab Dungeness crab northern (pink) shrimp spot shrimp sidestripe shrimp other shrimp species weathervane scallop giant red sea cucumber sea urchin species Pacific littleneck clam other clam species Pacific octopus* Magister armhook squid*  *primarily taken as bycatch in pots and trawls

Collections pertaining to Alaska's commercial fisheries make up a significant part of the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services, more commonly known as ARLIS (<http://www.arlis.org>). ARLIS is an award-winning special library focusing on the natural and cultural resources of Alaska and arctic areas. Located on the campus of the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA), it features the most complete collection of its kind in the world. Established in 1997 as an innovative partnership of state, federal, and university entities (ADF&G, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Minerals Management Service, U.S. National Park Service, and UAA's Environment and Natural Resources Institute), ARLIS' primary purpose is to meet the information needs of its founding agencies. It also serves the university community and is open to the public (Carle & Braund-Allen 2002; Braund-Allen & Carle 2002).

### **Acquiring the CommFish Collection**

For more than 40 years, the ADF&G Data Reports and several other series were stored in an office "library" at ADF&G's regional office in Anchorage. Known only to its Commercial Fisheries Division staff and perhaps to members of the State of Alaska's Board of Fisheries, these documents suffered from the usual afflictions of material kept in unofficial libraries—items were not cataloged or included in any database, lacked any circulation control, and were often assigned to a clerk for upkeep and disposition decisions such as binding and series designations.

The Data Reports and other series from the Commercial Fisheries Division were initially donated to ARLIS in 1999, a few years after ARLIS was established and already proving to be a great success. Although initially resistant to losing their office "library," agency personnel soon realized the new services of ARLIS, with its combined staff expertise, greater access, and expanded collections, far exceeded what a one-person library could provide, even if the material was now located a few miles away instead of just down the hall. ADF&G staff began to appreciate that "their" items were now well taken care of, that new material was being cataloged as it was acquired, and that security measures such as tattle tagging were actually increasing the likelihood of items being available when needed.

In 2004, facing shrinking budgets, the ADF&G Commercial Fisheries Division decided it was time to consolidate all of its collections. This decision coincided with the retirement of the librarian at ADF&G's Douglas office, near the capital city of Juneau. Established with Statehood in 1959, the Douglas library had specialized in commercial fisheries information due to its location in the heart of the fishing industry in Southeast Alaska. Over many years, an amazing range of literature had been acquired, including policy papers, unpublished reports, and other gems that are frequently cited but often difficult to find. Unfortunately, this collection had never been cataloged. Seven years after its founding, ARLIS' success as a "one-stop shop" for natural resources information was well established, as was its diligent cataloging of ADF&G materials. Therefore, the timing was right for the Commercial Fisheries Division to entrust its Douglas collection to ARLIS. The acquisition and transfer of these materials increased what has come to be

known as the “CommFish” collection by 50 percent and filled in many of the gaps in the existing collection originally provided by ADF&G’s Habitat Library.

Including a variety of series and numerous monographs, some intended for general audiences and others more technical in nature, CommFish contains unique data and information from both current and pre-statehood days. The collection is an invaluable source of information on the scope, successes and failures, policy decisions, and inventories of Alaska's fisheries statewide. Practical data on methodology, statistics, biometrics, and much more are found throughout the collection. The material is primarily print, but does include some film, images, and other formats.

When the CommFish collection came to ARLIS, it brought with it a whole host of challenges. Over time, the diverse number of series was subject to the familiar vagaries common to all gray literature, such as title and author changes, name irregularities, and murky bureaucratic authorship. Publication was sometimes dependent on staff turnover and variable workload responsibilities. Drafts occasionally appeared before being finalized, resulting in multiple versions of a report. Replacement copies with corrected calculations frequently turned up later, and other reports merely had errata sheets loosely inserted inside the covers. Other inconsistencies and oddities that defy cataloging rules were common throughout. Specific examples of some of these problems and ARLIS’ solutions will be discussed later in this paper.

