

# THE CONSERVATION FUND



**The Conservation Fund harnesses and drives market forces to strengthen our nation's green economy, protect natural resources and stimulate economic vitality.** Through a collection of strategic programs, we are helping pioneer new models of conservation working for America.

## Programs

### Natural Capital Investment Fund

We help entrepreneurs expand small to mid-sized, locally-owned businesses through financing and technical assistance to create lasting jobs and community wealth, while using natural resources responsibly. Our borrowers conserve energy and water, build local food systems, find creative outlets for recycled materials and provide essential services to distressed communities.

### Working Forest Fund

With our dedicated source of conservation capital and timberland expertise, we acquire, restore, sustainably manage and permanently protect threatened forests with high conservation value. Our working forests provide clean air and water, wildlife habitat and economic benefits for communities across America.

### North Coast (California) Forest Conservation Program

As one of the nation's most experienced forest carbon offset developers, we own and responsibly manage more than 74,000 acres of redwood and Douglas-fir forest along California's north coast. Spanning more than 25 miles across Mendocino and Sonoma counties, sustainable timber production here contributes to the local timber economy through light touch harvests, and forest and stream restoration projects to improve water quality and aquatic habitat.

### Business Partnerships

We believe that business and conservation are strongest when they work together. The Fund partners with businesses to advance social responsibility and sustainability priorities. Together, we craft innovative conservation solutions with each company to achieve its unique brand and business goals.

## Our Impact

# \$34M

invested in green entrepreneurs in 208 small businesses, creating and retaining more than 3,380 American jobs

# \$50M

raised through carbon sales to address climate change by protecting and restoring America's forests

# 500K+

acres of forests permanently protected and more than 10 million trees planted for water, land and habitat restoration

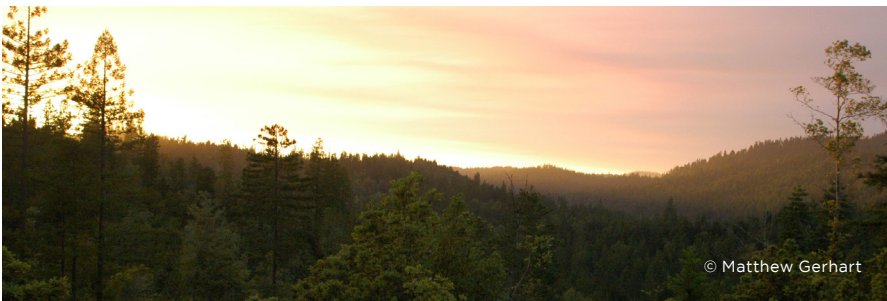
## Projects at a Glance



**Creating Local Food Jobs in West Virginia.** The Value Chain Cluster (VC2) Initiative provides hands-on business development and coaching services to strengthen local food and farm businesses in four regions of West Virginia. VC2 creates jobs by investing in one of the state's most promising industries: the production, processing, aggregation and distribution of local food. The core strategy of the program is to build profitable, equitable supply chains that create jobs by moving more local food from farm to table.



**Creating Georgia's First Community Forest.** In the coastal flatwoods of Georgia, the Fund partnered with McIntosh SEED, a local nonprofit, to acquire 1,148 acres of land and create the state's first community forest. This precedent-setting acquisition involved rural community leaders, landowners of color, faith groups, conservation groups and the U.S. Department of Defense. McIntosh SEED's board and staff engaged community members in developing a master plan that blends economic development, cultural preservation, landowner education, recreation, and environmental protection and restoration.



**Protecting Redwood Forests on California's North Coast.** After decades of aggressive timber harvesting left this redwood region battered, we forged a new model to protect and restore these iconic lands: sustainable forestry and the sale of verified carbon offsets. All of our high-quality carbon projects are real, verifiable, permanent and additional—and developed with careful consideration of climate and community benefits. All told, carbon finance from voluntary and compliance buyers has helped raise more than \$50 million to address climate change by protecting and restoring America's forests

*“The Natural Capital Investment Fund’s mission of growth funding for companies that have a positive impact on conservation, the outdoor recreation industry and the local community is unique. They took the time to truly understand our business and structure a loan that makes sense for our stage of development.”*

**Martin Bawden**

Founder and CEO

Flymen Fishing Company

## About The Conservation Fund

At The Conservation Fund, we make conservation work for America. By creating solutions that make environmental and economic sense, we are redefining conservation to demonstrate its essential role in our future prosperity. Top-ranked for efficiency and effectiveness, we have worked in all 50 states since 1985 to protect nearly 8 million acres of land.

### Evan Smith

**Senior Vice President**

**Conservation Ventures**

[esmith@conservationfund.org](mailto:esmith@conservationfund.org)

503-407-0301

1655 N. Fort Myer Drive, Suite 1300

Arlington, VA 22209-3199

[conservationfund.org/what-we-do](https://conservationfund.org/what-we-do)