

International Arctic Fisheries Symposium  
Anchorage, Alaska  
19-21 October 2009

**Indigenous Report and Recommendations**

Mike Pederson of the North Slope Borough spoke on Day 3 (Oct. 21) of the International Arctic Fisheries Symposium and shared the following recommendations on behalf of the indigenous peoples:

1. Subsistence use of fisheries resources in the Arctic must be given the highest priority to protect the culture and traditional lifestyle of Indigenous Peoples.
2. Voting seats of Indigenous Peoples and Non-Governmental Organizations on respective governing bodies over Fisheries issues and management must be a prerequisite to Arctic Fisheries (not co-management).
3. Management measures must take the most conservative approach to prevent over-fishing and to protect Arctic ecosystems that Indigenous peoples depend upon.
4. Western scientific knowledge and traditional ecological/environmental knowledge should be included in all future research/work/management decisions.
5. Existing cooperation among the states (monitoring and research); should be enhanced so that they cover the whole Arctic; i.e., the Arctic Council.
6. Implementation of the Indigenous Peoples concerns/matters built into all management systems/matters.
7. Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment – study of how shipping will affect Arctic waters (who owns the Arctic?).
8. Socio-economic Impact Assessments – via Arctic Council – to be completed by industry causing the impacts.
9. Holistic Approach – ecosystems, socio-economic, environmental and cultural.
10. Research should be done on predatory and invasive species.
11. Arctic Indigenous Peoples must be given the ability to participate in the industrial commercial fisheries.
12. Industrial commercial fishing must be stringently regulated with measures that will prevent over-fishing with mandatory fines to deter over-fishing.
13. Observers must be on all industrial commercial fishing vessels in the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions, and all measures to reduce bycatch must be implemented.