



Next 100 Coalition National Summit
May 4-5, 2018 | Las Vegas, NV
Event Summary

On May 4-5, 2018, the Next 100 Coalition convened 100 participants from across the country in Las Vegas for a national summit to discuss and construct a strategic policy agenda to address attacks on access and protections of public lands while growing the diverse partnerships necessary to promote and implement a more equitable and inclusive public lands and conservation system.

The summit began by honoring the Southern Paiute lands on which participants had gathered. The first day featured remarks from Coalition members and partners about how they came to conservation; reflections on how to work together to create a more equitable, just, and inclusive public lands and conservation agenda; discussion about the shared values that underpin all of the Coalition's work; and breakout discussions focused on elements of the policy agenda and its implementation, including workforce diversity, access, stakeholder engagement in public lands decision making, collaboration with NGOs and outdoor companies, and local, state, and federal policy opportunities. The first day concluded with affinity group conversations, during which summit participants gathered to informally discuss topics of their choice, such as confronting anti-blackness, mental health and the outdoors, and conservation communications.

On the second day of the summit, participants welcomed Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, who spoke to the group and then participated in a panel discussion with Coalition members. She stressed the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in public lands management, particularly highlighting the public health and economic benefits of those spaces and the need for greater access to those opportunities for underserved communities. She spoke to the need for a more diverse public lands workforce. She also emphasized the need for more youth development and internship programs to build the pipeline for tomorrow's conservation and public lands workforce and entrepreneurs.

The summit concluded with a roundtable for local youth and Senator Cortez Masto and a discussion of takeaways among the plenary group.

The event energized participants around a public lands and conservation policy agenda that emphasizes the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The summit's discussions addressed the importance of involving more young people in these conversations, building relationships with tribal groups and leaders, more clearly defining the terms in this space, storytelling, developing best practices for various elements of the policy agenda, and generally moving from transactional relationship to relationships based on common values.

The Next 100 Coalition is in the process of refining the policy agenda based on summit discussions and developing a statement of shared values that Coalition members and partners can agree to uphold. In coming weeks, the Coalition will share these documents and establish a structure for continued communication among the summit participants and other interested groups.

Photographs from the summit are available [here](#). Read the Coalition's statement following the conference [here](#).