

**BECS Virtual Spring Webinar**  
**Aligning Co-Production of Environmental Knowledge with Trust, Justice, and Equity**  
**Monday, July 12, 2021**  
**Panelist and Moderator Bios**

**Panel 1: Research and Best Practices of Co-production**

**Maria Carmen Lemos**

Maria Carmen Lemos' broad research interests are related to climate adaptation and the role of knowledge in building adaptive capacity. She is particularly interested in understanding: (a) the co-production of science and decision-making and the creation of actionable knowledge; (b) the intersection between development and climate, especially concerning the relationship between anti-poverty programs and risk management; (c) the use of climate information in building adaptive capacity in different sectors (e.g. drought planning, water management, agriculture, and urban planning); and (d) the impact of technocratic decision-making on issues of democracy and equity.

Lemos was a lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC-AR5) and the Fourth US National Climate Assessment (NCA4), contribute to IPCC-AR4, and has served in a number of the US National Research Council of the National Academies of Sciences committees including Restructuring Federal Climate Research to Meet the Challenges of Climate Change (2007 and 2009), America Climate Choice Science Panel (2010) and the Board on Environmental Change and Society (2008-2014) and the Council Committee to Advise the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP)—(2011-13).

**Julie Maldonado**

Dr. Julie Maldonado is the Associate Director for the Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network (LiKEN), a non-profit, link-tank for policy-relevant research toward post-carbon livelihoods and communities. In this capacity, she serves as co-director of the Rising Voices Center for Indigenous and Earth Sciences, which facilitates intercultural, relational-based approaches for understanding and adapting to extreme weather and climate change. Dr. Maldonado is a lecturer in the University of California-Santa Barbara's Environmental Studies Program, and also collaborates with the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals' Tribes and Climate Change Program to support tribes' climate change adaptation and hazard mitigation planning. As a public anthropologist, Julie has consulted for the United Nations Development Programme and World Bank on resettlement, post-disaster needs assessments, and climate change. She worked for the US Global Change Research Program and is an author on the 3rd and 4th US National Climate Assessments. Her recent book, *Seeking Justice in an Energy Sacrifice Zone: Standing on Vanishing Land in Coastal Louisiana*, emerged from years of collaborative work with Tribal communities in coastal Louisiana experiencing and responding to repeat disasters and climate chaos. The book was released shortly before the release of her co-edited volume, *Challenging the Prevailing Paradigm of Displacement and Resettlement: Risks, Impoverishment, Legacies, Solutions*.

**Gregg Garfin**

Gregg Garfin, Ph.D. (University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona), is Associate Professor and Associate Extension Specialist in the University of Arizona's School of Natural Resources and the Environment, where he directs the Water, Society & Policy M.S. Program. He serves as Director for Science Translation and Outreach in the Arizona Institutes for Resilience and as University Director of the USGS-funded Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center. He is affiliated faculty in the University of Arizona's School of Geography, Development and Environment, Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research, and Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy.

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He has worked for the last 21 years to bridge the science-society interface, through dialogues and collaborative projects among scientists and decision-makers. His research interests include climate variability and change, preparedness and planning for climate-related hazards, and climate change adaptation. He is co-editor of *Climate in Context: Science and Society Partnering for Adaptation*, a 2016 book on the development and practice of the co-production of science and policy. He served as co-convening lead author for the Southwest chapter in the 2014 and 2018 National Climate Assessments. In 2020, he was named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (Section on Societal Impacts of Science and Engineering).

**Mike Dockry**

Mike Dockry is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with traditional territories around Lake Michigan and contemporary tribal lands in Central Oklahoma. Mike is an Assistant Professor of tribal natural resource management at the University of Minnesota in the Department of Forest Resources and an affiliate faculty member of the American Indian Studies Department. His interdisciplinary research and teaching focus on incorporating Indigenous knowledge into forestry and natural resource management. His work supports tribal sovereignty and addresses tribal environmental issues. Mike is a nationally recognized expert in tribal forestry, tribal relations, and building tribal partnerships. He earned a B.S. in Forest Science from the University of Wisconsin, an M.S. in Forest Resources from Penn State University and a Ph.D. in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin.

**Margaret Redsteer**

Dr. Margaret Redsteer is an internationally known climate change scientist, conservationist, and an important voice for culturally competent science. As an assistant professor, she inspires young scientists in environment, climate change adaptation and Earth systems sciences. She previously led a 20-year career with the U.S. Geological Survey addressing environmental issues on Native American tribal lands.