Overall, CommFish is made up of four different series:

1. *Annual Management Reports (AMRs)*: this geographically based series compiles data in a cumulative manner for catch, escapement, economic factors, and fishery management policies for each regional fishery. The information is meant for a general audience and is often used by consultants and industry watchers to compare fisheries from one year to another. The reports are compiled and produced by ADF&G area offices, so the presentation varies somewhat from region to region.

Moreover, the information takes on a slightly different format every time the lead author of the report changes. Even the title varies between *Area Management Report* and *Annual Management Report*, depending on the area biologist’s interpretation of the acronym AMR. These reports were not distributed except in-house, but a few libraries elsewhere have managed to collect a title or two. As a result, many of the records in OCLC are monographic, but ARLIS, as the exclusive holder of long runs of the reports, is treating these as a serial. Very few of the AMRs have been cataloged so far.

2. *Regional Information Reports (RIRs)*: intended for a technical audience, this series reports in-depth on a topic of regional interest or a particular aspect of a specific fishery. The title page in the series states that the reports were “...established in 1987 to provide an information access system for all unpublished divisional reports. These reports frequently serve diverse ad hoc informational purposes or archive basic uninterpreted data.” RIRs go through a limited internal review and sometimes include preliminary research results.

Compiled and produced by the regional offices, RIRs differ in presentation depending on author whim and clerical preferences. The reports were not distributed to any libraries except in-house, but even then distribution was erratic and would stop and restart when clerical personnel changed.

3. *Staff Reports to the Board of Fisheries:* these white papers are prepared and presented to the Board of Fisheries by ADF&G biologists in response to agenda items, on-the-spot information requests, or public furor over an issue. Sometimes this involves re-working existing reports; other times the information is entirely new. ADF&G staff also prepare regular reports to the Board of Fisheries as part of their ongoing management duties.

This data affects policy decisions, such as whether to open or close a fishery or to adjust escapement levels. In 1991, clerical personnel at ADF&G gathered the staff reports from the previous 20-plus years and had them bound. From a historical perspective, it is interesting to review the issues that came before the Board over the two decades. Many of these reports are unique to this series and ARLIS often has the only copy that was ever produced.

4. *Data Reports:* these are the real ‘treasures’ of the CommFish collection. Only the four regions encompassing the most prolific fisheries prepared Data Reports: Prince William Sound, Upper Cook Inlet, Lower Cook Inlet, and Bristol Bay. Ranging from 1961 through the 1990s, depending on the region, the reports are data-oriented and focus on a project or fishery in-depth. ARLIS is the only library in the state to have copies, so there is a great sense of responsibility on ARLIS’ part to preserve and catalog these reports.

The Data Reports were evidently an attempt to serialize all known reports for the regions, as many items are also RIRs. In fact, another numbering system for internally peer-reviewed reports known as a Contribution Number was simultaneously assigned, resulting in a single report potentially having three numbers: a Data Report number, an RIR number, and a Contribution Number. Since one never knows how these will be cited in the literature, ARLIS catalogers trace all three numbers. In addition, clerical decisions regarding binding sometimes misinterpreted geographic areas, so reports that really belong in “Lower Cook Inlet” were erroneously bound with “Upper Cook Inlet” and vice versa. Moreover, the series was not split into “Lower” or “Upper” until the early 1980s, and even then some reports continued to be issued under the plain “Cook Inlet Data Report” series statement. Identifying and classifying the reports sometimes required elaborate cataloging notes to explain the confusion.

### **Cataloging the CommFish Collection**

ARLIS has developed an innovative model for handling the cataloging workload in a special library where original cataloging is an essential element. While the ARLIS operating budget is able to fund one permanent staff cataloger, normal cataloging duties preclude chipping away at any backlog. After receiving two federal cataloging project

grants, one in 2003 and the second in 2005, ARLIS advertised for and was able to hire several recent library school graduates who aspired to become catalogers. ARLIS' staff cataloger's expertise was put to use as a "master cataloger" who trained these entry-level librarians to catalog with special emphasis on gray literature and agency reports (McDaniels et al 2004). The CommFish collection comprised a giant backlog on which the second of the two grants focused. This production environment has resulted in the majority of the CommFish series being cataloged during the recently completed two-year project.

