

ACES 2016 Tuesday Lunch Town Hall
December 6, 2016 | 11:45am-12:50pm | Grand Ballroom 1

Title: Where Natural Capital Meets Conservation Finance

Description:

In this interactive town hall discussion, come explore key concepts and emerging trends in conservation finance. Our goal is to build a shared understanding of where science and finance collide, and to highlight the sorts of conservation opportunities that may be appropriate for private sector funding. The session will offer practical advice on how conservationists and scientists may effectively engage with investors.

Town Hall Discussion:

The town hall discussion will explore a number of questions relating to the intersection of natural capital and conservation finance:

1. What is conservation finance?
2. Why is the intersection of conservation finance and natural capital an emerging opportunity worth tracking?
3. What are some illustrative case studies of what conservation looks like when it is done well?
4. What are some of the challenges and barriers to scaling conservation finance?
5. What emerging trends are worth paying attention to?
6. What do people mean when they describe the 'layering' of capital? Why is it so hard to do in reality?
7. Where can scientists thinking about natural capital engage?

Session Agenda:

- 10 minutes of introductory remarks by moderators Leigh Whelpton and Eric Hallstein
- 50 minute facilitated town hall discussion

Audience:

The target audience is every discipline represented at ACES. Finance is an integral part of the ecosystem services community and key to implementation.

Conference themes:

The conference theme is linking science, practice and decision making with a goal of having a dialogue across the many disciplines of ACES attendees with a focus on implementation.

Speakers

Leigh Whelpton is the Program Director of the Conservation Finance Network (CFN), which aims to accelerate the pace and scale of land and resource conservation, restoration, and stewardship by expanding the use of innovative funding and financing strategies. By training, convening, and supporting a growing network of public, private, and nonprofit professionals, CFN helps to increase the financial resources deployed for conservation.

Eric Hallstein is the Chief Economist and Director of Conservation Investments for The Nature Conservancy of California, where he leads the chapter's work in conservation finance, environmental economics and the acquisition, management and disposition of conservation assets (e.g. real estate, commercial fishing quotas, carbon credits and water rights).

Organizer Contact Information

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