

**Goal 1 : All Alaskans have access to affordable, healthy (preferably local) foods.**

Objective 1d : Increase the number of Alaska institutions (e.g. hospitals, government agencies) participating in local, healthy and traditional food procurement.

**Priority Strategy 2 : Strengthen enforcement language in the Local Agricultural and Fisheries Products Preference Statute (AS 36.15.050), also known as the “Seven Percent” statute and Procurement Preference for State Agricultural and Fisheries Products (Sec. 29.71.040)**  
**Priority Production Focus : Promote increased local production of food in Alaska, including agriculture, fishing, subsistence, home-produced and home-processed foods.**

<b>Action Item</b> What is the concrete task or action need to carry us closer to achieving the strategy?	<b>Who</b> Who (person, organization, group) is responsible for this action? Who will lead the effort?	<b>When</b> When will it happen? Is there a deadline? Is this action item immediate, mid-range, long term?	<b>Cost + Resources</b> What resources will help you complete the action item: funding, staff? Is there a specific cost?	<b>Progress</b> What is success? How do we measure it? How are we doing? Are we succeeding?
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**PROCUREMENT STRATEGIES (ADDRESSING DEMAND)**

1	Recruit and convene group members to determine details of workplan	Group co-chairs All members	Summer 2012	Volunteer time Meeting space	Group members identified Group meeting (tentative) schedule determined Workplan task list determined
2	Train state procurement officers in 7% rule	Division of Ag (Amy P.) DCCED (Mike H.)	POs are trained annually	Travel to trainings	# of POs trained each year, Increase in # trained yearly
3	Conduct food safety workshops with farmers	Division of Ag (Amy P.) DEC (Mike H.) Ron Klein HACCP-certified instructor	Summer 2012	Marine Advisory Program Sanitation HACCP Produce Safety Alliance (national group)	At least one workshop per year

4	Develop method for education and outreach to private institutions	AFPC	Winter 2012 ( <i>allow for menu planning and planting changes</i> )	Travel costs	Increase in purchase of AK produce
5	Train producers and manufacturers how to scale up production and market to institutional buyers	Division of Ag (Amy P.) DCCED (Mike H.)	TBD Jan – Mar 2013 During existing meetings		Increased # of producers, fishers in the Product Preference Program
<b>PRODUCTION STRATEGIES (ADDRESSING SUPPLY)</b>					
6	Support policies that lower the cost of local food production, (e.g. lower fertilization costs, transportation support)	Legislative workgroup			
7	Take advantage of backhauls (identify) to address distribution challenges, bring costs down	Researchers and distributors (businesses) Fish model	3 years ( to 2014-2015)	Northland Services Crowley Marine Services Alaska Logistics LLC Lynden Transport?	Feasibility report for hauling one product between two locations
8	Incentivize purchase of local food			[NOTE: This should be a top priority of the new Food Working Group formed by governor ]	
9	Develop incentives for Alaska food producers to grow, raise more food to meet local demand	AK legislature Transportation providers		Is this an AFPC action?	

10	Develop increased processing capacity for food in Alaska at the local level (regulation review?)	CES / Marine Advisory Program DEC NRCS	Ongoing / immediate	Is this an AFPC action?	
11	Develop regionally-appropriate solutions for food production and storage (e.g. seed banks)			Is this an AFPC action?	
12	Improve distribution of Alaska-grown products (support a food hub)				
13					

## Implementation

### Notes for Final Revision of the Action Plan

These action plans are still in draft form, and require refinement from the group during their initial meeting(s). The Governing Board offers the following suggestions for finalizing this action plan to make it a feasible guideline for the next three years.

1. This action plan is designed around a specific strategy to accomplish one of the five goals in the AFPC Strategic Plan. The general timeline for this action plan is the next three years: 2012 – 2015. The scope and deadlines of specific action items should also follow this timeline.
2. Some of these action items are very large in scope and, as written now, not necessarily appropriate projects for the AFPC itself to take on. For each action item, consider carefully what role the AFPC and its workgroups can play to accomplish a goal: for example, the AFPC is not likely to establish a school garden or a food distribution hub, but can be influential in encouraging these activities or policy change to support them.
  - a. Highlighted action items in the text indicate specific tasks that the Governing Board had concerns about. Please re-consider these items by changing their scope or identifying the appropriate role for the AFPC to achieve the intended outcome.
3. The “WHO” column is a way to keep individuals accountable to their assigned tasks. Where possible, include individual names in this column, not just organization names, once a contact person is identified.
  - a. This group should further engage the seafood industry, as most of the items listed above focus on agriculture.
  - b. Other partners identified: Produce Safety Alliance (national group affiliated with USDA); Johanna Herron, conducting a food safety workshop with farmers in summer 2012
4. AFPC intends to collaborate with the Governor’s Working Group on food issues, when its agency representatives are called together. Where applicable, the workgroup should consider how the new Working Group of state agency representatives may be good partners to accomplish some of your identified actions, or what priorities the Working Group should take into account related to your goal area.
5. When considering action items, the workgroup should coordinate with the Governing Board and the Research workgroup to identify ways to measure their progress toward accomplishing the goal and objectives they are pursuing.
6. Because this action plan is a combination of AFPC Priority Strategy 2 and a more general focus on improving Production strategies in Alaska, it has been divided into Procurement (7% Rule, Strategy 2) actions and Production (increasing supply) actions. They are in chronological order with the intent to focus first on strengthening the potential market by promoting procurement opportunities, then focusing on the more difficult question of how to effectively increase the supply of Alaska-produced food.

