

DBO  
&  
Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON)  
&  
Arctic Observing Summit (AOS):  
Opportunities for collaboration & joint action

*Hajo Eicken*

International Arctic Research Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK, USA

Co-Chair, Executive Organizing Committee - AOS 2020

heicken@alaska.edu

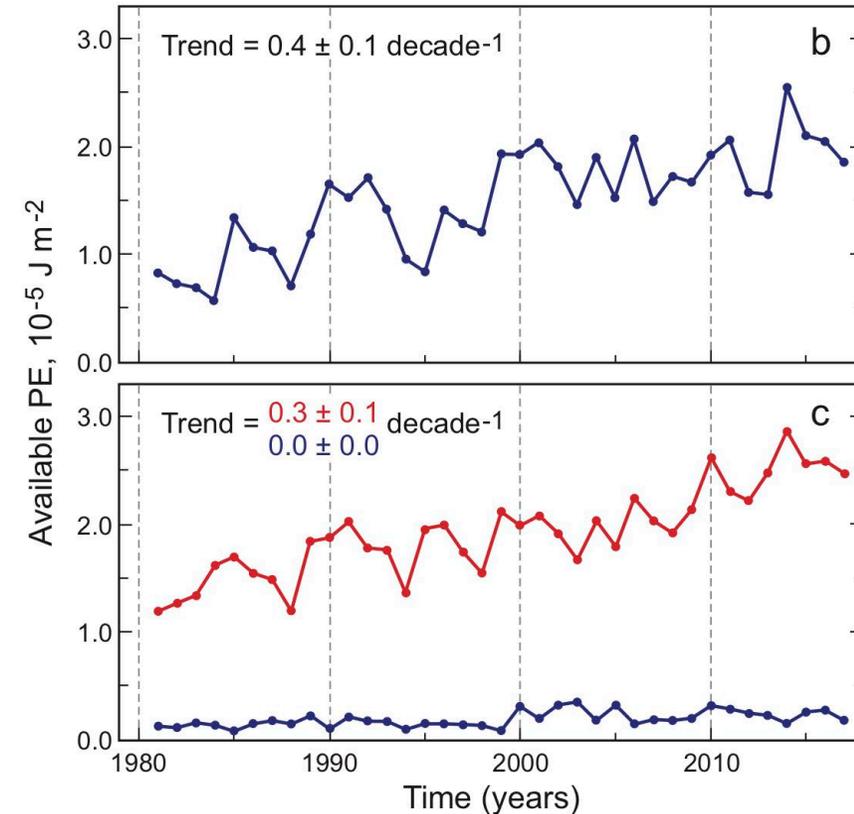
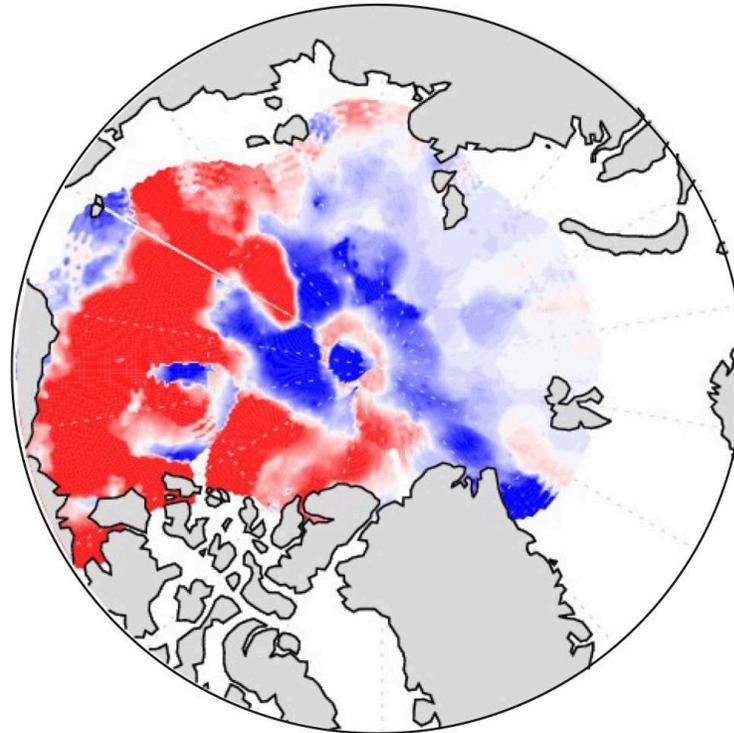
# Understanding & responding to change



