

MARA SUPERIOR

Last Salmon 2023
high-fired porcelain

I've been deeply connected to the magnificent natural habitats of America, particularly the wild salmon, trout, and bass, ever since my late husband, Roy Superior, shared his fervent passion for fly fishing with me.

Among the numerous poignant wild salmon platters I've crafted over the years, this particular one connects to a moving narrative and marks my final creation in this vein. The catalyst for its significance stems from a startling NPR radio report I heard in November of 2023, revealing the alarming disappearance of Pacific Northwestern Salmon. The heart-wrenching cries



Images by John Polak Photography

of Alaskan fishermen, whose families have depended on these waters for generations, echoed through the broadcast. Once boasting a fishing season spanning around six weeks, it's now dwindled to as brief as 10 days. The rapid warming of the waters presents an existential threat to salmon, a keystone species crucial for sustaining countless ecosystems and communities.

Through my art, I aim not only to capture the beauty of these endangered animals but also to evoke empathy and raise awareness about the environmental challenges they face. Each piece serves as a visual testament to the urgent need for conservation efforts and underscores the interconnectedness of all life forms in our delicate ecosystem.

— Mara Superior, 2024