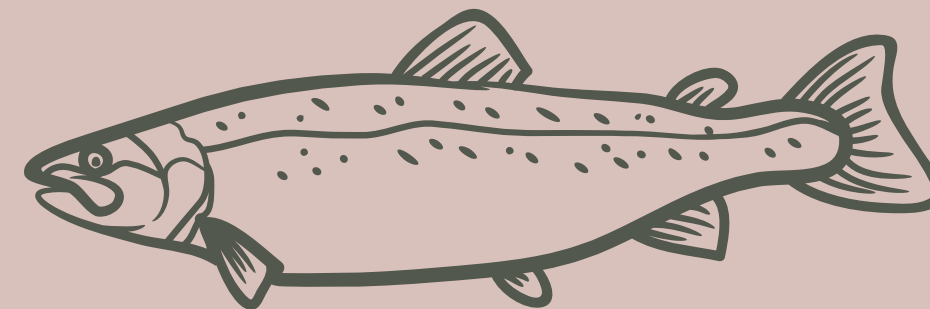


HB 125

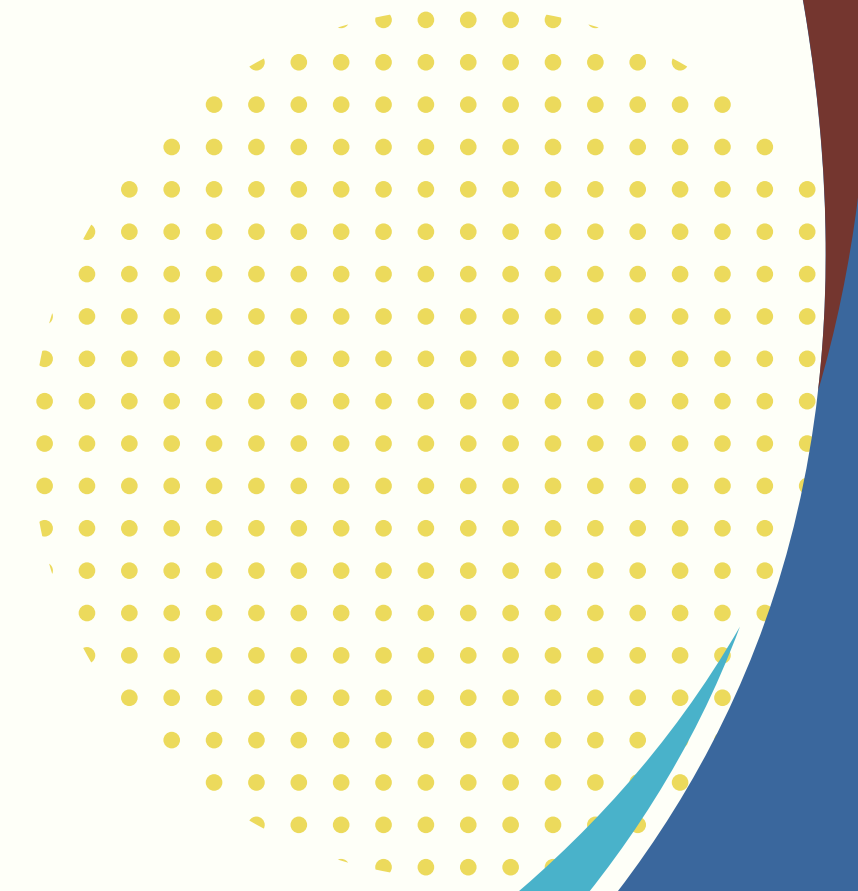
**ESTABLISHING
STRUCTURED STAKEHOLDER BALANCE
IN ALASKA'S FISHERIES MANAGEMENT**



Representative Nellie Unangiq Jimmie

Alaska's Board of Fisheries

The governor shall appoint each member on the basis of **interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability** in the field of action of the board, and with a view to providing **diversity of interest and points of view** in the membership.