- Long-term observations

→ Understanding & predicting Arctic system change

a [ 2006 - 2017 ] - [ 1981 - 1995 ]



$$APE = \int_{z_2}^{z_1} g(\rho - \rho_{ref}) dz$$

*Polyakov et al., 2018, ERL*

# Understanding & responding to change

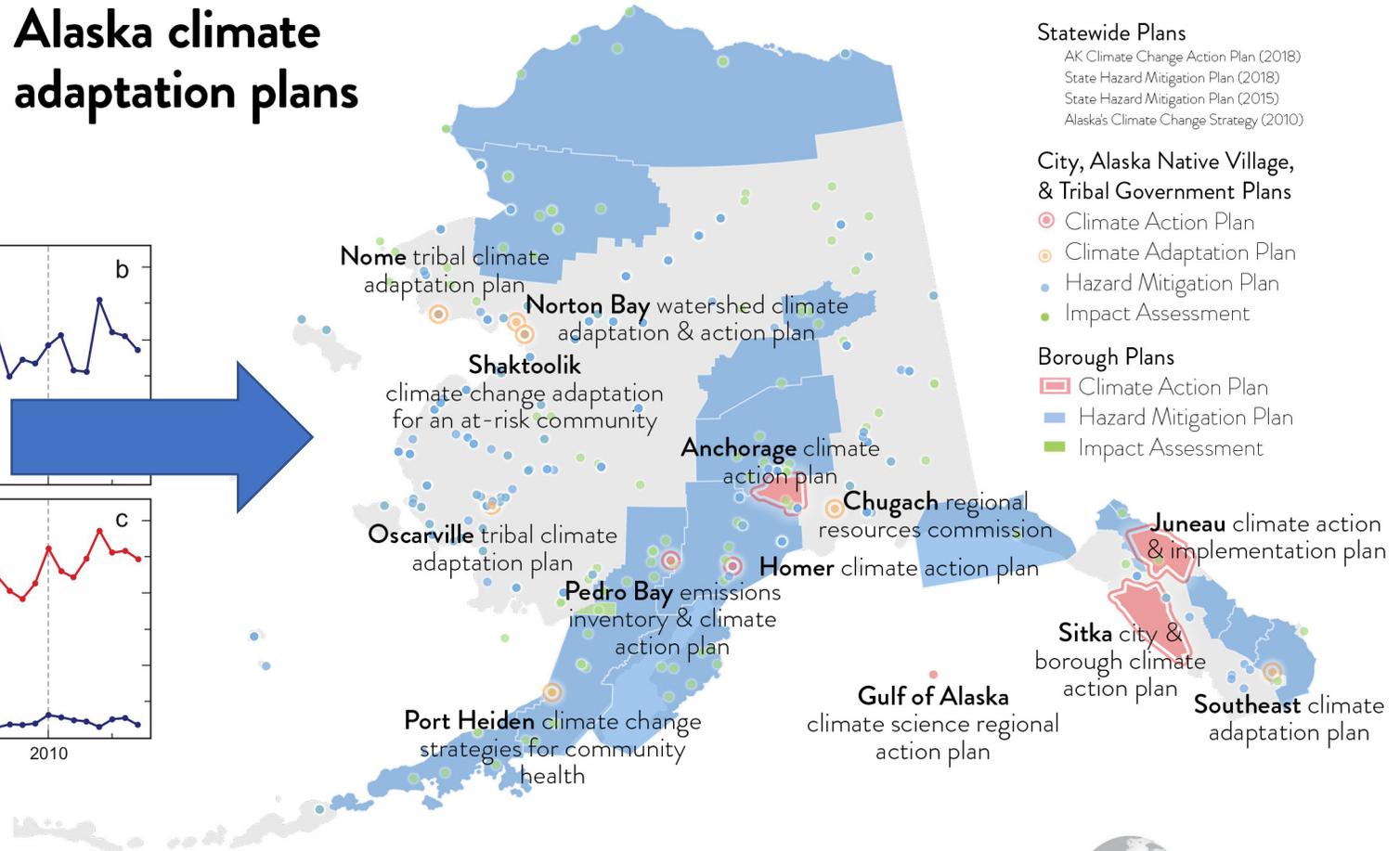
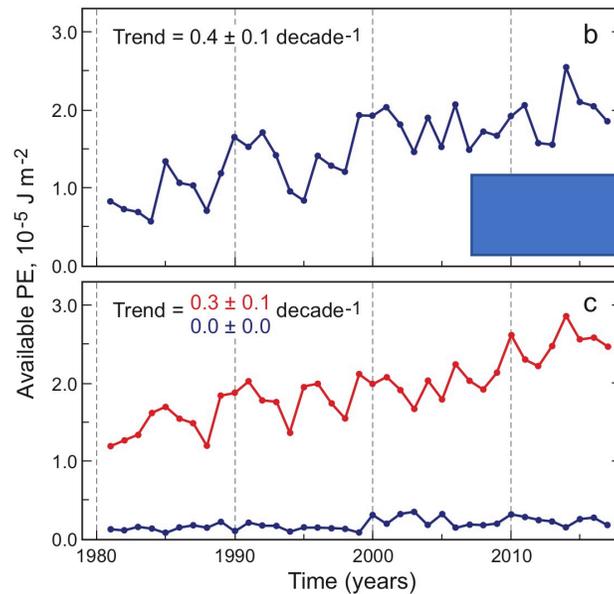


