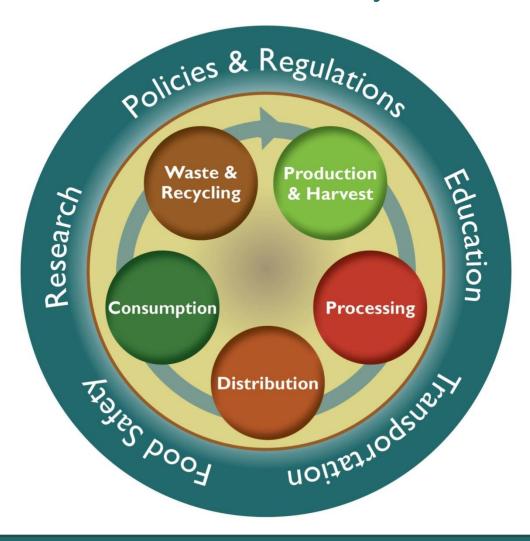


Alaska Food Resource Working Group (AFRWG) November 4, 2013





Our Food System





Alaska's Food System Impacts Our

- Economy
 - Health
- Preparedness
 - Culture



Alaskans spend \$2.5 billion dollars on food each year at grocery stores and restaurants.



It's estimated that 95% of Alaska's food is imported. That makes Alaska vulnerable in times of disasters.



Alaska's food system creates a lot of jobs. About 115,000 jobs are food-related. That's 1 in 7 jobs in Alaska.



Rates of chronic disease related to lifestyle choices are escalating in Alaska. That means high healthcare costs borne by the state.



\$459 million annual medical care costs are attributable to obesity in Alaska.
The State of Alaska pays one quarter of those costs.



Chronic diseases—such as cancer, heart disease, and diabetes— are related to unhealthy eating and physical inactivity. These are among the most prevalent, costly, and preventable of all health problems.





Salmon in Hydaburg Smokehouse

Credit: Alaska Department of Health and Social Services



Farm field in Palmer

Credit: Alaska Division of Agriculture





Gathering sea greens, Aleutian Islands

Credit: Gary Ferguson

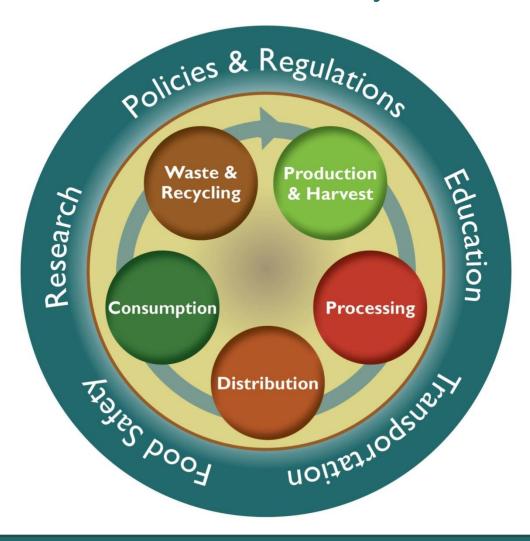




A critical part of Rural Alaska's Food System



Our Food System





What is food policy?

Food policy is any activity that addresses, shapes or regulates the food system.

Source SDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan on the Alaska Food Policy Council:

"A collaborative planning process is a powerful tool for ensuring that Alaskans have their voices heard on the issues that matter to them: stimulating local economies and creating jobs, expanding access to healthy foods in our communities and our schools, and ensuring an abundant local food supply..."



Who is the Alaska Food Policy Council? Over 200 individuals and agencies across the state – driven by the need to strengthen our food system.



How do we impact Alaska's food system?

Through collective action targeting policies that impact Alaskan's health, self-reliance and prosperity.



Alaska Food Policy Council Vision:

A healthy, secure food system that feeds all Alaskans.









All Alaskans have access to affordable, healthy (preferably local) foods.







Alaska's food-related industries have a strong workforce and operate in a supportive business environment.







Food is safe, protected and supplies are secure throughout Alaska.









Alaska's food system is more sustainable.







Alaskans are engaged in our food system



AFPC Organization

- Governing Board
- Locally Grown Workgroup
- School Programs Workgroup
- Emergency Preparedness Workgroup
- Research and Information Workgroup
- Public Engagement Workgroup
- Legislative Workgroup

Organizations Represented on the Governing Board

- USDA Farm Service Agency
- Alaska DNR, Division of Agriculture

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- Alaska DHSS, Obesity Prevention & Control Program
- University of Alaska, Fairbanks
- UAF Cooperative Extension
 Services
- Alaska Farmers' Union

- Sitka Local Foods Network
- Fairbanks Community Cooperative Market
- Rosie Creek Farm
- Taco Loco
- Ugashik Wild Salmon Co.
- Alaska Center for the Environment
- Alaska Marine Conservation Council



USDA Efforts to Address Food Systems





Contact the Food Policy Council

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