

The Fish and the Forest

CLASS COPY

As you read the article, answer the following questions in your notebook:

1. Why did fishery managers want to kill bears in Alaska?
2. What nutrients do salmon bring into stream and lake ecosystems?
3. Why might those minerals be important? (Think about what you know of macromolecules...)
4. What are two bear behaviors exhibited when eating salmon?
5. How do these behaviors benefit forests?
6. Why are bears ecosystem engineers?
7. What are 10 species that use abandoned fish carcasses?
8. In Washington State, how many species eat salmon?
9. What percentage of nitrogen in streamside habitats is from salmon?
10. Which tree species particularly benefits from salmon?
11. Do nutrients move toward the ocean or away from it?
12. Why are salmon being dropped out of helicopters?
13. To an outsider, partially eaten fish left by bears seems like a waste of a good resource. Why is this not the case? Provide a quote from the text to support your answer.
14. What may happen to this ecosystem if bears had been removed, like the fishery managers proposed in the 1940s?