- Long-term observations

→ Understanding & predicting Arctic system change

→ Informing responses to rapid change

## Alaska climate adaptation plans



**Statewide Plans**  
 AK Climate Change Action Plan (2018)  
 State Hazard Mitigation Plan (2018)  
 State Hazard Mitigation Plan (2015)  
 Alaska's Climate Change Strategy (2010)

**City, Alaska Native Village, & Tribal Government Plans**  
 Climate Action Plan  
 Climate Adaptation Plan  
 Hazard Mitigation Plan  
 Impact Assessment

**Borough Plans**  
 Climate Action Plan  
 Hazard Mitigation Plan  
 Impact Assessment

Credit: Kelsey Aho, Center for Alaska Policy Studies.  
 Data source: DEECD; Meeker and Kettle, 2017



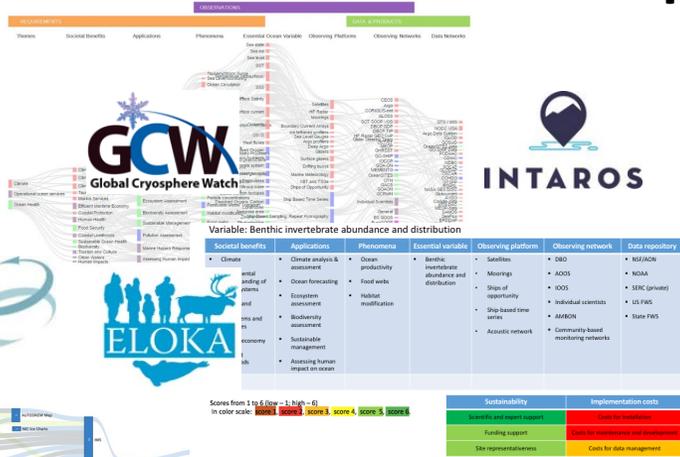
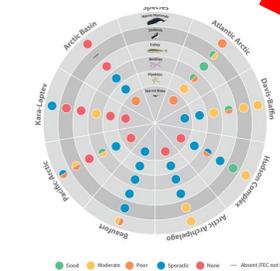
# Understanding & responding to change



- How do we ensure shared benefits of sustained observations
  - both for research community  
& other information product users?
- How do we observe what is relevant, in a manner that meets requirements of data users?
- How do we share data and information products to reach relevant data users?

Broad range of themes, interests, mandates, concepts, champions

# Integrating sustained observations



## Roadmap for Arctic Observing and Data Systems (ROADS)

- Priorities
- Well-defined requirements for EAVs
- Co-design/implementation/integration of observing system components
- Essential Arctic Variables (EAV)
- Societal benefits (shared)

- Bundling of efforts insufficient → Development of coherent set of observations drawing on requirements guided by shared benefits
- Identify commonalities, link requirements & implementation across narrow efforts that fit into common thematic framework



# Shared benefits – Relevance – Data use

## *Supporting the ROADS process*

### Coordination

### Design Development

### Information Infrastructure

#### Societal benefit areas & concerns:

- Healthy, sustainable communities
- Indigenous Knowledge & Values
- Climate change adaptation
- Blue economy
- National security
- ....

#### Thematic concern

- Food security

#### EAVs

- Ice concentration
- Wave height
- Fish abundance
- ...

