



Indigenous-led Land Planning in the North: A Virtual Series to Share Stories, Experiences, Ideas, and Knowledge

The Northwest Boreal Partnership is working with an Indigenous Steering Committee to host a virtual series in 2021 focused on land planning efforts led and informed by Indigenous communities and entities in Alaska and western Canada.

This topic is extremely timely as more First Nations, Alaska Native tribes, and Indigenous entities are creating and implementing land relationship plans that build off traditional (historical) land use and are based in Indigenous ways and values. It also serves as an opportunity to integrate more collaborative, equitable and environmentally sustainable approaches into western-based approaches to land use planning.

The series is part of a broader effort to bridge conversations among representatives across Alaska and western Canada from Indigenous communities and governments, academic researchers, land-owning entities such as Native corporations, and government agencies.

With this series we hope to:

- Inspire and share successes around options and strategies when expanding beyond western approaches to land planning and leading with Indigenous approaches
- Support those already working on Indigenous approaches to planning through new ideas and connections
- Make connections across Alaska and Canada to build new relationships around shared lands and shared values
- Ultimately, support planning for healthy, vibrant lands to sustain us

Potential topics to explore:

- Indigenous Worldviews: coming to a better understanding of Indigenous knowledge, methods and worldviews
- Alaskan and Canadian Context for Land Planning: similarities and differences in how land claims and history affect present-day planning. Explore indigenous-led projects working to respond to challenges and opportunities
- What does Indigenous-led land planning look like? Sharing stories of real-world examples

- Shifting from western-based approaches to valuing and integrating Indigenous methods and ways into land planning processes: stories, insights, and lessons learned
- How can land planning be a tool to support Indigenous communities as they respond to climate change?

Intended audience:

- Those who manage land and resources in Alaska, Yukon, British Columbia and Northwest Territories, including but not limited to:
 - First Nations, tribes, and other Indigenous governments and communities
 - Indigenous corporations and non-profit organizations
 - Land and resource management boards
 - Land planning boards
 - Government agencies
- Those who are engaged in land planning activities, including but not limited to:
 - Indigenous knowledge holders
 - Scientists/researchers
 - Policy experts
 - Community and regional leaders

Who is the Northwest Boreal Partnership?

The Northwest Boreal Partnership (NWBP) is a collaboration of diverse individuals and organizations supporting healthy lands and communities across interior Alaska and northwestern Canada. The Partnership:

- Envisions a future where northern lands, waters and ways of life are sustained for generations
- Brings together knowledge, science and understanding to help decision-makers and communities adapt to environmental change
- Collaborates across the international border, spanning from interior Alaska to the Yukon, northern British Columbia and Northwest Territories, and
- Fosters interactive networks to share information and ideas, collaborate on projects and build relationships.

More info at www.northwestboreal.org