

Natural and Human Causes of Mortality

Natural Causes	Human Causes
Predation by a variety of animals (other fish, birds, or bears)	Over fishing
Limited food supplies	Releasing or dumping waste products into the water (these products are either directly toxic or kill fish by lowering the oxygen level of the water)
Changes in the salinity of water	Entry of toxic compounds (pesticides) into the water with runoff from farms, industrial or development areas
Fluctuations in water level and flooding	Obstructions to migration such as dams
Viruses, bacteria, fungus, parasites and disease	Thermal pollution
Abnormal temperatures affect the temperature of the water and migration patterns	Destruction of wetlands, riparian zones, and other stream disturbances