As mentioned earlier, a plethora of organizing, classifying, and cataloging decisions had to be made when ARLIS inherited the CommFish collection. ARLIS classifies all materials, except for current periodicals, under the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) classification system. In the planning stage, a variety of classification schemes and shelving options were proposed by the staff cataloger and discussed with the ARLIS librarians. Once the group reached a decision on the call numbers and numbering pattern to use, cataloging commenced. The organization plan was revisited regularly to address additional classification questions. However, even in the middle of the cataloging project, changes were made to deal with unexpected series situations. ARLIS did not know how truly complex dealing with the collection would be until staff actually started cataloging the material.

Throughout the project, the cataloging procedures have been carefully documented and comprise more than 80 pages thus far. ARLIS' staff cataloger wrote the methodology for cataloging and arranging the materials based on discussions with ARLIS librarians. Once the cataloging project was launched, new problems arose that required solutions or rethinking the general approach. Many times the ARLIS catalogers had to go back to previous records to correct data or to make certain elements consistent across records. Reports that over the years had been individually cataloged as monographs were often converted to serial records. Full analytic cataloging, such as content notes, "in" analytic description, and added entry tracings, is provided, and all loose and bound copies of each issue of each title are linked through the 'bound-with' module in ARLIS' integrated online library system (SIRSI).

Within each of the four series, the appearances of the reports bore a multitude of inconsistencies, creating massive challenges (and headaches!) for catalogers trying to organize and make sense of the tangle. Title irregularities, changes in serial frequency, statements and numbering, regional coverage of a reiterative report, and conflicting geographic coverage of a regional office were just a few of the problems encountered. Examples of some of these confusing cataloging issues and how ARLIS copes with them are discussed below.

### ***Author names***

Authors are always interested in finding their own names in the online catalog whether they are author #1 or author #9. As a service to founding agency authors, ARLIS makes every effort to be inclusive of author names when cataloging, a flexible interpretation of

AACR2's "Rule of Three." The "Rule of Three" (AACR2 21.30A) prescribes making an added entry for the first named responsible person or body when four or more are given on the source. However, this is not an absolute limit; AACR2 21.29D allows a cataloger to enter as many added entries as are appropriate for a given catalog. ARLIS has taken the highly unusual step in evoking this exception to the "Rule of Three" for all authors affiliated with state, federal, and university agencies in Alaska.

In bibliographic records cataloged by other libraries, ARLIS adds these authors to the local record since other libraries do not follow the same rules about adding all of the authors of the founding agency. ARLIS still follows standard bibliographic description by including the phrase "et al.," but adds the 700 fields in MARC records for personal added entries by using a local note in the master record listing the additional authors, as in the example seen here. There is no limit on the number of such authors.

245 ##	Title / by Author #1 ... [et al.].
500	Additional authors: Author #2, Author #3, Author #4.
700 #_	One 700 field is added for each of the four authors.

#### ***Titles of short duration***

One type of title change within a serial run that confounds ARLIS catalogers is titles of short duration. With the CommFish collection, a fair number of "small" title changes occur that would be defined by cataloging rules as "major changes," but ARLIS takes the liberty of considering these as titles of short duration, even if the "temporary title" represents the first issue and there had been no earlier title to revert to. Attempts are made to enter the serial under the first title regardless of its duration.

In the example below, the first issue of the serial omitted the word "management." One can assume that the publisher, in hindsight, would have included the word in the title because "management" was added for at least the next 10 years. ARLIS views such common occurrences—the exclusion of a descriptive word or the converse, the inadvertent inclusion of an unwanted word—as oversights on the part of the author. ARLIS catalogers learn to be unperturbed by researchers' publishing styles, and for this situation, extend the meaning of "title of short duration." Otherwise, the cataloging database would be completely inundated by records with one-volume or two-volume title changes.

