



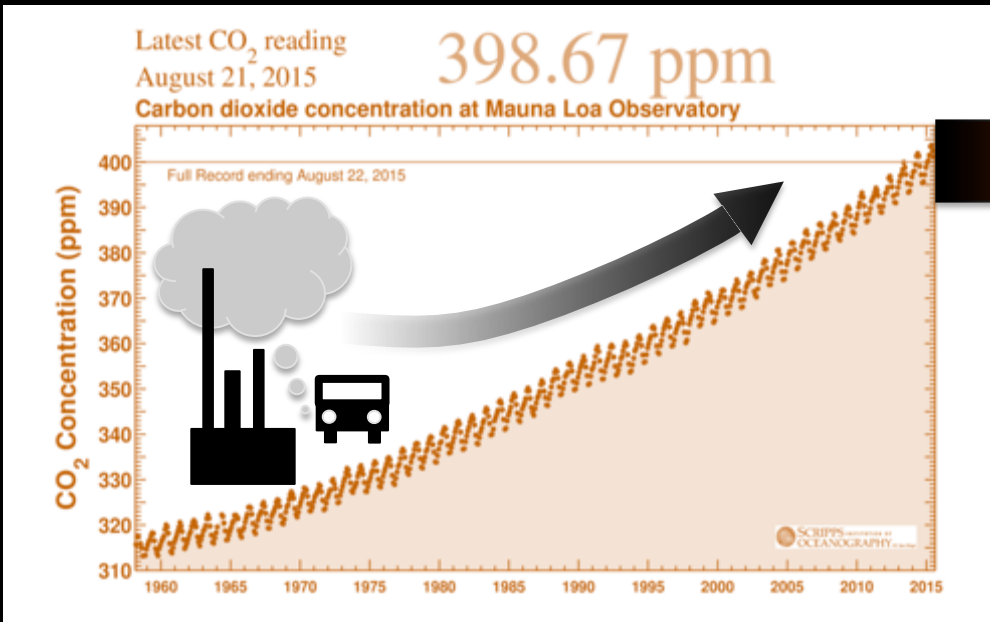
*FROM THE BOREAL FOREST TO THE OPEN OCEAN:  
HOW CLIMATE CHANGE  
IMPACTS THE ALASKAN ARCTIC*

# Ocean Acidification

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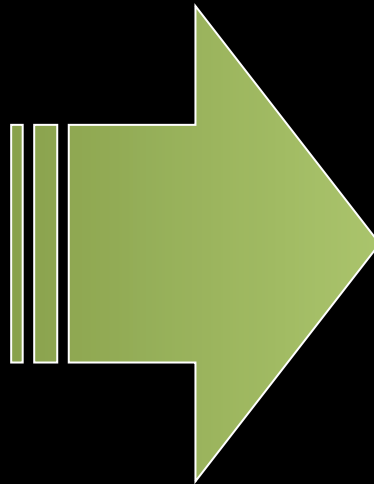


**22 TONS EVERY DAY**



**1/3** OF ALL CO<sub>2</sub> RELEASED IS  
ABSORBED BY THE OCEAN.

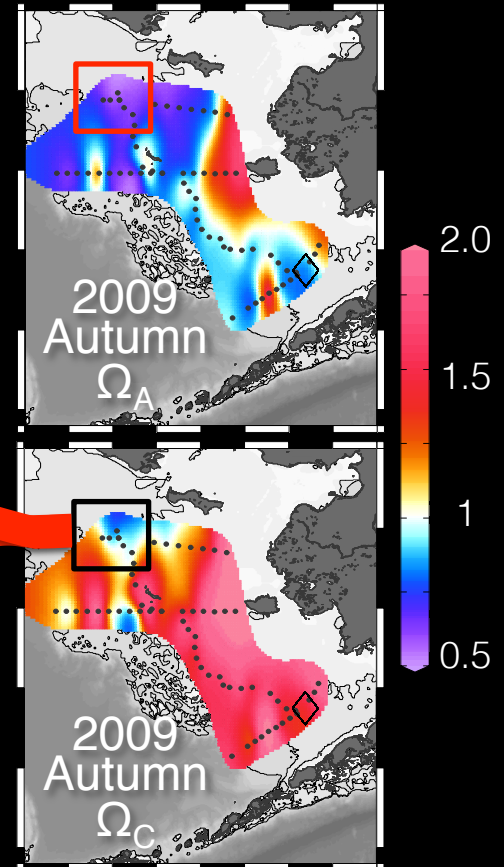
ALASKAN  
COASTAL  
WATERS ARE  
**NATURALLY**  
HIGH IN CO<sub>2</sub>



