

Local Catch Network Community Agreements

What are Community Agreements?

A consensus on what every person in our group needs from and commits to each other in this space in order to feel safe, supported, open, productive and trusting so that we can show up whole, work towards our common vision, and serve our community well.

Why do we have Community Agreements?

Some of the most critical conversations networks have can be challenging. Community agreements serve to create emotional safety and trust amongst the group.

Credit for context, definitions, community agreements, and prompting questions can be attributed to First Alaskans Institute, the National Equity Project, and Summit attendees.

- **Value each other's time and perspectives** - We share the responsibility to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to speak and engage in pertinent discussions. Each person engaging in the summit has a unique and valuable experience that is shaped by their age, race, gender, sexual orientation, and identity in the commercial fishing/seafood community (and the world).
- **Be present, engaged, and inclusive** - Uplift matriarchal, decentralized, marginalized, and oppressed leadership and voices. Make space for all voices to be heard.
- **Take space/make space** - If you are usually quiet, challenge yourself to take more space, and if you are usually robust, be mindful to allow room for quieter voices. Value active listening as a form of participation.
- **Be mindful and collaborative** - Come together to identify common goals and focus energy on developing relationships with others in this shared space.
- **Avoid jargon, acronyms, and industry language** - Use inclusive language that is accessible for people with varying inside knowledge.
- **Speak from your own experience** - Use I statements rather than generalizations.
- **Be respectful of privacy** - Any notes taken will not disclose the identity of the speaker. Breakout sessions will not be recorded. What is shared in discussion stays here unless folks consent to information being shared beyond the group.
- **Take care of yourself and your peers** - Take breaks, stretch your legs, get some fresh air. Summit goers are welcome to move freely and are encouraged to step away when needed. Check in on your peers and help one another when possible.
- **No one person knows everything** - Together we know a lot.
- **Stay open-minded** - When you feel furious, get curious. As much as you can, practice good faith and give people the benefit of the doubt.
- **Allow room for learning** - Allow people and things to be imperfect, incomplete, and in the process of growing and learning.
- **Be yourself** - Come as you are and help create a space where everyone can be their authentic self.