OCLC #232337437

245 00	Prince William Sound area shellfish report to the Board of Fisheries. <i>[Title based on 1977 issue.]</i>
246 1_	⌘i Vols. 1978-1980, 1982-1983, 1987/1988 have title: ⌘a Prince William Sound management area shellfish report to the Board of Fisheries

### ***Series tracings***

According to standard AACR2 cataloging rules, series tracings do not include the numbering if each issue is numbered separately within the series. However, ARLIS believes series numbers are important for all of its documents regardless of the monograph vs. serial cataloging decision. ARLIS organizes many of its agency reports by series and patrons frequently request titles by series numbers. Therefore, to make the series numbers findable through keyword searching, ARLIS has added series numbers in local 590 notes. See the following example:

OCLC #85815000

Series description:

490 1\_ 1987-1989, 1991, 1993-2002: Regional information report

490 1\_ 1992: Technical fishery report ; \$v no. 94-06

830 \_0 Technical fishery report ; \$v no. 94-06.

*[A single series number or range of series numbers added per LCRI 12.6B1.]*

*[The following three established headings all apply to this serial.]*

830 \_0 Regional information report (Alaska. Division of Commercial Fisheries)

830 \_0 Regional information report (Alaska. Commercial Fisheries Management and Development Division)

830 \_0 Regional information report (Alaska. Division of Commercial Fisheries : 1999)

590 ARLIS owns: Regional information report no. 2A88-05, 2D88-10, 2D89-17, 2A92-30, 2A94-20, 2A95-10, 2A96-08, 2A97-05, 2A98-16, 2A99-05, 2A00-19, 2A02-22, 2A02-25, 2A03-05.

### ***Geographic coverage***

Over the years, the geographic regions covered by ADF&G area offices have shifted so that reports can have not only variations in the titles, but slightly different geographic areas as well. The following is an example of one Annual Report for which the name of the issuing Regional Office changed multiple times.

<u>Report Year</u>	<u>Name of Regional Office Listed on Annual Report</u>
1931 – 1938	Central Alaska, Seward – Katalla District
1939 – 1950	Central District, Prince William Sound, Copper & Bering Rivers, Resurrection Bay
1951 – 1955	Central District, Prince William Sound, Copper River, Bering River
1956 – 1959	Central District, Prince William Sound, Copper River, Bering – Yakataga Area

1960 – 1970	Cordova Area
1971 – 1991	Prince William Sound Area
1992 – 2002	Central Region [ <i>"Prince William Sound management area" appears in the title.</i> ]

Inconsistencies such as the one shown above have major implications on the classification of reports by area and the assignment of geographic subject headings. Because of this, ARLIS represents all geographic areas covered over the life of the serial title in the geographic subdivisions of the subject headings, either as a broader geographic term or as multiple specific geographic terms.

***Geographic subject headings***

Alaska is by far the largest of the 50 states and has many distinct cultural, climatic, demographic, and physical geographic divisions, so limiting a subject heading to the specific location is a must. Unlike most states, Alaska does not have counties, but its borough and census area boundaries are usually not suitable as geographic subdivisions either. Moreover, there is little similarity in the state's boundaries for the fishery management areas, sport fish districts, mining districts, Native regional corporations, or political subdivisions.

To illustrate the point, consider the following. According to the Geographic Name Information System (U.S. Geological Survey), Alaska has:

- 47 Fish Creeks
- 41 Slate Creeks
- 29 Clear Creeks
- 29 Iron Creeks (one is a village; the others are streams, 10 in the Nome Census Area)
- 23 Crooked Creeks (one is a village; the others are streams)
- 20 Eureka Creeks (eight in the Nome Census Area)
- 15 Twelve-mile Creeks
- 14 Fourth of July Creeks
- 11 Clearwater Creeks (two in the Tanana River watershed)

The totals include instances where the name is a variant or formulates the significant form of name (e.g., "West Fork Fish Creek"). Totals also include possible duplicate database entries but exclude 'locales.' As indicated, specifying a geographic location is confusing, but essential, so that, to use a practical example, agency personnel looking for published information on the inventory of a particular stream would be able to locate the relevant reports. Officially established Library of Congress (LC) geographic names and subdivisions for Alaska are few. LC's rule to qualify headings by jurisdiction (boroughs and census areas in the case of Alaska) is not adequate in most cases. Thus, if a name is common for multiple locations in the state, ARLIS enters the name with a qualifier that distinguishes each such location, taking liberties with LC's geographic name policies for the sake of local needs and practical subject analysis.