# MARINE CALCIFIERS ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO OA EVENTS

$\Omega < 10$  is bad!

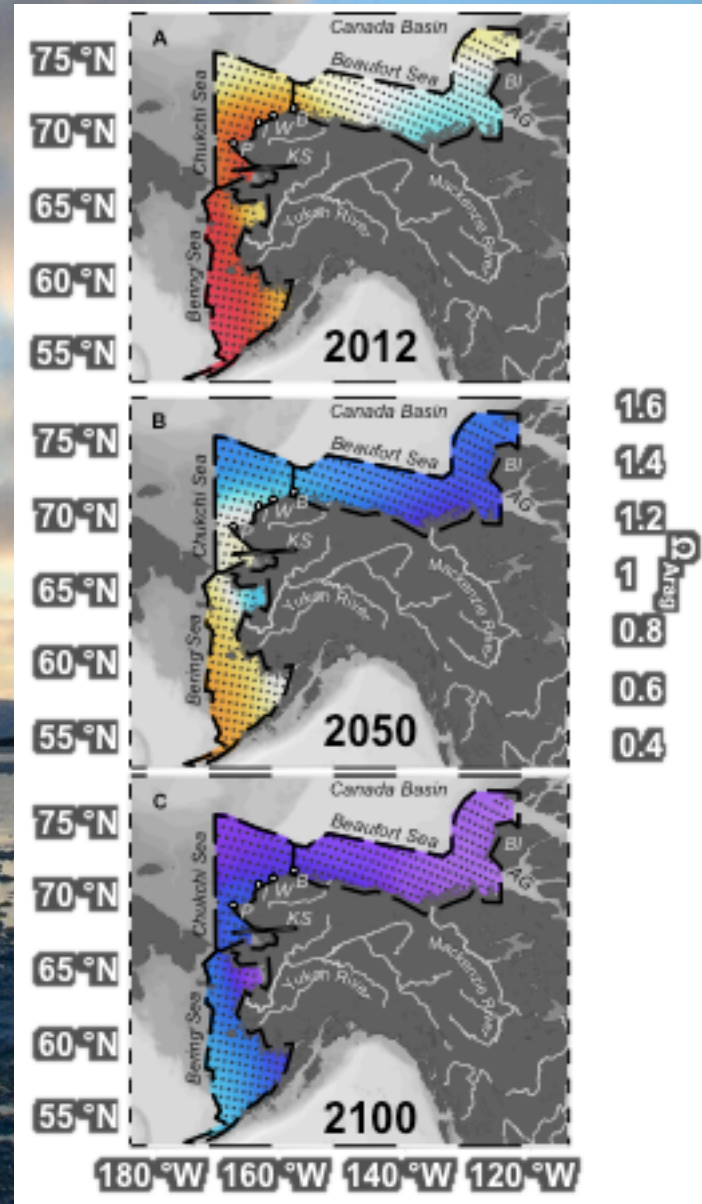
WHEN  $\Omega$  PASSES OUTSIDE THE RANGE OF **NATURAL VARIABILITY**, ORGANISMS CAN BE IMPACTED.



