Coordinated Effort to Monitor Food Security Through an Indigenous Lens
The FSWG grew out of the Arctic Observing Summit (AOS) to become an informal network on **progressing Indigenous food sovereignty**.

Beyond just observing systems, a **holistic approach to health and well-being** of Indigenous communities.

**Policy and resource management decision-making** is an important aspect that needs attention.

Help **coordinate efforts** to monitor food security in the Arctic.
How are we talking about Indigenous food security?

The Right to eat nourishing and culturally relevant foods

Information to inform and advocate Indigenous priorities in both management and policy making forums

Incorporate human health and wellbeing into every aspect of the observation system.

Food security is a part of a broader system – Indigenous social, biological, ecological, cultural, and spiritual wellbeing. Doing our best to de-compartmentalize our view on food security in the Arctic.
Benefit and Implementation Strategies

**Indigenous-led**

- Community-driven, bottom-up in identifying monitoring themes and implementation strategies
- Co-production of knowledge with Indigenous communities and researchers

**FSWG as a boundary organization focused on equitable and ethical process**

- Equitable in leadership and resource distribution
- Equitable and ethical use of Indigenous Knowledges and methodologies
- Process does impact policy and decision-making - To be usable
- Coordinate regional efforts about monitoring and observations around food security
Regional initiative in the Bering Sea area

Focused on Indigenous Food Security and Sovereignty

Fund liaison team

Fund activities towards Sustaining Arctic Observing Network’s ROADSA
  ○ Advisory and Expert Panel participation - Indigenous led groups making decisions
  ○ Coordination – Requirements Framework – Design and Information Infrastructure
  ○ Participation in Arctic Observing Summits and other workshop/networking activities
  ○ Working towards SAON goals – The Development of a Shared Arctic Themes/Variables
Tri-Liaison Leadership Team

● Margaret Anamaq Rudolf
  ○ Science/Technical Focus
● Victoria Qutuuq Buschman
  ○ International Engagement
● Craig Kaviak Chythlook
  ○ Community Engagement
Food Sovereignty Working Group

- Policy Regulatory
- Adaptation/Planning
- Outreach/Education
- Sub-Working Groups
- Policy and Management
- NPFMC Salmon Caribou
- RNA CoObs/UAF/IARC
- AOS
- Research Processes
- Sub-Working Groups
- FSWG Liaison Team
- RNA CoObs/UAF/IARC
- FSWG
- Steering Committee
- 7–9 Person SC
- Resource Tribal/Governance
- Co-Chair Themes
- Sovereignty
FSWG - Case Study

A Coordinated Effort on Food Security
Climate, Sustainability & Resilience, Resource Management

- Salmon, Halibut, Crab, Bycatch
  - Climate changes, Monitoring, Resiliency, and Management
- Caribou
  - Change in Migratory Patterns, Monitoring, and Management
- Sovereignty
  - The right to have IK recognized
  - The right to influence decision making bodies
Boundary Spanners - Two-Eyed Seeing

Facilitating Dialogue

Shared Arctic Variables

- Engineers
- Policy makers
- Resource managers
- Modellers
- Scientists
- Community-based observers
- Indigenous organizations
- Tribal leadership
- Ethics
- Cultural inclusivity
- Use
- Problem definition
- Infrastructure
- Co-production of knowledge

Outside - Researchers

Engineers

Resource Managers

Social scientists

Tribal/Community Liaison

Science Liaison

Indigenous scientist

Science literate leader

Alaska Native communities and knowledge-bearers

Culturally-sensitive scientist
Willie Ermine’s Ethical Space of Engagement (2007)

Co-Production of Knowledge

- Negotiate
- Question:
  - Rules of Engagement
  - Status Quo

Science
- Scientific Knowledge
- Scientific Methodologies
- Generalizable knowledge
- Academic Promotion

Indigenous
- Indigenous Knowledges
- Indigenous Methodologies
- Community benefit
- Indigenous Values
Science

Co-Production of Knowledge (CPK) - Scientific framework

Industry - Funding, evaluative criteria, resources

Education system not supportive of alternative ways of knowing or doing this work

CPK in Indigenous Contexts

Equity
Building capacity
Indigenization

Ellam Yua et al. 2022 (preprint)

Imbalance of Power - Limitations in the Work
Difficulties and Opportunities in the International Sphere

- Many food security-related decisions made at the international level
  - research
  - geopolitical advising
  - policy making
  - decision making

- Governing bodies with little knowledge of Indigenous affairs
- Some desire to understand but little capacity on their end
- Little acceptance of Indigenous knowledge in European Arctic countries

- Some governing bodies very interested in understanding and partnering with Indigenous knowledge for better management and international policy
International Indigenous Organizations

1. Saami Council
2. Inuit Circumpolar Council
3. Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North
4. Aleut International Association
5. Gwich’in Council International
6. Arctic Athabascan Council
### International Fora Influencing Food Security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy Advising Bodies</td>
<td>Arctic Council - CAFF and PAME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</td>
<td>United Nation Bodies and Instruments - UNFCCC, UNESCO, BBNJ, CBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGOs operating under specific treaties</td>
<td>International Whaling Commission, US-Russia Polar Bear Commission</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Food Security Working Group – Summary

- Indigenous Led Food Monitoring group collaborating with the University of Alaska Fairbanks and a broader network
- Leading a team of researchers to answer community questions about food security and monitoring
- Coordinating efforts here in Alaska as a case study
- Expanding our efforts and collaborating with international partners