Ways to Help and Ways to Hinder
Priorities for Enhancing Mitigative and Adaptive Solutions

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Driving Questions

How are the myriad, ongoing social and ecological transitions in the North impacting the health of people, communities, and ecosystems?

- Climatic and environmental change
- Demographic and social change
- The rising costs of food and fuel
- The nutrition transition

What are the institutional dimensions that condition people's ability to effectively respond to these challenges?
Changes, Challenges

• Drivers and Agents of Change
  • Biophysical
  • Socioeconomic
  • Behavioral, cultural

• Directional Change?
  • Cumulative effects
  • Feedbacks and interactions
  • Tipping points
Ways of Thinking about the Problems

- Short term
  - Impacts mitigation
- Longer term
  - Vulnerability
  - Resilience
  - Human health & environmental security
- Place based and institutional responses
  - How and where do these converge?
- Must pay attention to how these world-views condition our responses

Photo from JTC 2006
Case in Point: Yukon River Salmon

- 2009 Chinook (King) Fishery
- Management Success?
- Fisheries Disaster?
- Conflict between food security and conservation goals?
- Differentially-distributed impacts on people, ecosystems
  - Short term food shortage
  - Long term community viability
Ways to Help or Hinder

Matching roles and responsibilities with experience and knowledge at each level of organization
Ways to Help or Hinder

- Information, facilitation, participation, and support
- Innovation and self-reliance
  - New (old) modes of residence?
  - What is customary and traditional?
- Linking local solutions to regional outcomes of health, resilience, sustainability
Observe, Understand, Respond

- Responses are only as effective as the observations and understanding that drives them
  - Theory and 'knowledge to action'
- Collaboratory approaches to develop place-based understanding with regional relevance
  - Local knowledge versus local experts
  - Distributed decision making
  - Cross-regional collaboration
  - A fuller, not a purer science
  - Multiple ways of knowing can increase parity, reduce “negative learning”
A Final Thought...

ARE YOU COMING TO BED?

I CAN'T. THIS IS IMPORTANT.

WHAT?

SOMEONE IS WRONG ON THE INTERNET.

Sea Ice Outlook
The (rear) End

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