

# Mobilizing Data and Information to Support Vibrant and Resilient Arctic Communities

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# Overview

Resilience of What for Whom?

Need a lot more groundwork with 'end users'  
before meaningful progress is made

Indigenous peoples need a place at the table and  
the capacity to engage

# Indigenous Data Sovereignty

The Authority of a People to Govern Their Information

Context and History Matter



The screenshot shows the top portion of a website. At the top left, the text reads "US Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network" in a large, dark blue font, with "Hosted by the Native Nations Institute at the University of Arizona" in a smaller, grey font below it. To the right of this text is a search bar with the word "SEARCH" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar is a horizontal navigation menu with the following items: "HOME", "MEMBERSHIP", "SPOTLIGHT", "RESOURCES", "JOIN THE NETWORK", "ABOUT US", and "CONTACT US". The main content area below the navigation menu features a decorative border at the top consisting of a row of red and yellow squares, followed by a row of blue and yellow squares. The main text in this area is white and reads: "The United States Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network (USIDSN) helps ensure that data for and about Indigenous nations and peoples in the US (American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians) are utilized to advance Indigenous aspirations for collective and individual wellbeing." The background of this text area is dark grey with a pattern of small, colorful squares.

**US Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network**  
Hosted by the Native Nations Institute at the University of Arizona

SEARCH

[HOME](#) [MEMBERSHIP](#) [SPOTLIGHT](#) [RESOURCES](#) [JOIN THE NETWORK](#) [ABOUT US](#) [CONTACT US](#)

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# Challenges to Data Sovereignty

- Who in the community gets to decide what data are shared and how?
- Trust building is difficult given the long colonial history of interactions between academics and Indigenous communities in the Arctic, as well as the long history of data misuse.
- It is expensive and time-consuming compared to other cyberinfrastructure / data-intensive projects that focus solely on technical development of flashy products. ***That is, there will not be a single solution or standard for data addressing 'Arctic community resilience'***











According to Indigenous peoples,  
the incorrect data and metrics are  
being collected, restricting  
effective decision-making by Arctic  
Communities

# ELOKA Mission Statement

ELOKA fosters collaboration between resident Arctic experts and visiting researchers to facilitate the collection, preservation, exchange, and use of local observations and Indigenous knowledge of the Arctic. ELOKA provides data management and user support to Indigenous communities to ensure their data and knowledge are managed, visualized, and shared in an ethical manner in order to work toward information and data sovereignty for Arctic residents.

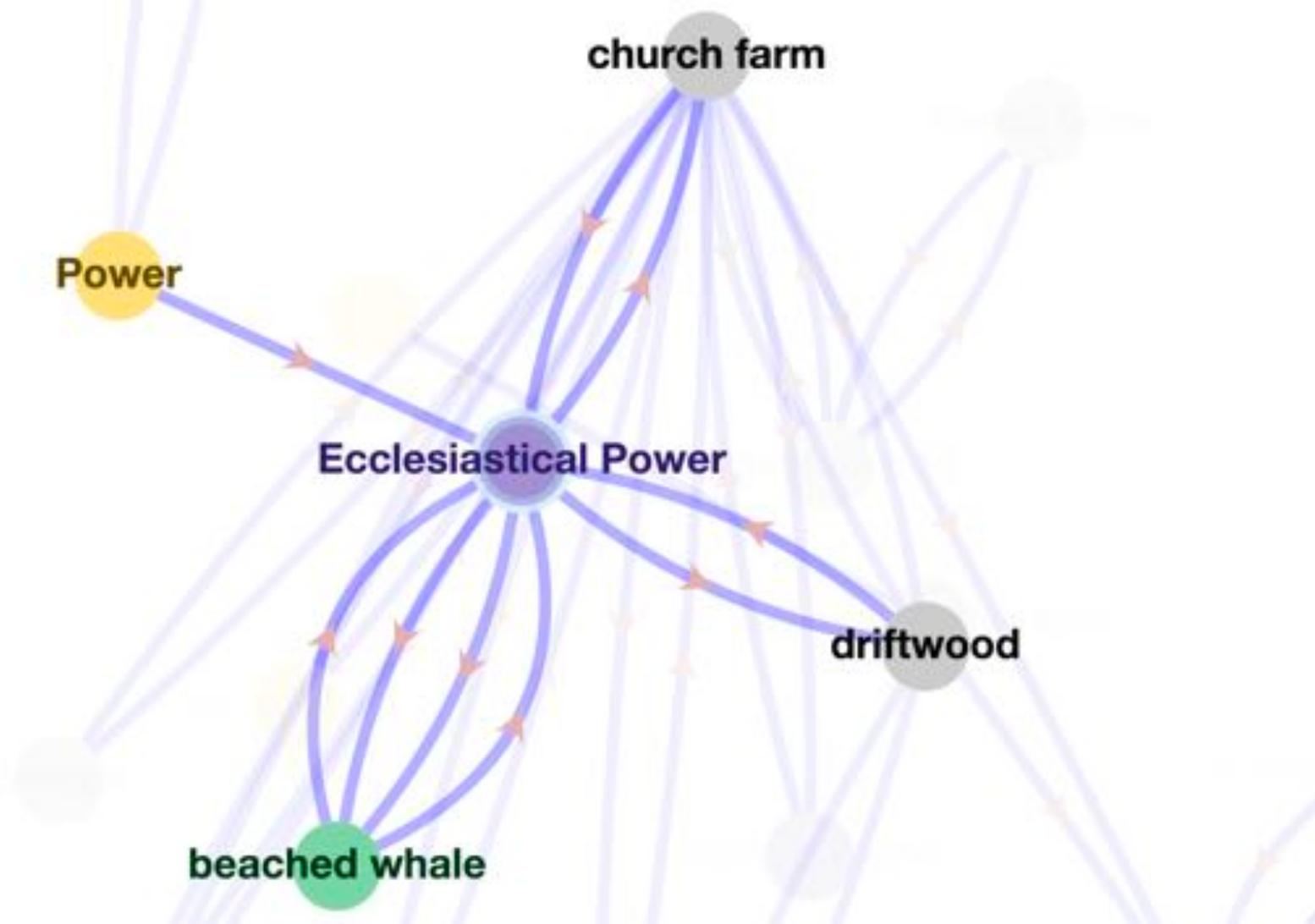


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**ARCTIC**  
HORIZONS



**FINAL REPORT**

# In Sum

Important to ensure that Arctic community voices are included in the discussion and decisions made around infrastructure

The conversation around social science and Indigenous data is NOT just about confidentiality and privacy

Power Dynamics need to be considered, and often Arctic communities need their own spaces to come together before engaging the wider community

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