



Introduction to the Inclusive Conservation Executive Committee

What is the Inclusive Conservation project?

This research project aims to develop a more inclusive approach to balancing multiple community visions for protected area management. We are particularly interested in understanding residents' preferences for future growth of the region surrounding Denali National Park and Preserve. Our goal is to open up a dialogue about social and environmental change happening around Denali using a range of scientific tools and community engagement processes. We are also committed to developing strategies for the stakeholders of Denali to be better positioned for achieving their goals. This is a five-year project (2018-2022) funded by the National Park Service, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the National Science Foundation through the Belmont Forum.

What is the Executive Committee for Inclusive Conservation in the Denali Region?

The Executive Committee is a group of stakeholders that represent a diversity of perspectives on visions for the future of the region surrounding Denali National Park and Preserve. The members of this group will help our research team understand different interests that govern the region surrounding Denali and provide feedback for maintaining the relevancy of our research outcomes. This group will be engaged to understand the impacts of various policies options and approaches for supporting resource management and human well-being tied to the region. There will be representation from local government, education, environmental management, Alaska Native Corporations, industry, local businesses, and state agencies.

What functions will it have?

Members of the Committee will be invited to:

1. Provide guidance to the project team throughout the research process. Members will be asked to come together approximately two times per year in-person and/or through the Zoom platform.
2. Advise on and review research instruments, including a survey questionnaire, policy toolkit, and short film to enhance the relevance and usefulness of these documents and outcomes.
3. Participate in a 'Summit' in late September 2020 where the aims will be to discuss the social and ecological consequences of different community visions for protected area management. This event will be held in Denali National Park and Preserve and attended by the Committee, alongside a consortium of researchers working with other local communities surrounding Kromme Rijn and Utrechtse Heuvelrug regions (The Netherlands), Sierra de Guarrama National Park (Spain), Västra Harg nature reserve (Sweden) and Denali National Park and Preserve (United States).
4. Help shape and promote the vision of inclusive conservation in the Denali Region and its deliverables throughout their professional networks.

What are the benefits of being involved?

Access will be provided to the results that emerge from our research, which may inform local and regional policy and planning. Involvement in the Committee will also provide opportunities for knowledge-sharing and exchange between different organizations, as well as networking through discussions about the opportunities and constraints facing protected area management. Participation will be critically important for keeping research with communities around Denali National Park and Preserve transparent, relevant, and effective.