

# MERGING CATALOGS IN ALASKA: NAVIGATING SHIFTING BOUNDARIES

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## Joint Library Catalog (JLC)

The Joint Library Catalog, a network of 72 public, academic, special, and K-12 libraries that serves 65 percent of Alaska's population, has conducted three catalog mergers in three years. As new libraries join the consortium, they face changes to OPAC design, lending procedures, and cataloging standards. Their patrons gain access to over 1.7 million titles (4.1 million items) located across the state, available to hold and send, plus reciprocal borrowing privileges.



### Bylaws written

- Member Council & workgroup structure
  - Cataloging
  - Circulation
  - Collection Development
  - OPAC
  - Serials
  - Technical Support
- Licensing Organization
- Fiscal Agent

### Member Agreement developed

- Responsibilities of the JLC
- Responsibilities of the Member Library
- Financial Obligations
- Liability and Warranty
- Organization & Governance
- Dispute Resolution



## 2013 - Anchorage/ Juneau Merger

Joint Library Catalog (Anchorage) libraries shared a catalog since 2000

- Alaska Resources Library & Information Services (ARLIS)
- Anchorage Museum
- Anchorage Public Library - 5
- UAA/APU Consortium, UAA Homer, UAA Kenai, UAA Kodiak, UAA MatSu
- Valdez Consortium Library

Capital City Libraries (Juneau) shared a catalog since 1989

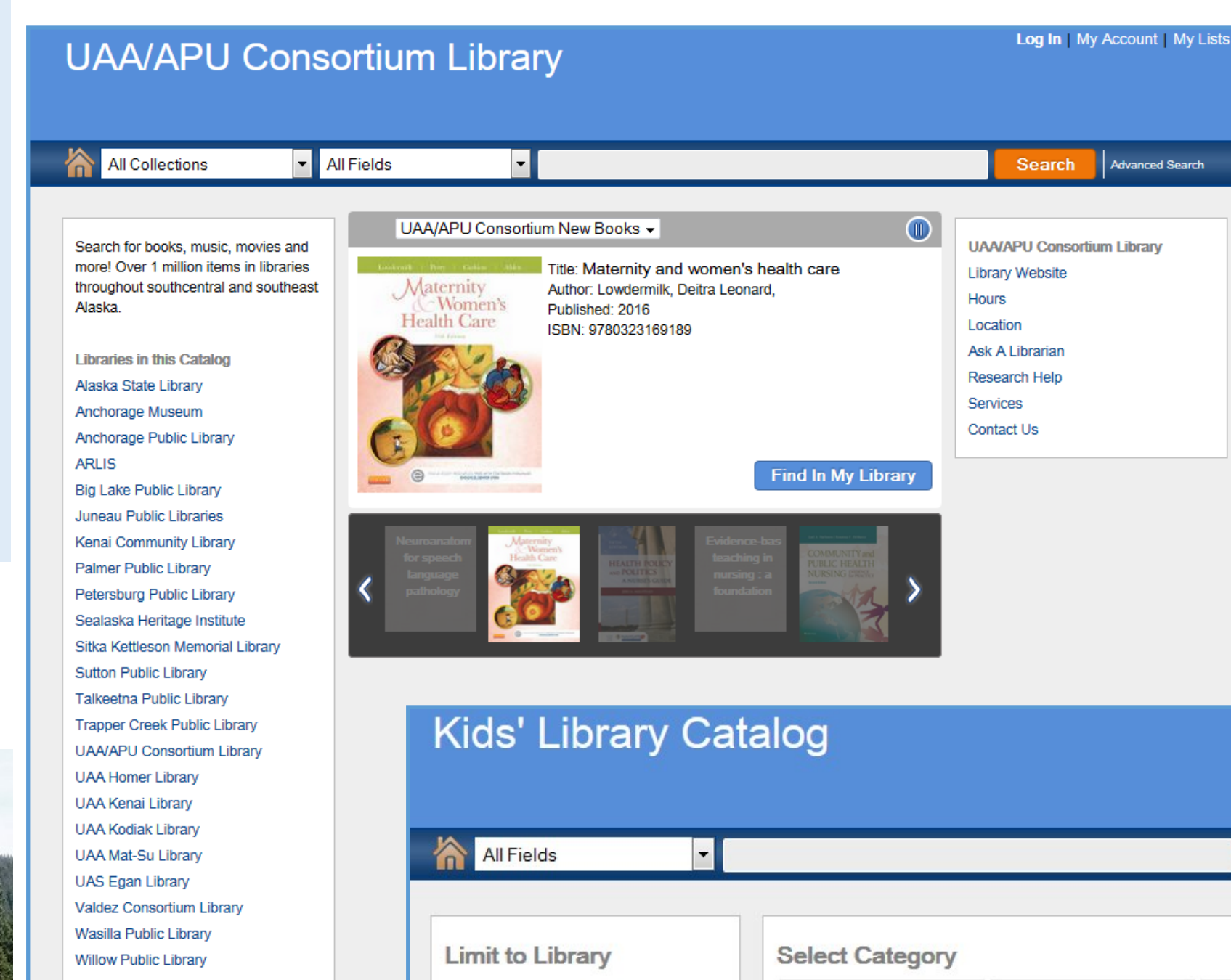
- Juneau Public Library - 3
- University of Alaska Southeast
- Alaska State Library - 3
- Sealaska Heritage Institute

