

A photograph of a wooden shed with a corrugated metal roof. Numerous long, orange salmon fillets are hanging from a wooden rack, drying. The floor is made of wooden planks and has several white and green buckets. The scene is lit with natural light, creating shadows on the floor.

**Food Security
Working Group**

Coordinated Effort to Monitor Food Security Through an Indigenous Lens

ATRLN - 2022

Food Security Working Group (FSWG) - Background

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

Research Networking Activity for Sustained Coordinated Observation for Arctic Change

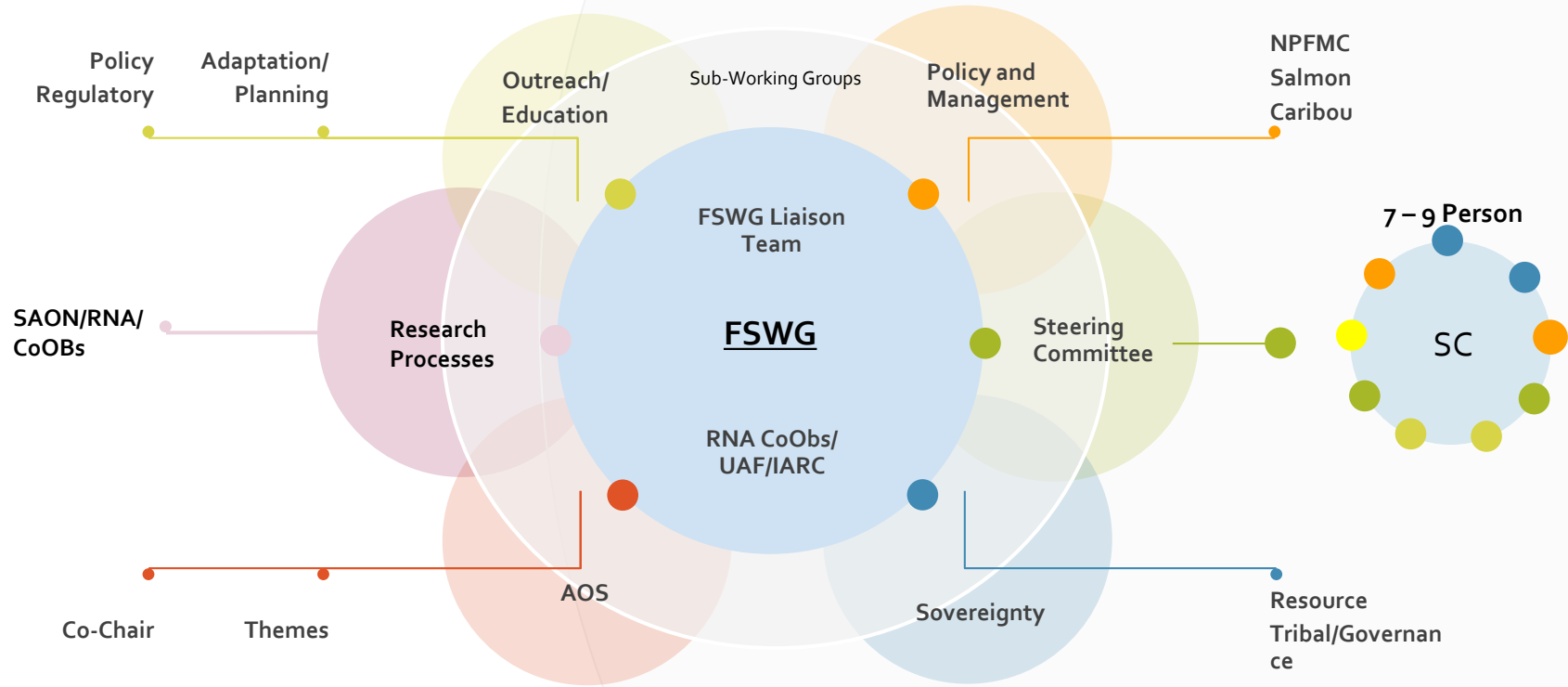
- Regional initiative in the Bering Sea area
- Focused on Indigenous Food Security and Sovereignty
- Fund liaison team
- Fund activities towards Sustaining Arctic Observing Network's ROADS
 - Advisory and Expert Panel participation - **Indigenous led groups making decisions**
 - Coordination – Requirements 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