In this example, the subject heading is formulated per LC rules, but is undefined as to which of the three Clearwater Creeks found in the same jurisdiction is the correct one.

651 \_0 Clearwater Creek (Southeast Fairbanks Census Area, Alaska)

ARLIS implements in-house cataloging guidelines (using the number 4 in the 651 field to indicate a non-LC term) that identifies the specific Clearwater Creek in the Southeast Fairbanks Census Area:

651 \_4 Clearwater Creek (Delta Junction Region, Alaska)

***Classification for Salmonid species***

The existing LC Classification Schedule specifies one call number for the family Salmonidae (QL638.S2), with no further breakdown for genus or species. This proved very problematic for classifying ARLIS' extensive collection on Alaska's salmonid species, which includes many works on salmon, trout, char, cisco, freshwater whitefish, grayling, and more. Without further call number classification, the materials on these species end up intermingled on the shelf, rather than grouped together by species or subspecies for easy browsing. To solve this dilemma, ARLIS' cataloger devised a system using cutter numbers to specify salmonid genera and species (see Table 2). The system has been successfully implemented at ARLIS, and may have practical application at other fisheries libraries, especially in the Pacific region.

<b>ARLIS Call Number System for Classifying Salmonidae (QL638)</b>		
<b>Name of Fish / Genus / Species</b>	<b>Library of Congress Subject Heading (common names)</b>	<b>Call # (QL638)</b>
Salmonidae	<b>Salmonidae</b> (in general, or two or more genera); Coregonidae; salmonids; Thymallidae	.S2
Cisco	<b>Ciscoes</b> ( <i>Coregonus</i> and <i>Prosopium</i> )	.S212
Salmon	<b>Salmon</b> ( <i>Oncorhynchus</i> and <i>Salmo</i> )	.S2 or .S25
Trout	<b>Trout</b> (more than one genus of <i>Oncorhynchus</i> , <i>Salmo</i> , and <i>Salvelinus</i> )	.S216
Whitefish	<b>Whitefishes</b> ( <i>Coregonus</i> and <i>Prosopium</i> ); Coregoninae	.S218
Genus <i>Coregonus</i>	<b>Coregonus</b> (whitefishes; cisco)	.S22
<i>Coregonus autumnalis</i>	<b>Arctic cisco</b>	.S223

<b>ARLIS Call Number System for Classifying Salmonidae (QL638)</b>		
<i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i>	<b>e whitefish</b> (gizzard fish; common/eastern/Great Lakes/humpback/inland/Sault whitefish)	.S224
<i>Coregonus laurettae</i>	Bering cisco (no LC heading)	.S225
<i>Coregonus sardinella</i>	<b>Least cisco</b> (big-eye Mackenzie herring; sardine/Siberian cisco)	.S228
Genus <i>Prosopium</i>	<b>Prosopium</b> (round whitefishes)	.S23
Genus <i>Hucho</i>	<b>Hucho</b>	.S24
Genus <i>Oncorhynchus</i>	<b>Pacific salmon</b>	.S25
<i>Oncorhynchus clarki</i> <i>O. clarki utah</i> <i>O. clarki clarki</i> <i>O. clarki pleuriticus</i> <i>O. clarki stomias</i> <i>O. clarki seleniris</i> <i>O. clarki virginalis</i> <i>O. clarki behnkei</i> <i>O. clarki lewisi</i> <i>O. clarki bouvieri</i>	<b>Cutthroat trout</b> (Clark's/lake/red-throated/sea/short-tailed trout) <b>Bonneville cutthroat trout</b> <b>Coastal cutthroat trout</b> (harvest trout; sea-run cutthroat trout) <b>Colorado River cutthroat trout</b> <b>Greenback cutthroat trout</b> <b>Paiute cutthroat trout</b> <b>Rio Grande cutthroat trout</b> <b>Snake River fine-spotted cutthroat trout</b> (fine-spotted cutthroat trout; Jackson Hole cutthroat trout) <b>West-slope cutthroat trout</b> <b>Yellowstone cutthroat trout</b> (black-spotted trout)	.S252
<i>Oncorhynchus gorbuscha</i>	<b>Pink salmon</b> (humpback salmon; humpie)	.S253
<i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>	<b>Chum salmon</b> (dog salmon; keta)	.S254
<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>	<b>Coho salmon</b> (blueback; silver salmon; sea trout)	.S255