## 2014 - MatSu Library Network joins JLC

- Seven public libraries in Matanuska & Susitna Valleys (Big Lake, Palmer, Sutton, Talkeetna, Trapper Creek, Willow, Wasilla)
- MatSu School District - 36
- Developed Kids' Catalog for elementary schools

## 2015 - Kenai/Petersburg/Sitka join JLC

- Kenai Community Library
- Petersburg Public Library
- Sitka Kettleton Memorial Library
- Sitka School District - 4
- Mt. Edgecumbe High School
- Implemented Kids' Catalog for elementary schools and public library juvenile collection (Sitka)



## Deduplication Project

JLC Cataloging Workgroup tasked with deduplication

- Completed SirsiDynix workflow
- Identified match points
  - OCLC, ISBN, ISSN, LCCN, WLN, Other Standard Numbers, Textual
- Defined rules for duplicate validation
- Selected Master Record - hierarchy of options
- Vendor analyzed options selected, suggested adjustments
- Opportunity to change parameters
- Subsequent mergers - existing JLC record serves as master

## Retrospective Authority Control Project

- Updated name and subject headings
- Migration Cataloger worked through reports
- Global data cleanup
  - RDA 33X fields added
  - GMD normalization
  - Deleted legacy data fields
- Unexpected changes to FAST Headings and GMDs (vendor rolled back)
- Continued by quarterly authority control processing



Mat-Su Libraries Link Up With Joint Library Catalog  
by Phillip Manning - November 14th, 2014

Thanks to a merging of online catalogs, Mat-Su libraries and their members now have access to the collections of libraries throughout the state. KTNA's Phillip Manning spoke with Talkeetna librarian Ann Yadon to find out more:



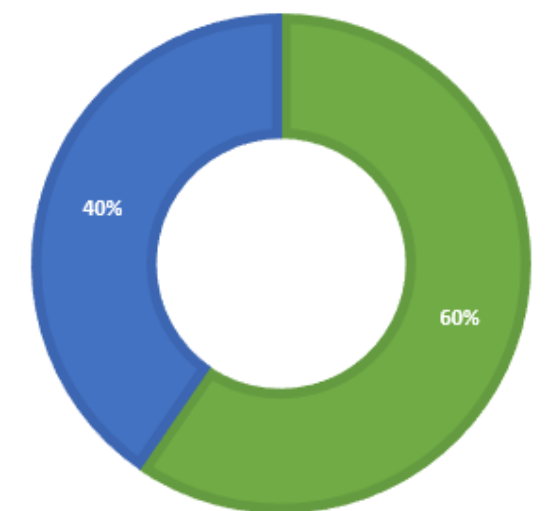
Small libraries have limitations in terms of funding and space to store large collections of books and other media. The Mat-Su libraries have been linked for some time, but their reach has just been greatly expanded after they joined the Joint Library Catalog. Anchorage's municipal libraries and many of the UAA libraries are part of the system. Ann Yadon, Librarian at Talkeetna Public Library, explains what that means for local users:

"Now, if you have a library card at a Mat-Su library, you can use it in Anchorage you can use it at UAA Mat-Su. So, you can go to Mat-Su College with your public library card and check things out from them."  
In addition to having access to their catalogs with a single library card, the library partnership means they can act as drop-off locations for each other. "If you check something out at any of those libraries, you can return it at any of those libraries, which is really nice for people who come up from Anchorage for the weekend."