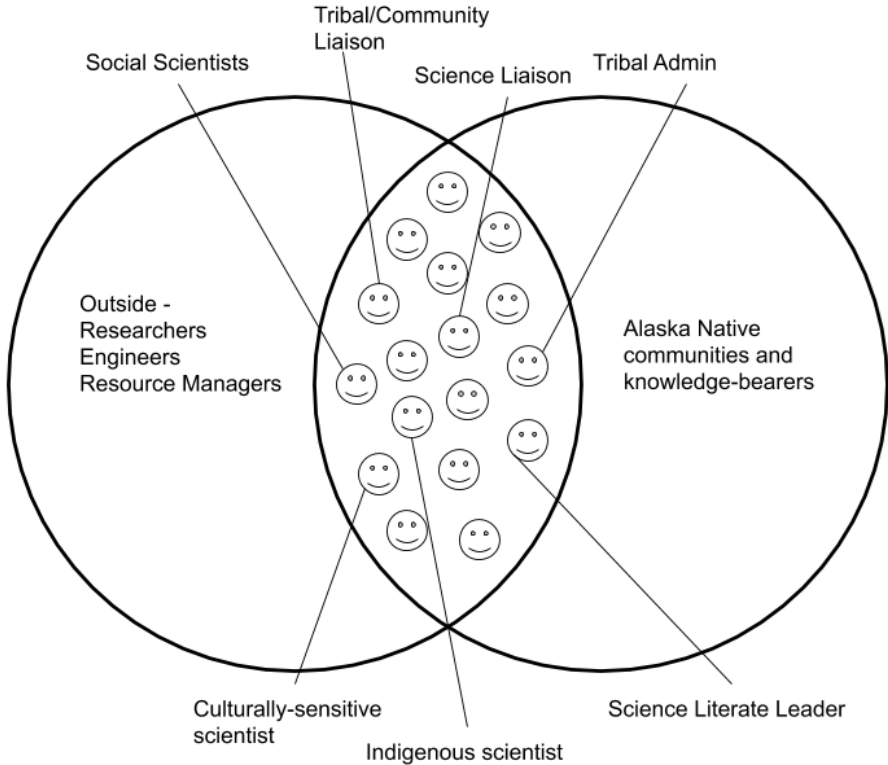
FSWG - Case Study

A Coordinated Effort on Food Security

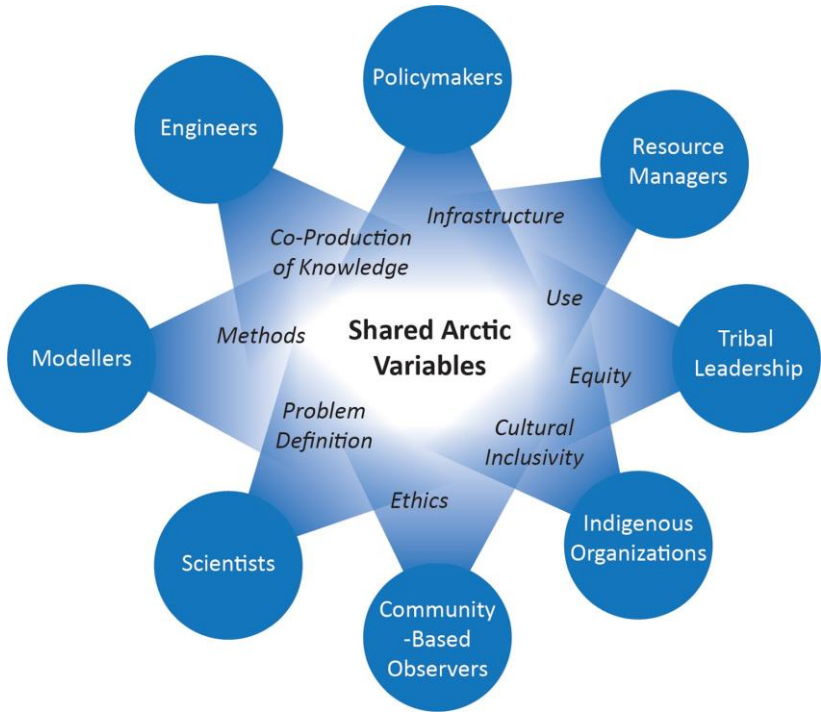
Climate, Sustainability & Resilience, Resource Management

