

Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources

Strategic Plan (2019-2025)

The Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources (HDNR) at Colorado State University (CSU) is well positioned to meet complex challenges of natural resource management with a growing global population. We do this through understanding and attending to the needs and values of humans, human society, and culture as they relate to the conservation and enjoyment of the natural environment. Our success requires a careful and comprehensive planning process that is aligned with the priorities of Colorado State University and the collective aspirations of faculty, staff, students, and upper administration in the Warner College of Natural Resources (WCNR).

We conduct research, outreach, and teaching in the area of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and prepare students for careers in conservation leadership and nature-based tourism. HDNR has more than 90 years of collaborative research in parks and protected areas and contributes to informed decision making while conveying a broad-based understanding of the way humans' value, use and depend on the natural environment.

This strategic planning document is the culmination of engaged conversations with a group of committed HDNR leadership, faculty (tenure and non-tenure track) and staff. It outlines the strategic direction and priorities for HDNR over the next seven years. This direction is reflected in the mission, vision, and value statements put forth in the following document. These statements, in turn, are the primary lens through which our goals are identified, set, and operationalized.

Comments and inquiries about this strategic planning document should be directed to the Department Head of the Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources.

Mission

A mission is an organization's most fundamental reason for being. It is the idealistic motivation and is never completed – it should last 100 years. Like a guiding star on the horizon, it will forever be pursued but never reached. A mission's primary purpose is to guide and inspire.

We exist to...

Empower people to explore and sustain their world

Vision

A vision is an optimistic peak at the future that challenges the status quo. It offers an ideal and unique image of what could be while differentiating oneself from others. It is not a specific goal, plan, target, or milestone over a fixed period of time, but an indefinite aspiration.

We will...

Re-imagine learning and discovery to benefit people and the natural world

Values

Values are a handful of guiding principles by which an organization navigates. They remain true to these regardless of external environment and they are the essential and enduring tenets of an organization. As a timeless set of core principles they have intrinsic value and great importance to those inside the organization. Values represent how an organization will conduct itself and ultimately answers the question of, how do we want to treat others and how do we want to be treated ourselves? As engaged US and global citizens and proud principle centered members of the CSU community we operate accordingly out of our values.

We believe in...

Integrity – Choose what's right, not what's easy

Impact – Make a difference

Diversity – Respect and connect communities

Innovation – Take risks, be creative, transform

Sustainability – Act responsibly for people and the planet

Well-being – Cultivate wellness and balance in life

Core

A core statement identifies the components that are essential to an organization. It considers business segments, markets, products and their categories. Further, it identifies the space in which an organization “plays” and what it is best at.

We are centered around...

Interdisciplinary learning and discovery in tourism and conservation.

Competitive Differentiation

Competitive differentiation is centered on the strategic positioning of an organization’s products, services and brands. More specifically, what sets an organization apart from our competitors? Further what can the organization leverage to not only compete, but to win within the space they occupy?

We are committed to...

1. Seeking **INNOVATIVE** ways to educate future leaders and solve complex issues
2. Leveraging our **ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT** to identify and fund breakthrough ideas
3. Providing **SOCIAL SCIENCE TRANS-DISCIPLINARY LEADERSHIP**
4. Building upon **CSU’s OUTSTANDING BRAND** in nature-based learning and discovery
5. Leading **COLLABORATION**
6. Valuing **DIVERSE** worldviews and knowledge systems

Overarching Strategic Goals for The Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources

We will prioritize and measure our...

Diversity
Transformative Discovery
Curricular Excellence
Student Impact
Community Wellness