

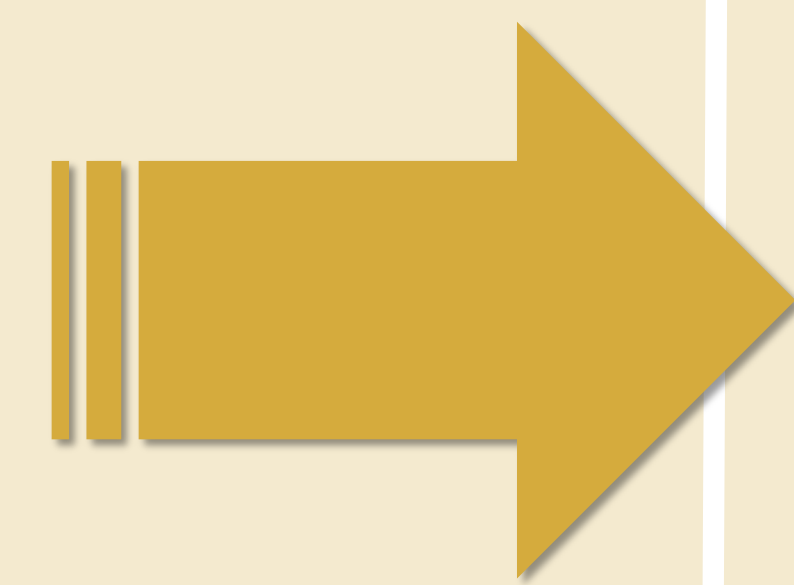
Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions

Creating Research Strategies Focused on the Well-Being of Indigenous Communities

Sustainability Problem

Changing research strategies to support the well-being of Indigenous communities by:

- Recognizing that past harms require a tangible shift of research authority to Indigenous Peoples.
- Providing institutional support for Indigenous research methods, knowledge systems, and sovereignty.
- Centering traditional forms and protocols of Wabanaki decision-making that emphasize participation, reciprocity, generosity, and the time it requires to build trusting relationships.



Team and Partners

Team Leaders:

- Darren Ranco
- John Daigle
- Tony Sutton
- Bridie McGreavy

Graduate Students:

- Natalie Michelle, Suzanne Greenlaw, Tyler Everett, Jason Brough, tish carr, Keyana Pardilla, Krissa Davis

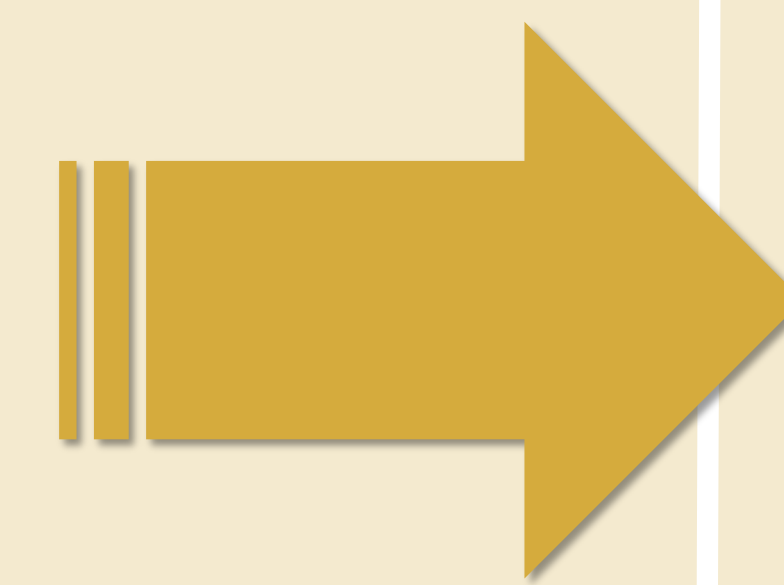


Undergraduate Students:

- 18 Indigenous Research Internships over the last 7 years

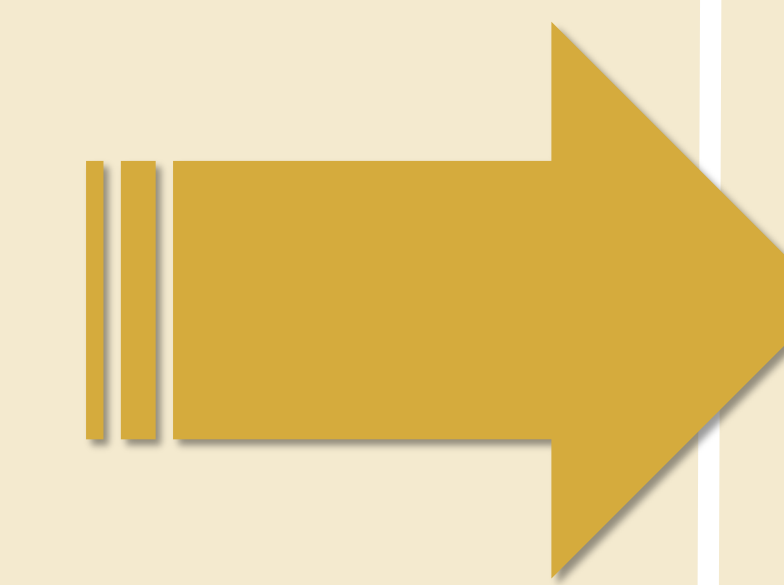
Key Partners:

- Wabanaki Nations
- Wabanaki Youth in Science (WaYS) Program



Solutions Approach

- Creating Memoranda of Understanding to protect Indigenous heritage, developing Indigenous Language Signage to foster reconciliation.
- Conducting research in service of Wabanaki Nation needs on the emerald ash borer and other invasive species, the future of dams, shellfish harvesting, climate change adaptation, food sovereignty, land return, and ecological restoration.
- Employing etuaptmunk or “two-eyed seeing” – which draws upon the strengths of Indigenous Knowledges, as well as Western knowledges – in a mentoring program for Wabanaki youth.



How Our Work Is Making a Difference

- Our team has established university best-practices to ensure long-term ownership of research data by Indigenous communities.
- Our team co-leads one of the world's largest research centers focused on supporting Indigenous Knowledge.
- We have developed state-of-the-art training programs to ensure that future scientists are able to support Indigenous communities as they conduct their research.

