

JANUARY 28, 2011

CREATE ACCOUNT | SIGN IN | SUBSCRIBE TO NEWSLETTER

News and voices from the Last Frontier



Search

GO

TundraTelegraph.com
The best of Alaska citizen journalism

Alaska Dispatch

NEWS & POLITICS | BLOGS | CULTURE | PROJECTS



Alaska Beat

Study: Arctic fisheries aren't 'pristine frontier' after all

[Alaska Dispatch](#)

Print

According to a press release from the [University of British Columbia](#), researchers there have completed a review of Arctic fisheries between 1950 and 2006 and found that the region's fish stocks are not as untouched as many people currently believe. Scientists from UBC's Fisheries Centre and Dept. of Earth and Ocean Sciences reconstructed catch data using various sources on coastal areas of Siberia, Alaska, and Canada and determined that the amount of fish caught during the reconstructed period totaled 950,000 tons, almost 75 times the amount reported to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization over the same time frame. "Ineffective reporting, due to governance issues and a lack of credible data on small-scale fisheries, has given us a false sense of comfort that the Arctic is still a pristine frontier when it comes to fisheries," says lead author Dirk Zeller, a senior research fellow at UBC's Fisheries Centre. "We now offer a more accurate baseline against which we can monitor changes in fish catches and to inform policy and conservation efforts." Read much, much more, [here](#).

Read more of the Dispatch

- *The child apprentice*
- *UAF professor sorts through Arctic anarchy fears*
- *EPA chief gets an earful on Pebble Mine*
- *NOAA to decide on seal status*
- *Dog Act in Canada's Northwest Territories under review*