#### Observing requirements

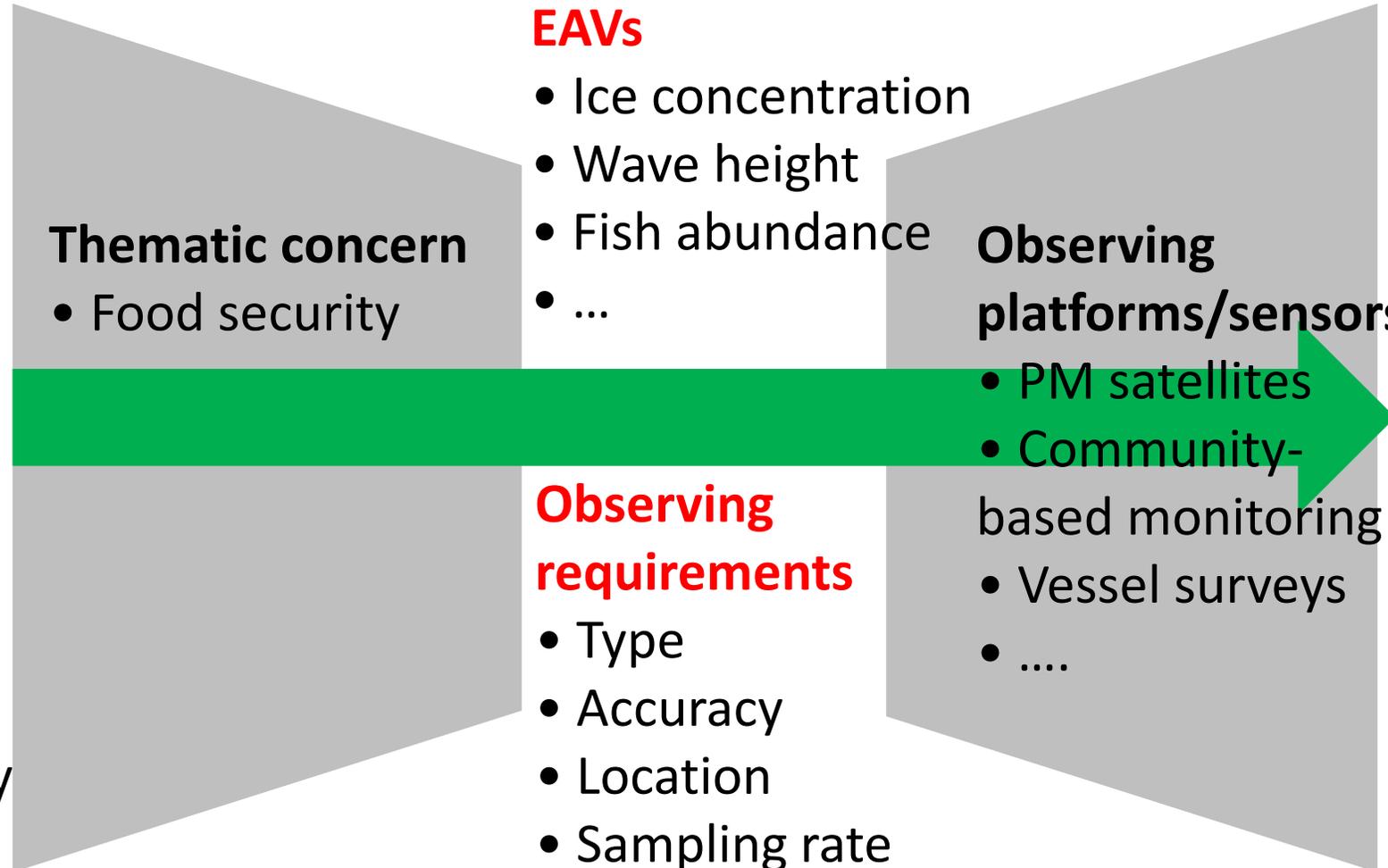
- Type
- Accuracy
- Location
- Sampling rate

#### Observing platforms/sensors

- PM satellites
- Community-based monitoring
- Vessel surveys
- ....

#### Data & information products:

- Safety advisories
- Decadal sea ice trends
- Fish stock assessments
- ....



# Example (C. Eaton, UConn): User base for observing system & end-to-end network

Variable: Benthic invertebrate abundance and distribution

Fundamental Understanding of biological response to physical/environmental change in the Arctic

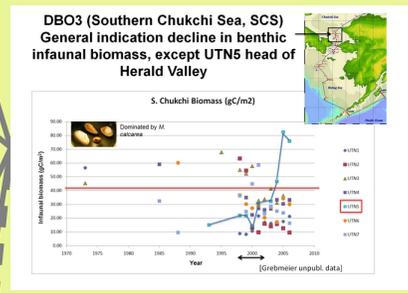
Arctic Societal Benefit Areas

- CLIMATE
- FUNDAMENTAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARCTIC SYSTEM
- MARINE/COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS
- MARINE ECONOMY
- RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS

Applications: End Users

- RESEARCH
- FEDERAL AGENCIES (e.g., NOAA)
- STATE AGENCIES (e.g., FWS)
- LOCAL & SUBSISTENCE COMMUNITIES
- NATURAL RESOURCE MGMT