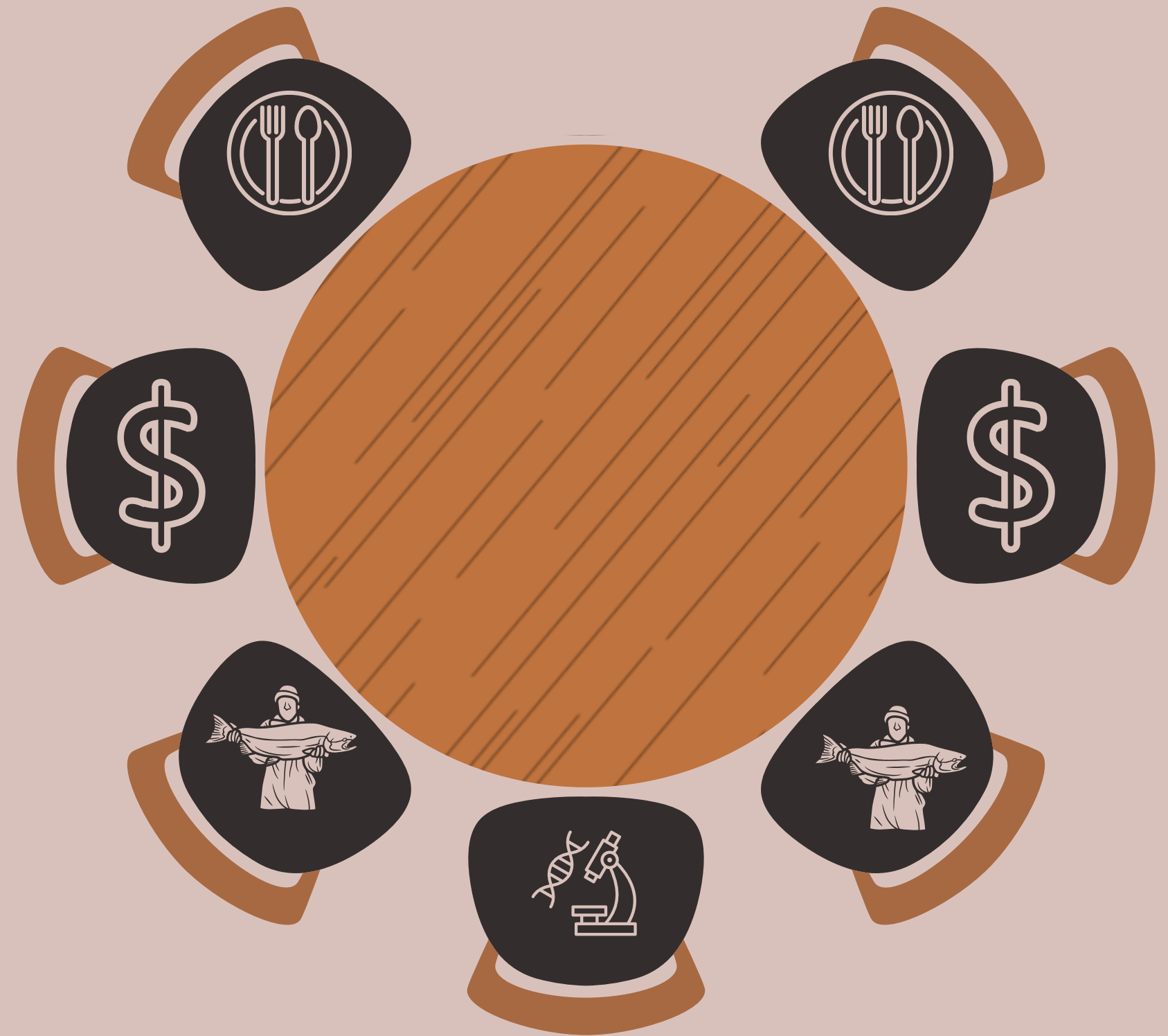
Designated Seats on the Board of Fish

2 x Commercial

2 x Sportfishing

2 x Subsistence *

1 x Scientific Community **



*nominated by AFN

**nomiated by NOAA

Fishery Stock Closures

WESTERN ALASKA SALMON COLLAPSE



Western Alaska Chinook salmon runs in 2020 & 2021 poorest observed in 20 years

2021 Western Alaska chum run was smallest ever recorded

ADF&G closed subsistence salmon fishing completely on the Yukon River

CRAB FISHERY COLLAPSE

Bering Sea snow crab population crashed by over **90%** 2018-2019

Bering Sea snow crab fishery closed entirely in **2022 & 2023**



GULF OF ALASKA PACIFIC COD

Marine heatwave "the Blob" caused **sharp decline** in Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod fishery

Gulf cod fishery had an **historic closure** for the **2020 season**



**ALASKAN
King Salmon
\$ 8.99/lb**

Economic Impact

Alaska's Fishing Industry Profitability
- 50% Decline between 2021 - 2023
38,000 Jobs Lost Nationwide
\$ 4.3 billion drop in U.S. economic output

RECENT FISHERIES CLOSURES:

\$1.8 Billion 
in Lost Revenue

(NOAA, 2024)

STABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

\$350+ Million 
Annually

(ALASKA SEAFOOD MARKETING
INSTITUTE, 2022)