Dr. Redsteer interleaves geomorphologic, climatologic, and ecologic data with investigations of land use history and policy in her research. She focuses on the consequences of global change as reflected by interactions of landscape processes, changing vegetation communities, and climate and their consequences for marginalized populations. Incorporating Indigenous knowledge from tribal elders about the changes they have observed aids her research by elucidating the effects of increasing aridity in poorly monitored regions of the U.S. This research communicates the relevance of ecosystem change to the livelihoods of those who are most vulnerable.

Dr. Redsteer was the recipient of the Oregon State University Distinguished Alumni Award (2020), the Montana State University Ordinary Extraordinary Women award (2019) and the Eugene Shoemaker Science Communication Award (2018). She also received the SAIGE (Society of American Indian Government Employees) Leadership award in 2013, while employed at the Department of Interior. She received a Ph.D. in geochemistry in 1999, an M.S. in Earth sciences in 1994, and a B.S. in geology in 1989.

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**Panel 2: Building Trust, Justice, and Equity into Co-production Research**

**Louie Rivers**

Louie Rivers is an associate professor in the School of Forestry and Environmental Resources at North Carolina State University. His work focuses on the examination of risk and judgment and decision process in minority and frontline communities, particularly in regards to the natural environment. He received his PhD from The Ohio State University with a focus on risk perception and decision making in regards to the natural environment.

**Nicole Herman-Mercer**

Nicole Herman-Mercer is a Research Social Scientist in the Water Resources Mission Area of the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) located in Denver Colorado. Nicole earned a master's degree in Social Science from the University of Colorado, Denver. Nicole's research focuses on the impacts of climate change on Indigenous social systems in the Yukon River Basin of Alaska and Canada as well as the use of participatory methods to integrate Indigenous and western ways of knowing to develop data and information to assist Indigenous communities in preparing for and adapting to the impacts of climate change. This includes co-managing a community-based water quality and permafrost monitoring program with the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council, the Indigenous Observation Network, which she and her USGS colleagues were awarded a James R. Balsley Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer in 2019. Nicole is currently Co-Principal Investigator for a National Science Foundation Navigating the New Arctic project, the Arctic Rivers Project, where she and the project team are working closely with an Indigenous Advisory Council to guide the project and work in a co-production of knowledge framework.

**Maija Lukin**

Maija Katak Lukin, Inupiaq, was born in Kotzebue and raised on the shores of Cape Krusenstern National Monument at Sisualik, Ak. She is the granddaughter of the late Doc and Katak Harris of Sisualik and Floyd and M. Hazel Johnson of Chickaloon, AK and the daughter of Willie and Jennie Johnson of Sisualik and Chickaloon.

She is the former Tribal Environmental Manager for Maniilaq Association, representing 12 tribes in northwest Alaska. She is also the former Mayor of the City of Kotzebue. In her last position with the National Park Service, Lukin served as the superintendent at the National Park Service's Western Arctic National Parklands. The parks include over 9.2 million acres of federal public land in three parks in Northwest Alaska: Cape Krusenstern National Monument, Kobuk Valley National Park and Noatak National Preserve. She recently took a position in the Alaska Regional Office as the Alaska Native Tribal Affairs Program Manager and now works with the Federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native Corporations of Alaska on issues related to their ancestral lands in and near National Parks across Alaska's landscape.

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**Michael A. Mendez**

Michael Anthony Mendez is an assistant professor of environmental policy and planning at the University of California, Irvine. He previously was the inaugural James and Mary Pinchot Faculty Fellow in Sustainability Studies at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. He has more than a decade of senior-level experience in the public and private sectors, where he consulted and actively engaged in the policymaking process. This included working for the California State Legislature as a senior consultant, lobbyist, gubernatorial appointee, and as vice chair of the Sacramento City Planning Commission. During his time at UC Irvine and Yale, Dr. Mendez has contributed to state and national research policy initiatives, including serving as an advisor to a California Air Resources Board member, and as a participant of the U.S. Global Change Research Program's workgroup on "Climate Vulnerability and Social Science Perspectives". Most recently, he was appointed by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to the Board on Environmental Change and Society (BECS). He also serves as a panel reviewer for the National Academies of Sciences' Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP). His research on the intersection of climate change and communities of color has been featured in national publications including Urban Land (published by the Urban Land Institute); the Natural Resources Defense Fund Annual Report; the American Planning Association's Planning Magazine; Green 2.0: Leadership at Work; USA Today; and Fox Latino News. His new book "Climate Change from the Streets", published through Yale University Press (2020), is an urgent and timely story of the contentious politics of incorporating environmental justice into global climate change policy. He holds three degrees in environmental planning and policy, including a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley's Department of City and Regional Planning, and a graduate degree from MIT.