Application Products: Time series data



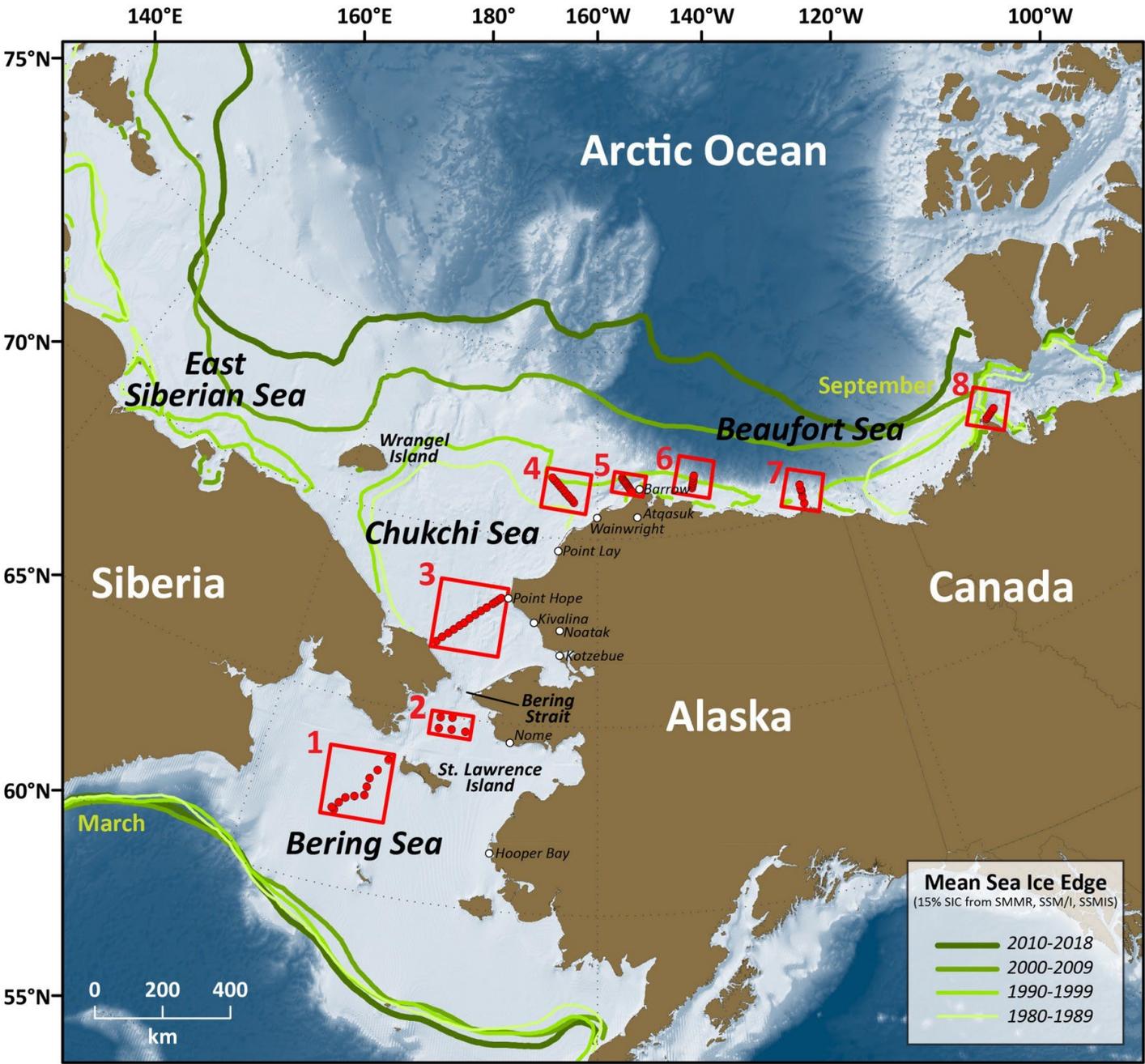
Parameter "Phenomena"