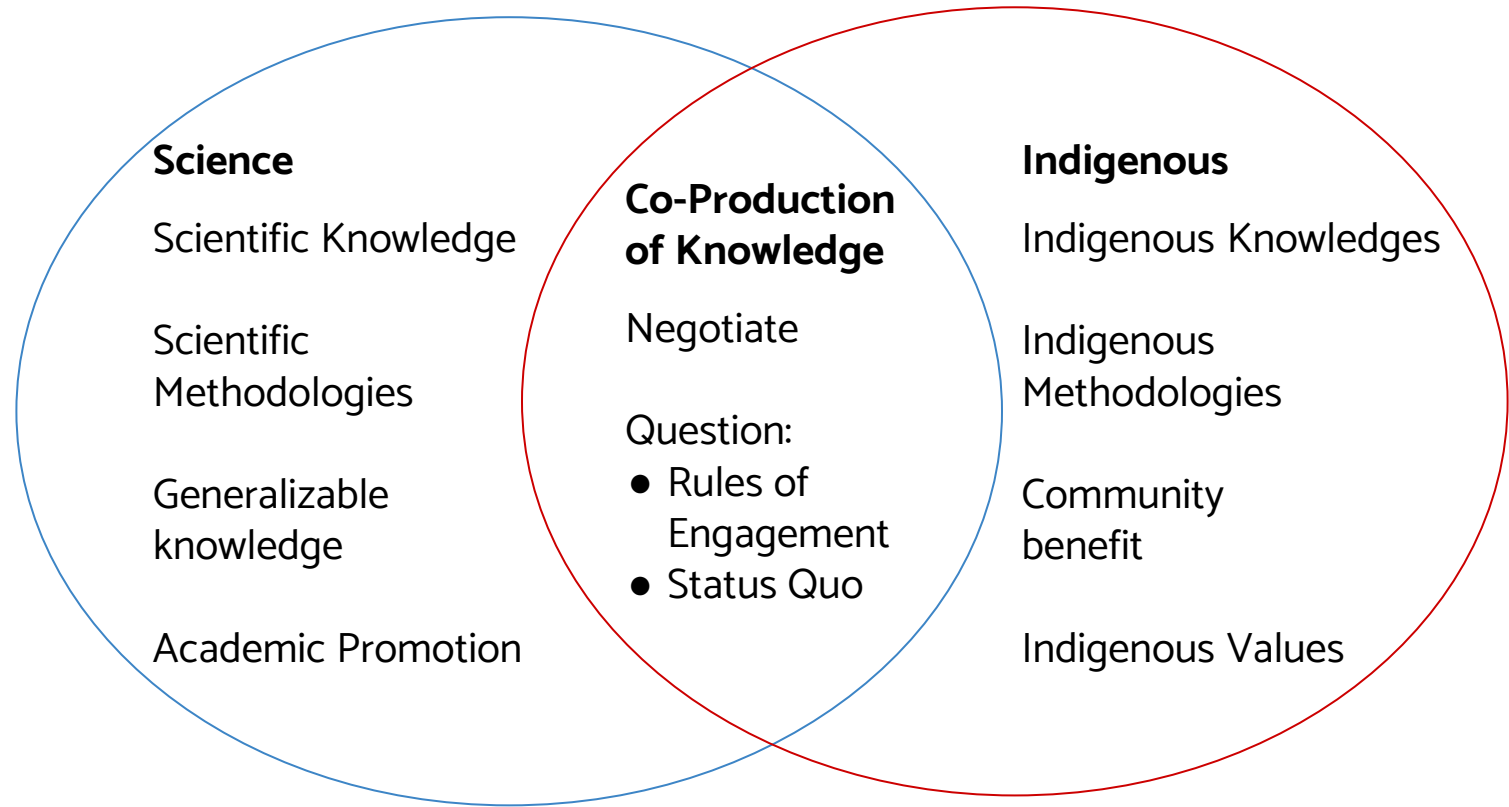
- **Salmon, Halibut, Crab, Bycatch**
 - Climate changes, Monitoring, Resiliency, and Management
- **Caribou**
 - Change in Migratory Patterns, Monitoring, and Management
- **Sovereignty**
 - The right to have IK recognized
 - The right to influence decision making bodies

