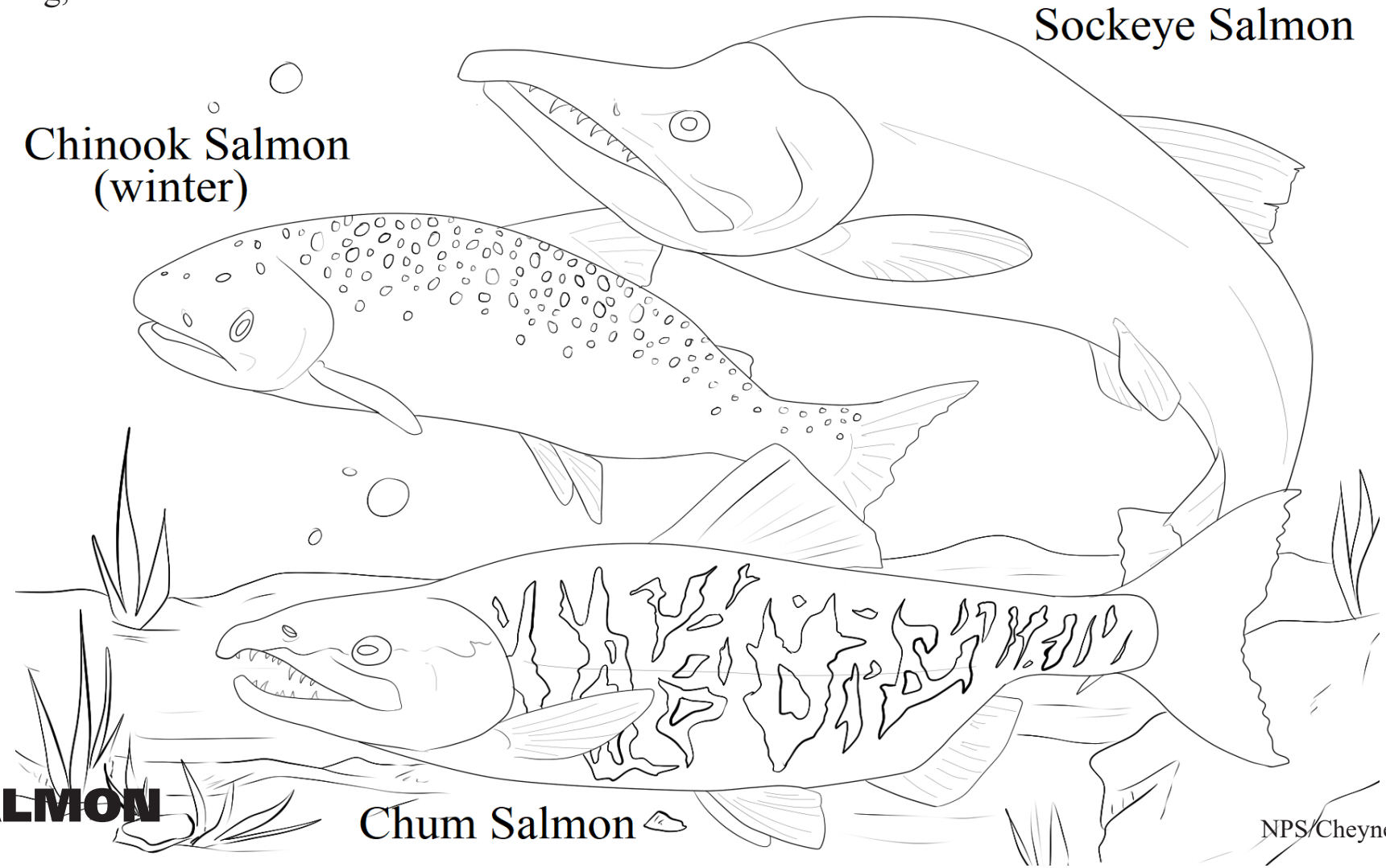
Sockeye, Chinook, and chum salmon are three kinds of big fish that emigrants bought from Indian fishermen along the Snake River in Idaho and the Columbia River in Oregon. These fish hatch in the rivers and then make their way to the Pacific Ocean. After several years, they return to the river where they were born, swimming rapids and climbing waterfalls along the way, in order to spawn (lay their eggs). During that journey, some salmon develop hooked snouts and humped backs, like this Chinook, and their skin turns bright red. After spawning, the salmon die and their bodies add nutrients to the stream.



SALMON

NPS/Cheyne Warren