- Ocean productivity
- Food webs
- Habitat modification

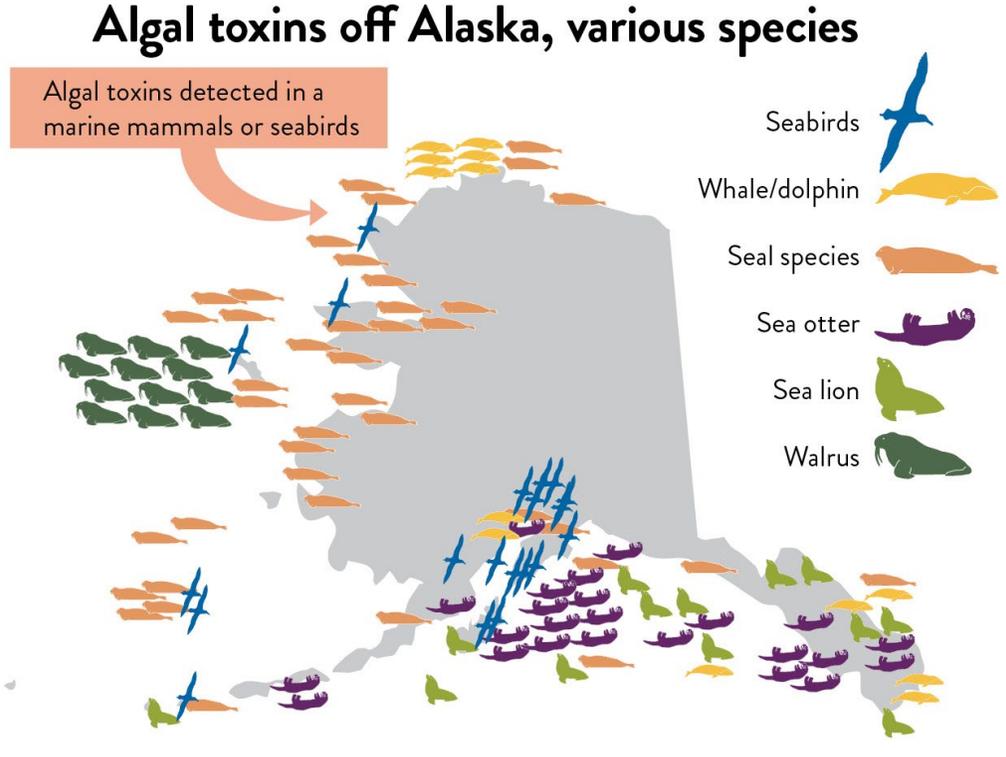
Observing System

- DBO
- AOOS
- IOOS
- Individual scientists
- AMBON
- CBM Networks

NSF ARCTIC DATA CENTER, NOAA, FWS



**DBO & SAON ROADS**  
 → Potential for new data & information products



# Shared benefits – Relevance – Data use: Entry points for DBO involvement

## Coordination

## Design Development

## Information Infrastructure

### Societal benefit areas & concerns:

- AOS Food Security Working Group: Raychelle Daniel, Gunn-Britt Retter & others

### Thematic concern

- Food security

### EAVs

- AOS & SAON Working Groups
- National & international thematic WGs

### Observing requirements

- NEON/ Batelle

### Observing system design

- OSSEs
- Inverse modeling
- Synthesis through AOS etc.

### Data & information products:

- Arctic Data Center
- SAON WGs
- National & international centers

US Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee Collaboration Teams & USAON



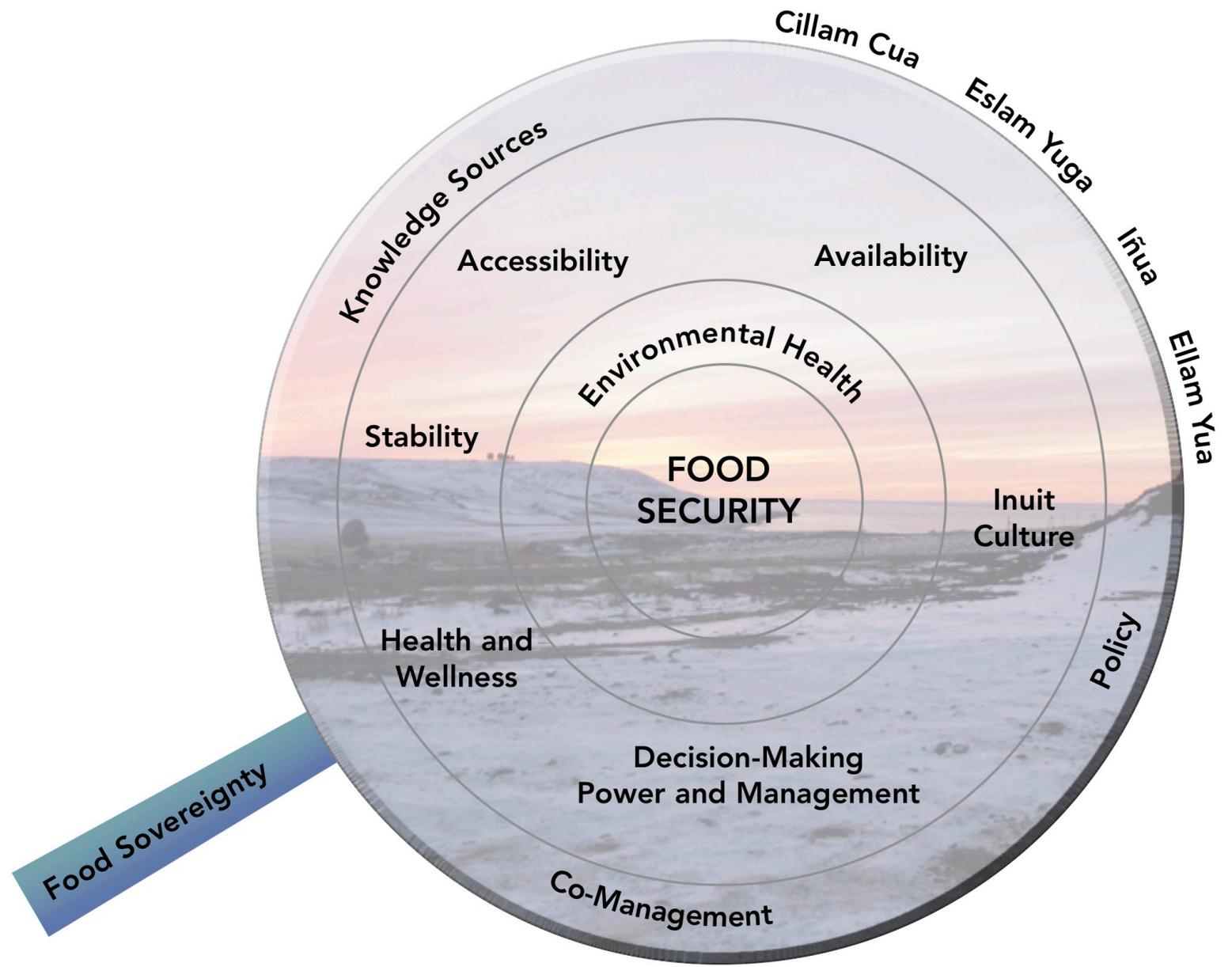
Alaskan Inuit Food  
Security Framework  
(ICC-AK, 2015)