## Merger 1 - June 2013

Records processed: 1,659,664  
Incoming titles: 350,000  
Duplicates found: 208,484

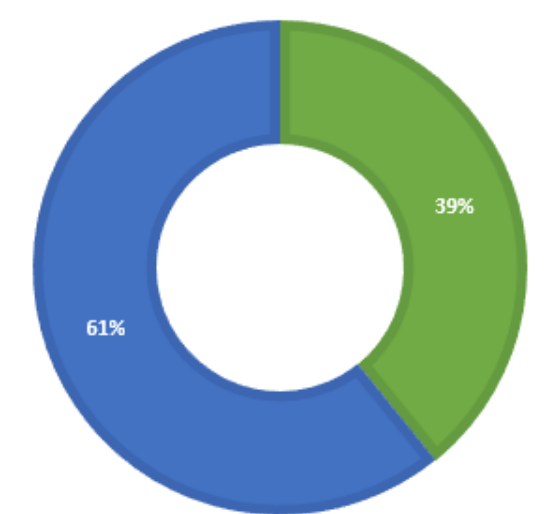
60% DEDUPLICATION



## Merger 2 - Sept. 2014

Records processed: 1,766,261  
Incoming titles: 291,592  
Duplicates found: 114,215

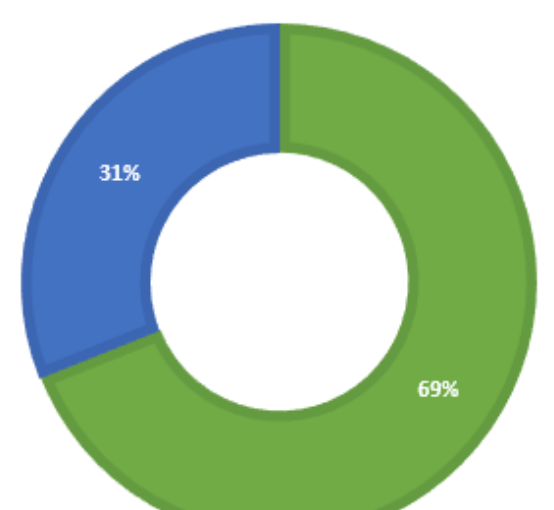
39% DEDUPLICATION



## Merger 3 - July 2015

Records processed: 1,907,555  
Incoming titles: 220,256  
Duplicates found: 151,879

69% DEDUPLICATION



■ Duplicate titles removed  
■ New titles in catalog

## JLC Vision

The purpose of the Joint Library Catalog is to meet the needs of its Member Libraries for a single online catalog that provides enhanced access to information resources for the residents of the combined service areas. This catalog will enable Joint Library Catalog cardholders to use the combined resources of the participating libraries where licensing and other constraints allow. In addition to providing a broader, more extensive collection of materials and resources, the centralized, shared infrastructure will provide effective services at reduced costs to Member Libraries by achieving economy of scale savings and reduced redundancy.



Kenai library plans to join state-wide catalog

Posted: April 6, 2015 - 8:05am | Updated: April 6, 2015 - 12:07pm  
By BEN BOETTGER

The number of books and other materials accessible to Kenai Community Library patrons will increase from thousands to millions when the library joins the state-wide Joint Catalog consortium this spring.

The Joint Catalog is an effort led by the University of Alaska Anchorage to combine the catalogs of several Alaskan libraries in order to increase the material available to each while dividing maintenance costs. The consortium currently consists of 65 public, academic, school, and special-subject libraries.

The Kenai Community Library plans to become a consortium member in June of this year. The approximately 70,000 titles in its catalog will join the 1.6 million titles in the Joint Catalog,