# OVER THE NEXT DECADES, OA WILL HAVE IMPORTANT CONSEQUENCES FOR ALASKA.



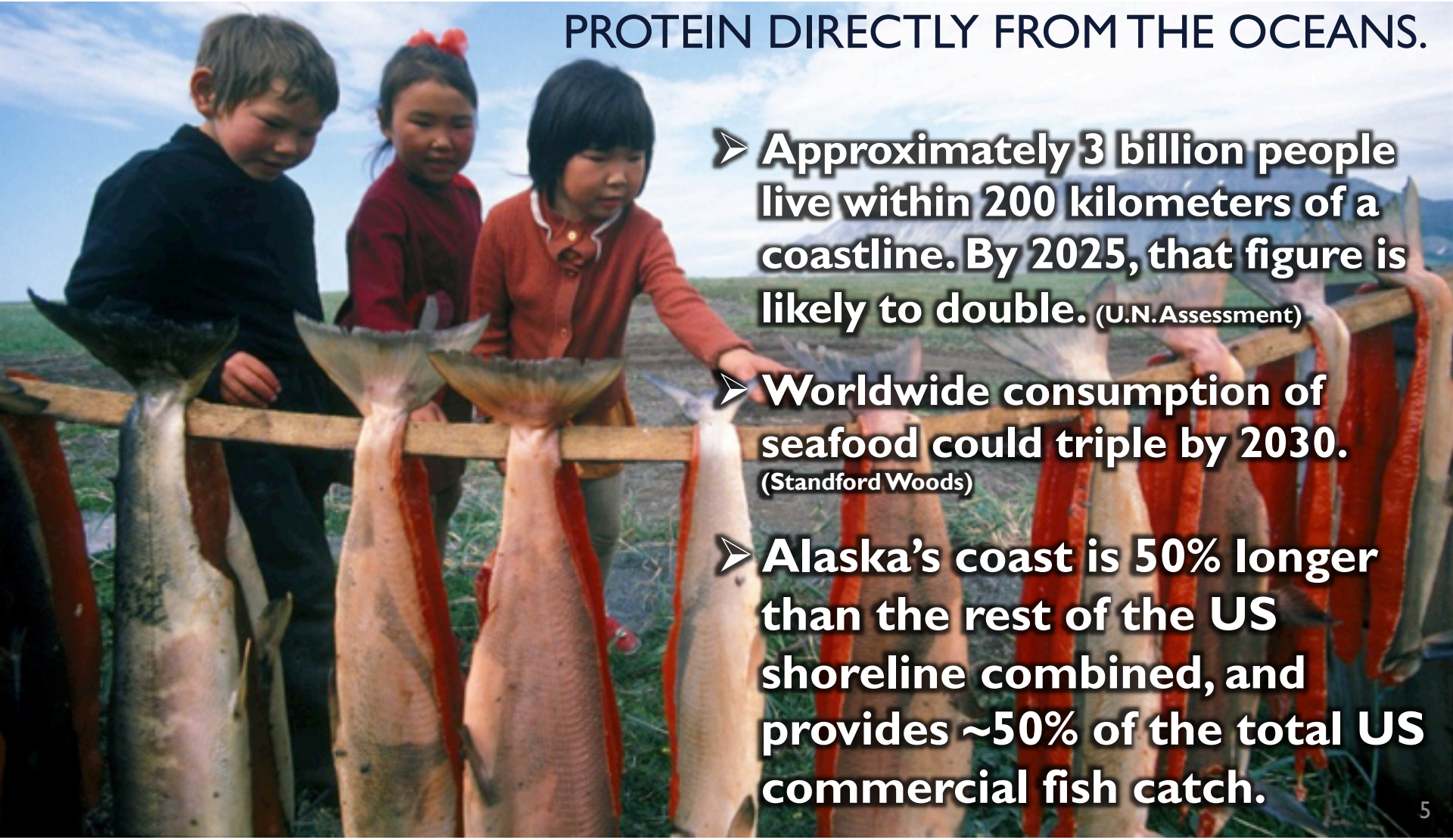
Mathis, J.T. et al., 2015, Progress in Oceanography, 136, 71-91



Mathis, J.T., Cross J.N., Evans, W.E., and Doney, S.C., 2015. Oceanography Magazine, 28(2), 122-135.