Subsistence & Food Security

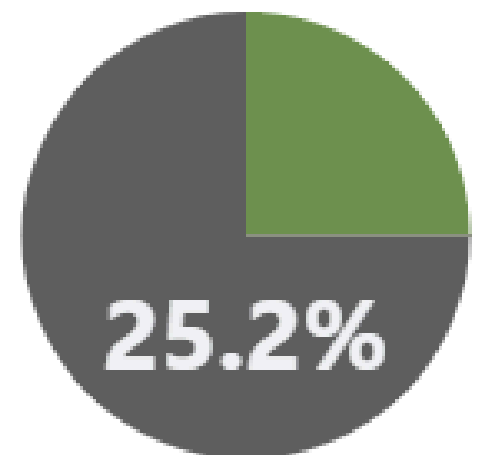
36.9 Million Pounds

of wild foods are harvested annually by rural Alaskans

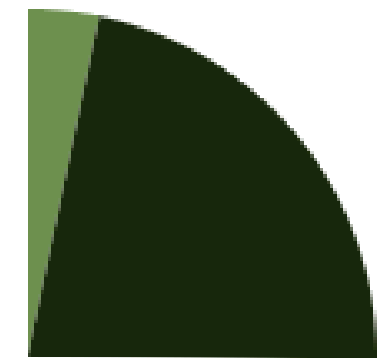
56% is Salmon

KUSILVAK BOROUGH FOOD INSECURE POPULATION: 2,110

FOOD INSECURITY RATE



ESTIMATED PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AMONG FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE OVERALL



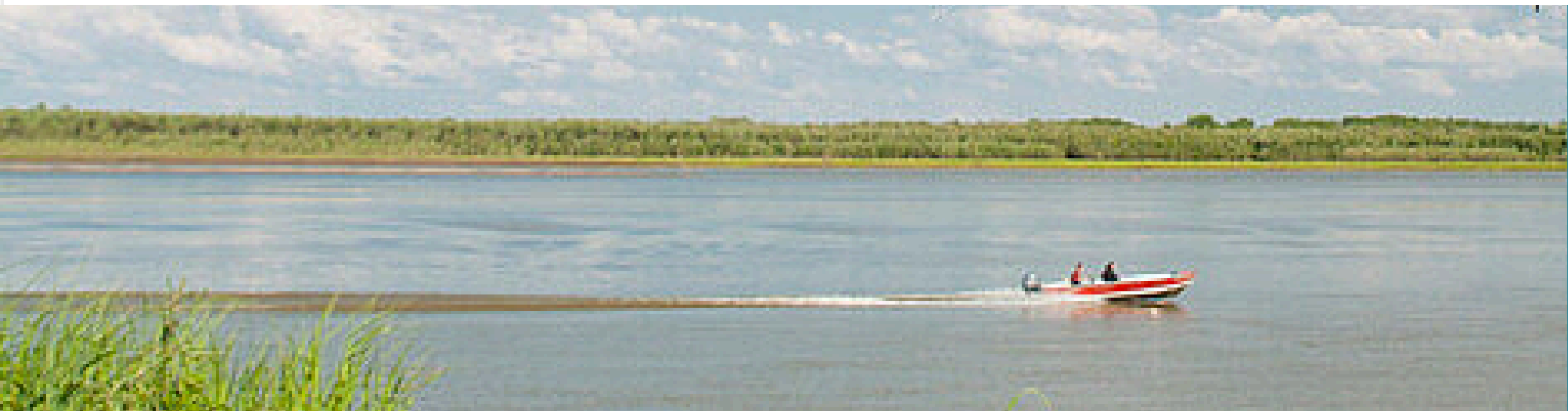
- 13% Above SNAP threshold
- 87% Below SNAP threshold of 130%

AVERAGE MEAL COST

\$ 5.19

ADDITIONAL MONEY REQUIRED TO MEET FOOD NEEDS

\$ 2,058,000



12.8%
of Alaskans are food insecure
(Feeding America 2022)

International Models

New Zealand (Māori Fisheries Management):

- **Quota Management System grants Māori significant control over fisheries**
- **Treaty of Waitangi Fisheries Settlement (1992) provided legal recognition of Indigenous fishing rights**
- **Co-governance model ensures sustainable resource use while preserving cultural fishing practices**

Canada (Indigenous Fisheries Governance):

- **Supreme Court rulings (e.g., R. v. Sparrow, 1990) affirm First Nations' rights to fish for subsistence**
- **Indigenous fisheries managed through co-management agreements with federal agencies**
- **Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative integrates Indigenous groups into commercial fisheries**

Norway

- **Finnmark Act (2005): Ensures Sámi participation in fisheries and resource governance.**
- **Created the Finnmark Estate (FeFo), a Sámi-majority board managing land and fishing rights.**

TRIBAL FISHERIES & CO-MANAGEMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE

- **Boldt Decision (1974):** Reaffirmed tribal treaty rights, granting tribes up to 50% of the annual fish harvest and establishing them as co-managers of fisheries resources alongside the State of Washington.
- **Co-Management Framework:** Tribal and state entities collaboratively set fishing seasons and hatchery production objectives, ensuring sustainable fisheries management.
- **Tribal Fishing Commissions:** Organizations like the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NWIFC) provide support to treaty tribes, assisting in natural resource management and policy development.