### Current or Potential Members

1. Co-Chair(s): Bryce Wrigley and Mike Hanzuk
2. GB Liaison: Amy Pettit, with support from Danny Consenstein
3. Victoria Briggs
4. Hans Geier
5. Gracy Larson
6. Andrea Crow, UAA [suggested]
7. Tony Nakazawa, Cooperative Extension [suggested]

### Guidelines for Workgroups

1. Workgroups will be organized around each Action Plan, named according to their focus (e.g. School Programs Group, Production Group)

2. Workgroups will need to prioritize their action items, immediate need and/or greatest chance of early success
3. Workgroups should be facilitated by one or more group co-chairs
4. At least one Governing Board member will sit on every workgroup
  - a. This will make liaison between workgroup and AFPC as a whole easier
  - b. Board members can sit on more than one group, but required to be on at least one
  - c. Board members report back on workgroups' progress at monthly Board meetings
5. Workgroups should set a regular meeting schedule, monthly or as needed depending on the strategy and timing
  - a. Example, the Schools (Strategy 1) group may meet heavily during the school year, but be on hiatus during summer months
6. Workgroups will coordinate as needed to share information, resources and collaborate on tasks affecting multiple strategies
7. Workgroups will update the Action Plans accordingly as tasks are completed, objectives are met and the group determines new strategies to pursue

## **NOTES FROM PRODUCTION MEETING APRIL 5 – *These priorities could be incorporated into the Action Plan***

### **Production Workgroup**

#### **Items from Strategic Plan Related to Production Strategies**

1. Goal 1, Objective 1d. Strategy 1: Strengthen local 7% language and enforcement (procurement)
2. Goal 2: Alaska's food-related industries have a strong workforce and operate in a supportive business environment
  - 1) Objective 2b: Increase support for food-related business development in Alaska
    - i. Strategy 1: Advocate for small business food-related policies and incentives
3. Goal 4: Alaska' food system is more sustainable
  - 1) Objective 4a: Expand and protect food production capacity
    - i. Strategy 1: Advocate for fiscal and planning policies that protect the viability of land and water for agricultural production, wild food and seafood harvesting
    - ii. Strategy 2: Ensure that producers have adequate access to capital, technical assistance, or other necessary resources to support increased food production in Alaska
  - 2) Objective 4b: Improve the distribution system for getting Alaska food products from producer to end user (consumers, retailers, food service businesses, schools, etc.)
    - i. Strategy 1: Advocate for support to Alaska producers so that they can maximize production of inputs as well as food products
    - ii. Strategy 2: Promote online opportunities to connect consumers, producers and institutional buyers
    - iii. Strategy 3: Encourage cooperatives among food producers so they can more easily meet the demands of larger distributors, better meet wholesale orders, and provide a professional marketing front.
  - 3) Objective 4d: Increase Alaska food marketing.
    - i. Strategy 1: Educate Alaskans about the benefits of purchasing Alaska food products.
    - ii. Strategy 2: Encourage commodity marketing among food producers.
    - iii. Strategy 3: Build a marketing relationship between seafood (e.g. ASMI) and agriculture (e.g. Alaska Grown)

#### **Priorities**

1. Establish a local market (in-state)
2. Increase number of producers participating in Alaska Grown program
3. Support policy to help scale up small- to medium-sized farmers
4. Establish food cooperatives (buying, packing and shipping, retail)
  - a. Address barriers to cooperation, e.g. competition among farmers for limited market
  - b. Explore multi-product cooperative, with different non-competing products
5. Connect Quest, EBT programs to farmers' markets to broaden availability to low-income
6. Develop incentives for Alaska's food producers to grow and raise food that would:
  - a. Meet local demand and be valued locally
  - b. Store well in case of emergency
7. Develop in-state processing capabilities
  - a. Fish canning and processing
  - b. Sharing school kitchen facilities
8. Determine regionally-appropriate production strategies depending on the region, capacity, crops that would do well
9. Promote community gardens and micro-scale production in the community
  - a. Support and celebrate existing projects
  - b. Work in Alaska Native villages to teach community gardening skills
10. Connect with private institutions to increase local sourcing
  - a. Private companies are not subject to state procurement rules
  - b. Federal institutions are also not subject to state procurement rules, currently
11. Form an Advisory Council for the Division of Agriculture to recommend producer-friendly policy issues and programs
  - a. Examine current agricultural policies and barriers
  - b. Develop recommended policy changes and/or incentive programs
12. Work with Alaska Native tribes to use Native-owned lands for production and education opportunities for AKN youth
13. Reach out to population with enough income to make food choices beyond price, build more local demand "at the top" first
14. Work with Research and Community Engagement groups:
  - a. Develop economic analysis of benefits of locally-produced foods
  - b. Promote Alaska Grown program and local buying