Behe and Castillo, 2015

# Alaskan Inuit Food Security Framework

- Dimensions
- Knowledge
- Management
- Sovereignty

*(ICC-AK, 2015)*



# The Arctic Observing Summit



- Provide **community-driven, science-based** guidance for the **design, implementation, coordination** and **sustained** long-term (decades) **operation** of an international network of Arctic observing systems that serves a wide spectrum of needs
- Create a **forum** for coordination and exchange between **academia, government agencies, Indigenous & local communities, industry, non-governmental organizations and other Arctic stakeholders** involved in or in need of long-term observations

# 2020 Arctic Observing Summit: *Observing for Action*



*Akureyri, Iceland 31 Mar – 2 Apr 2020*

*arcticobservingsummit.org*

## ***Summit themes***

1. Design, Optimization and Implementation
- 2. Food Security and Indigenous Needs**
3. Observing in Support of Adaptation and Mitigation
4. Data Interoperability and Federated Search
5. Observing in Support of Global Action



# 2020 Arctic Observing Summit: *Observing for Action*



## *Food Security and Indigenous Needs WG – Vision, Mandate and Rationale*

- Food security observing roadmap emerging from team effort will guide observing activities in Pacific Arctic region and inform broader SAON Roadmap for Arctic Observing at pan-Arctic scale
- International team of Indigenous experts, community representatives, agency personnel, research scientists (both observationalists and modelers)
- Food security WG essential as the only SAON/AOS group focusing on observations for a specific societal and Indigenous benefit area and concern
- Indigenous Food Security Working Group -
  - Helps identify impactful Essential Arctic Variables (EAVs)
  - Provides guidance on EAV assessment process, societal benefit areas & observational requirements



