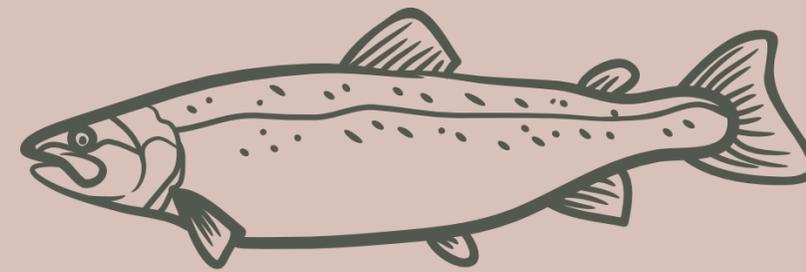


HB 125

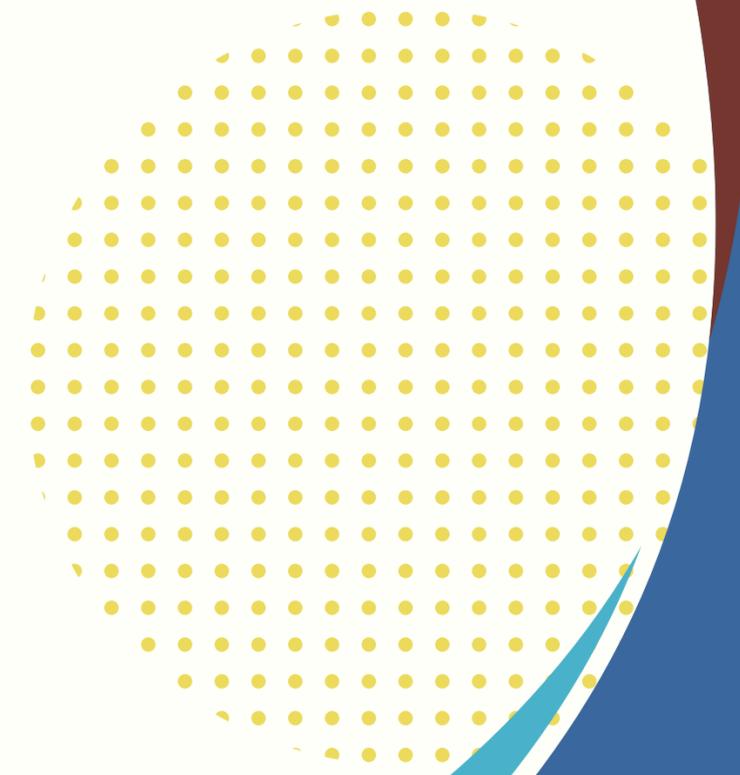
**ESTABLISHING
STRUCTURED STAKEHOLDER BALANCE
IN ALASKA'S FISHERIES MANAGEMENT**



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.