<b>ARLIS Call Number System for Classifying Salmonidae (QL638)</b>		
<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	<b>Rainbow trout</b> (redband trout)	.S256
<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	<b>Kamloops trout</b>	.S256
<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	<b>Steelhead (Fish)</b> [anadromous/sea-run rainbow trout] (steelhead trout)	.S256
<i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i>	<b>Sockeye salmon</b> (blueback/red salmon; Snake River sockeye salmon)	.S257
<i>Oncorhynchus nerka kennerlyi</i>	<b>Kokanee salmon</b> [landlocked or lacustrine form of sockeye] (kickininee; Kennerly's/landlocked sockeye salmon; silver trout; yank)	.S257
<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	<b>Chinook salmon</b> (king/spring salmon; quinnat; tyee)	.S258
Genus <i>Salmo</i>	<b>Salmo</b> (Atlantic salmon)	.S26
<i>Salmo salar</i>	<b>Atlantic salmon</b>	.S267
Genus <i>Salvelinus</i>	<b>Chars</b> (charr)	.S27
<i>Salvelinus alpinus</i>	<b>Arctic char</b> (alpine/common char; alpine/sea trout; torgoch)	.S273
<i>Salvelinus malma</i>	<b>Dolly Varden (Fish)</b> (malma trout; Oregon/Pacific brook/red spotted/sea/western brook char/trout)	.S278
<i>Salvelinus namaycush</i>	<b>Lake trout</b> (Great Lakes/lake char; laker; landlocked salmon; great lake/ Great Lakes/ gray/ Mackinaw/ mountain/salmon trout; masamacush; siscowet; taque; togue; touladi)	.S279
Genus <i>Stenodus</i>	<b>Stenodus</b> (inconnus)	.S28
<i>Stenodus leucichthys</i>	<b>Inconnu (Fish)</b> (sheefish)	

ARLIS Call Number System for Classifying Salmonidae (QL638)		
Genus	<b>Thymallus</b> (graylings)	.S29
<i>Thymallus</i>	<b>Arctic grayling</b> (bluefish; grayling; American/	
<i>Thymallus</i>	Back's/ Michigan/Montana/sailfin arctic	
<i>arcticus</i>	grayling; arctic trout; tittimeg; poison	
<i>Thymallus</i>	bleu)	
<i>brevirostrus</i>	Mongolian grayling (no LC heading)	
<i>Thymallus</i>	Kosogol grayling (no LC heading)	
<i>nigrescens</i>	<b>Grayling</b> (European grayling)	
<i>Thymallus</i>		
<i>thymallus</i>		

**Table 2.** Call Number System for classifying Salmonidae (QL638) implemented at ARLIS. Names in bold are established Library of Congress Subject Headings, and terms in parentheses are various common names found in English-language fisheries literature. Species without established individual class numbers are excluded.

#### Current Status of the CommFish Collection

Most of the CommFish collection, including the Data Reports, RIRs, and Staff Reports to the Board of Fisheries have been cataloged and are now included in ARLIS' online catalog (<http://www.arlis.org>). Simultaneous to the cataloging effort at ARLIS, many of the historical and current RIR and AMR series are being scanned by ADF&G and copied to ARLIS' server. An electronic item record has been added to the cataloging record, making copies of the reports accessible to anyone via ARLIS' catalog. The remainder of the CommFish collection will be cataloged as time and money are available. While there are no official usage statistics for the CommFish materials so far, use of the collection is expected to grow, especially with electronic access to the full text documents and increased availability of the data.

This project proved to be a learning experience on many fronts. ARLIS gained valuable experience cataloging difficult materials and offered new librarians the opportunity to learn original cataloging skills and put them into practice, all while adding a unique and important collection to ARLIS. It is hoped that other libraries may find ARLIS' experiences helpful when dealing with their own challenging and complex materials.

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