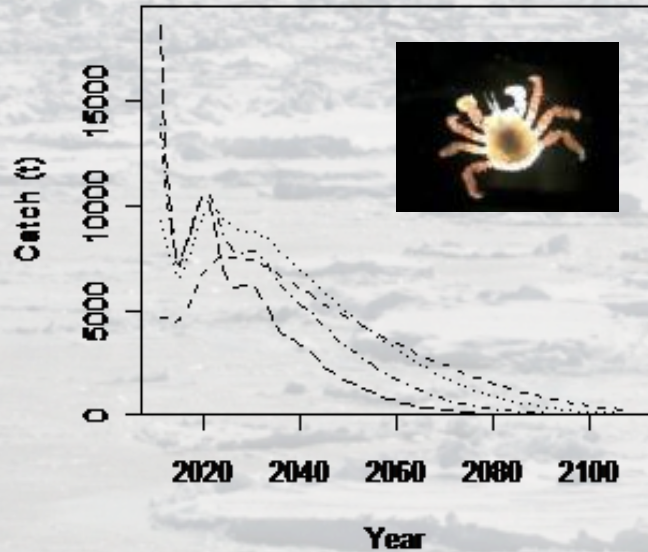
# ALASKAN OA MATTERS

OVER 1 BILLION PEOPLE DERIVE ALL OF THEIR DIETARY PROTEIN DIRECTLY FROM THE OCEANS.

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- A photograph showing three children, a boy and two girls, looking at several large salmon hanging vertically on a wooden rack outdoors. The children are dressed in casual clothing, and the background shows a grassy field under a blue sky with light clouds. The salmon are fresh, with their scales still on, and are hanging from a horizontal wooden beam.
- **Approximately 3 billion people live within 200 kilometers of a coastline. By 2025, that figure is likely to double. (U.N. Assessment)**
  - **Worldwide consumption of seafood could triple by 2030. (Stanford Woods)**
  - **Alaska's coast is 50% longer than the rest of the US shoreline combined, and provides ~50% of the total US commercial fish catch.**

# WE CAN “BUY TIME” THROUGH ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

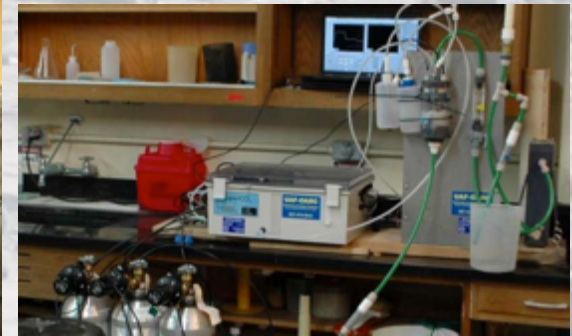
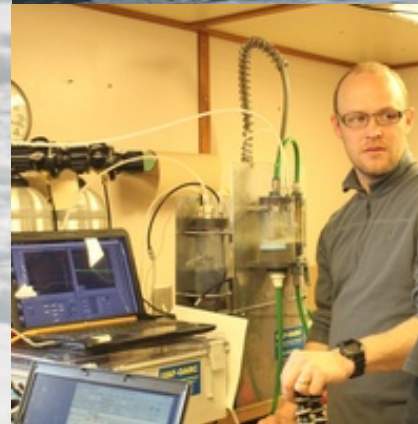
## Red King Crab Juveniles



- At a pH of 7.8 stocks and catches decline
- Under current catch levels fishery would be closed in ~2100

Punt, Poljak, Dalton, Foy. 2014. Evaluating the impact of ocean acidification on fishery yields and profits: The example of red king crab in Bristol Bay. *Ecological Modelling*. 285: 39-53.

## Shellfish Hatchery Monitoring



Evans, Mathis, Ramsay, and Hetrick, 2015. On the frontline: Tracking Ocean Acidification in an Alaskan Shellfish Hatchery. *PLOS ONE*, DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0130384

**THERE'S  
STILL A LOT  
WE DON'T  
KNOW.**



**NEW TECHNOLOGY WILL PLAY A  
CRITICAL ROLE IN CONTINUING  
RESEARCH.**