# 2020 Arctic Observing Summit: *Observing for Action*



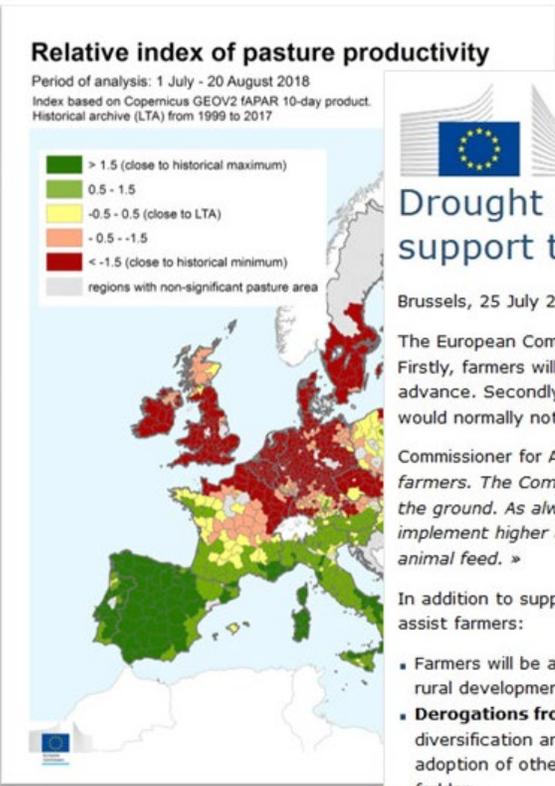
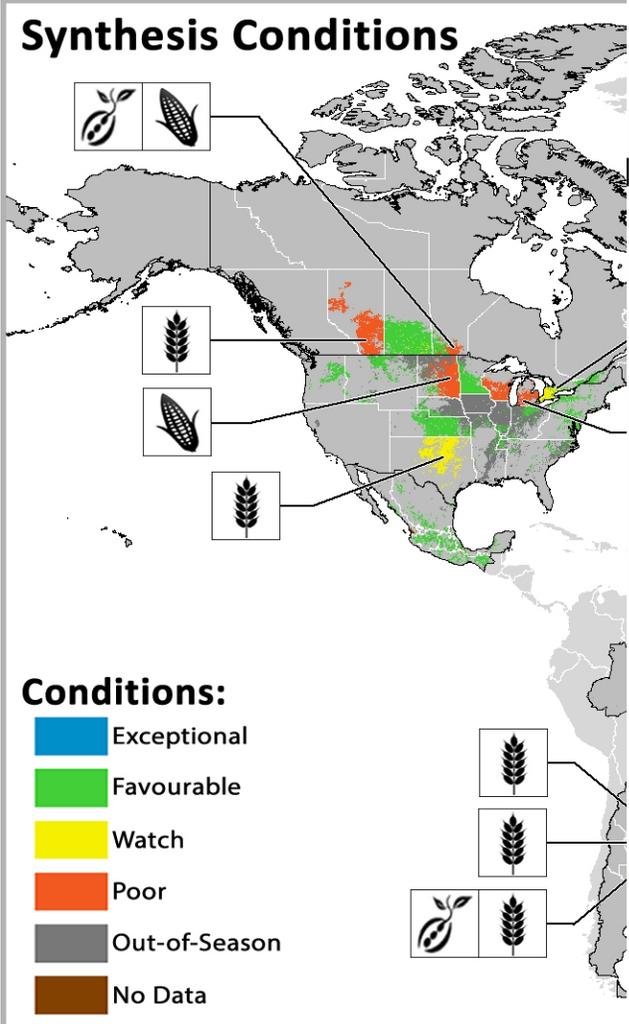
## *Food Security and Indigenous Needs WG – Vision, Mandate and Rationale*

### Essential Arctic Variables (EAVs):

- Conceptually broad, phenomenological observing categories (e.g. “sea ice”) that provide a structured interface for coordination and collaboration in support of societal benefit
- Identified as being critical to achieving Arctic societal benefit
- Defined by their observing system requirements (e.g. spatial resolution, frequency, coverage, accuracy), which are technology-neutral and should transcend specific observing strategies, programs or regions.
- Implemented through specific recommendations based on best available technology and practices



# Goal: Arctic data & information product suite that addresses key food security concerns through integration of EAV data (in situ, community-based monitoring, remote sensing) & model output



European Commission - Press release

## Drought in Europe: the Commission offers further support to European farmers

Brussels, 25 July 2019

The European Commission is offering support to farmers faced with the waves of drought afflicting Europe. Firstly, farmers will be able to receive a higher percentage of their direct and rural development payments in advance. Secondly, to be able to feed their animals, they will be granted greater flexibility to use land that would normally not be used for production.

Commissioner for Agriculture, Phil **Hogan**, has said: «*These prolonged climate conditions are worrying for our farmers. The Commission remains in close contact with the Member States and is evaluating the situation on the ground. As always, we stand ready to assist farmers affected by drought. That is why we have decided to implement higher advance payments and derogations from certain greening rules to make it easier to produce animal feed.*»

In addition to support available under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), two decisions have been taken to assist farmers:

- Farmers will be able to receive **higher advance payments**. Up to 70% of their direct payments and 85% of rural development payments will be available as of mid-October to improve their cash flow situation.
- Derogations from certain '«greening»' requirements** will be allowed. These derogations will apply to crop diversification and ecological focus area rules on land lying fallow. Consideration is also being given to the adoption of other types of derogation from '«greening»', so as to grant farmers greater flexibility to produce fodder.

In addition to continuously evaluating and analysing the drought situation and its impact thanks to the European satellites, the Commission is in contact with all Member States to receive updated information on the impact of the drought on farmers at more local level.

**For more information**  
 Monitoring Agricultural Resources (MARS) Bulletins