

Anne Cook

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**Subject:** Salmon Culture

# Salmon Culture



Native Nations of the Pacific Northwest define themselves as Salmon People. They consider salmon to be an extremely important gift of food from the Creator, and each year they honor the salmon's sacrifice in special ceremonies. Salmon are an important food source for tribes along the Pacific Coast in Alaska all the way down to Central California, as well as the Puget Sound and Columbia River Plateau Regions.

The infographic features a blue background with a dark green silhouette of a forested mountain range at the top. Several salmon are depicted swimming in the water, with some jumping out of the water. A large, stylized salmon is shown in the center-left. To the right, there is a large white number '229' next to a stylized totem pole figure. Below the number, text states 'Federally Recognized Tribes in Alaska are Salmon People.' In the bottom left, silhouettes of three people are shown fishing. In the bottom right, a silhouette of a person is shown holding a large salmon. A map of Oregon is shown in the center, with a large white number '9' and a small salmon icon inside it. Text below the map states 'of the Oregon tribes have depended on salmon for thousands of years; Salmon is considered a First Food.'

On the Yukon River in Alaska alone,  
**40 villages and roughly 11,000 people**  
depend on Salmon for traditional harvests.

**229**  
Federally Recognized Tribes  
in Alaska are Salmon People.

**9**  
of the Oregon tribes have depended  
on salmon for thousands of years;  
Salmon is considered a First Food.

In the Columbia River Basin, tribes  
with treaty-reserved fishing rights  
include the **Yakama, Warm Springs,  
Umatilla, and Nez Perce.**

In California, the **Yurok and Hoopa Valley  
tribes** have a Federally reserved right to  
harvest up to half of the harvestable  
surplus of Klamath River fish.

In western Washington, tribes with treaty-reserved fishing rights include the **Lummi,  
Nooksack, Swinomish, Upper Skagit, Sauk-Suiattle, Stillaguamish, Tulalip, Muckleshoot,  
Puyallup, Nisqually, Squaxin Island, Skokomish, Suquamish, Port Gamble S'Klallam,  
Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Makah, Quileute, Quinault, and Hoh.**