Boundary Spanners - Two-Eyed Seeing

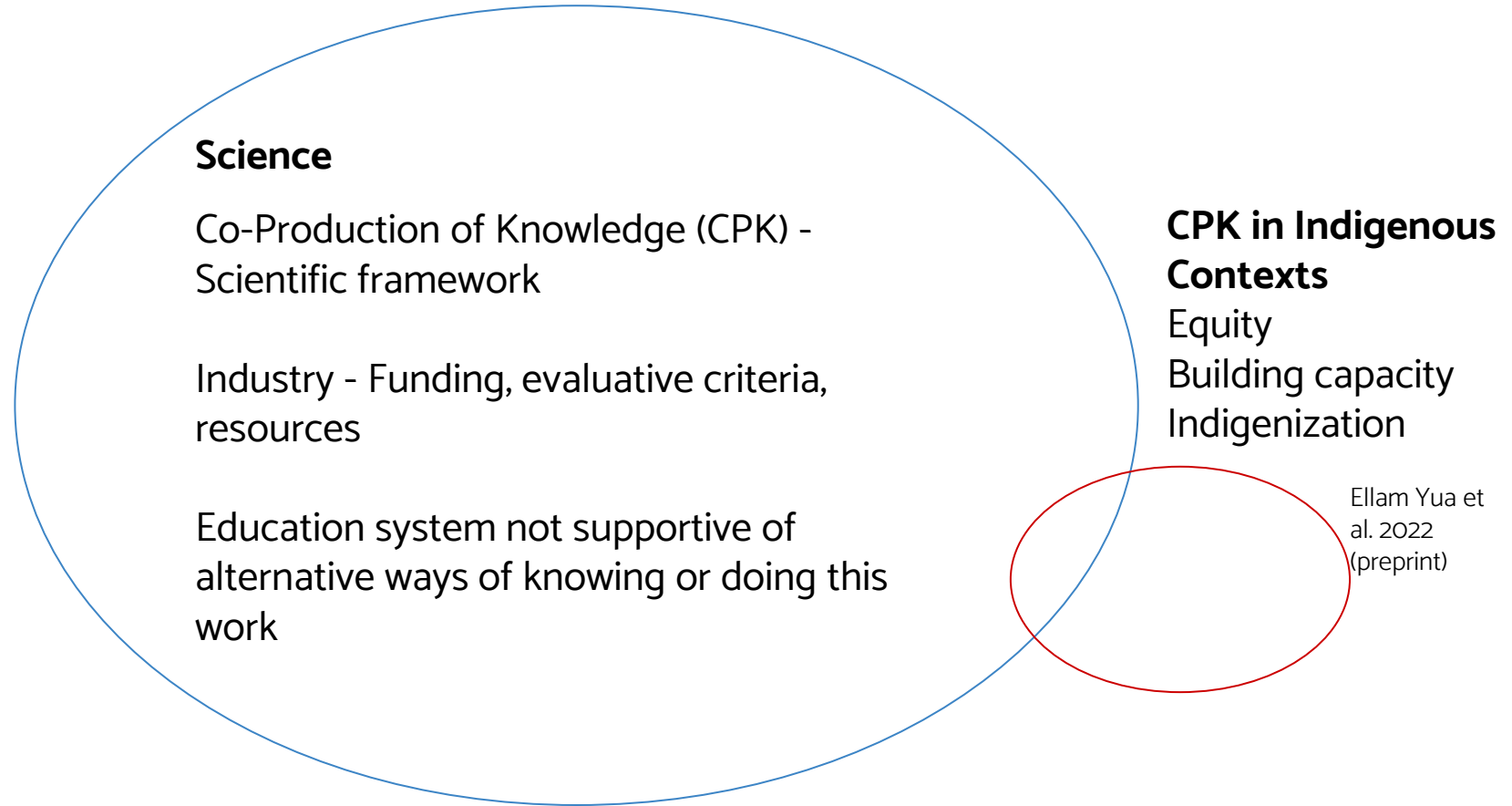


Facilitating Dialogue





Willie Ermine's Ethical Space of Engagement (2007)



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 Athabaskan Council

Source: Arctic Council, Norwegian Polar Institute, Permanent Participants to the Arctic Council, map compiled by Arctic Database, Global Security, Washington DC, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada, International Boundaries Research Unit Database, University of Durham, Updated with expert feedback.

International Fora Influencing Food Security

Policy Advising Bodies

ie. Arctic Council - CAFF and PAME

Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)

ie. United Nation Bodies and Instruments - UNFCCC, UNESCO, BBNJ, CBD

IGOs operating under specific treaties

ie. International Whaling Commission, US-Russia Polar Bear Commission

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