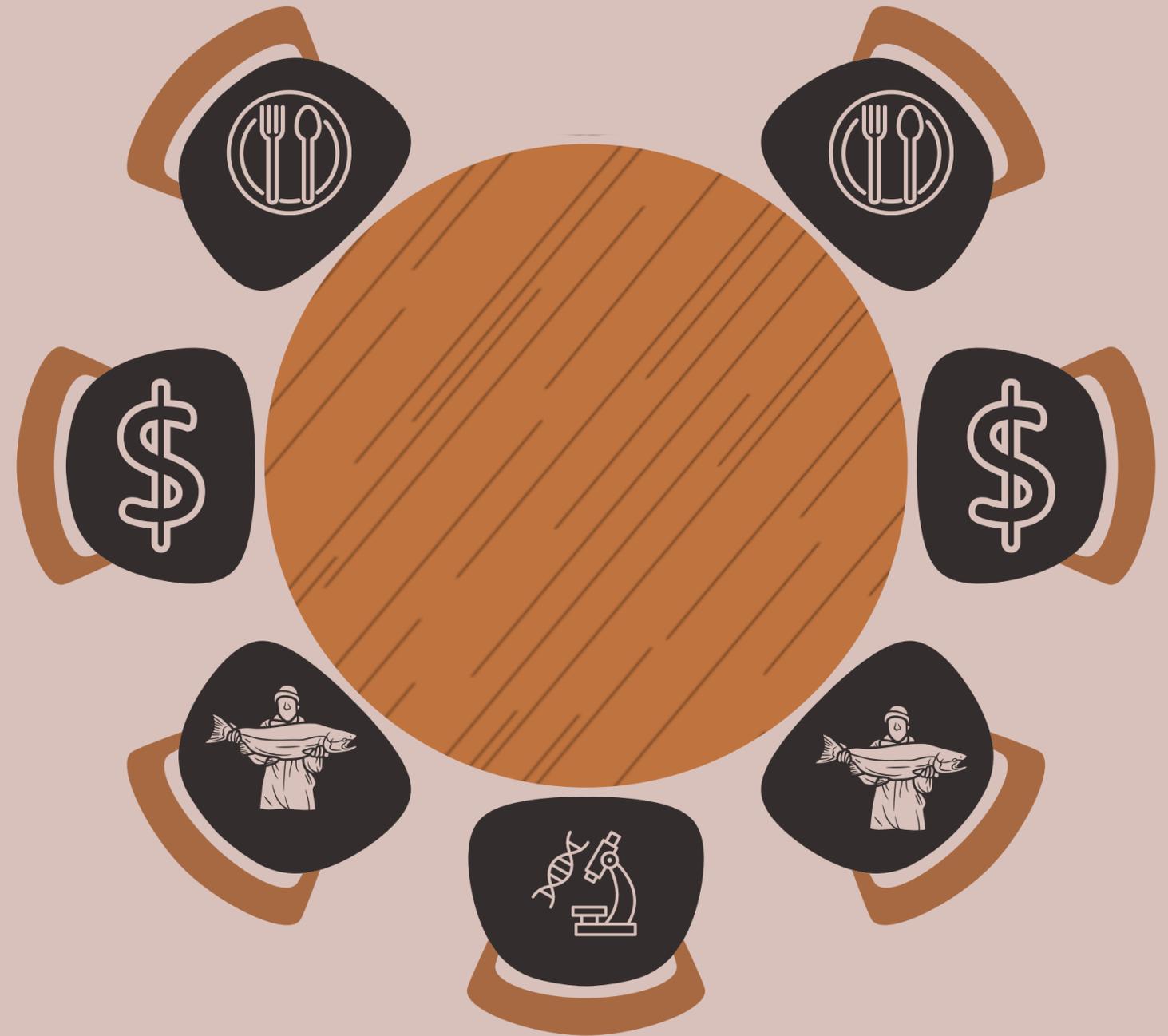
Designated Seats on the Board of Fish

2 x Commercial

2 x Sportfishing

2 x Subsistence

1 x Scientific Community



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

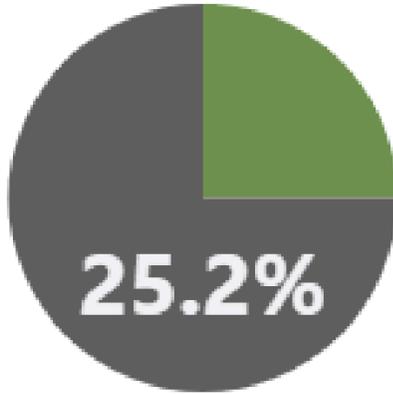
36.9 Million Pounds

of wild foods are harvested annually by rural Alaskans

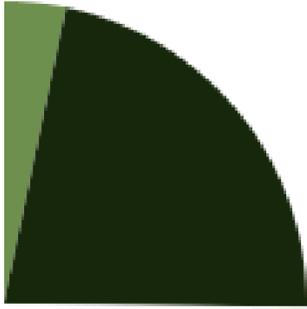
56% is Salmon

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.



