

Conservation Finance Roundtable

April 19-20th | Gleacher Center | Chicago, IL

Agenda

Meetup for Early Arrivals, 5:30-7pm on Tuesday April 18th: Please join friends and colleagues for a casual meetup (cash bar) at [Crushed by Giants](#), 600 N Michigan Ave 2nd Floor.

Day 1 – Wednesday April 19th

8:00-9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00-9:15	Welcome & Introductions Leigh Whelpton, Julia Mettler-Grove, and Mary Powers , <i>The Conservation Finance Network</i> ; David Nafzger , <i>Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers</i>
9:15-9:45	Keynote: Bryan Van Stippen , <i>National Indian Carbon Coalition</i>
9:45-10:45	Session 1 – Natural Climate Solutions and Forest Resilience Moderator: Peter Stein , <i>The Lyme Timber Company</i> Panelists: Matthew Jagnow , <i>American Forest Foundation</i> ; Gordon Vermeer , <i>Blue Forest Conservation</i> ; Lydia Scott , <i>Morton Arboretum</i>
10:45-11:15	Break
11:15-12:15	Session 2 – Federal Agency Updates Moderator: Leigh Whelpton , <i>The Conservation Finance Network</i> Panelists: Cassie Adams <i>US Cooperative Forestry</i> ; Kristin Thomasgard , <i>Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program</i> ; Russell Ames , <i>USDA NRCS</i>
12:15-1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30-2:30	Session 3 – Innovation Roundup: New Projects & Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Grace Edinger, “Purchasing Environmental Progress”● Maggie Monast, update on Environmental Defense Fund and Farmers Business Network Regenerative Agriculture Finance Fund● Daniel Openheimer, Camp Bullis Sentinel Landscape● Sam Schiller, Carbon Yield● Zach Knight and Gordon Vermeer, Blue Forest Conservation, California Wildfire Innovation Fund
2:30-3:00	Break
3:00-4:00	Session 4 – New Horizons in Natural Infrastructure Finance Moderator: Tee Thomas , <i>Quantified Ventures</i> Presenters: Bre Plier , <i>Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District</i> ; Nicole Chavas , <i>Greenprint Partners</i> ; Matthew Carney , <i>Quantified Ventures</i>
4:00-5:00	Session 5 – Climate Smart Commodity Updates Moderator: Maggie Monast , <i>Environmental Defense Fund</i> Panelists: Julius Pasay , <i>The Climate Trust</i> ; Andi Colnes , <i>New England Forestry Foundation</i> ; Tomie Peterson , <i>Intertribal Agriculture Council</i>
5:30-7:00	Reception: Hubbard Inn , 110 W Hubbard St.

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Day 2 – Thursday April 20th

8:15-9:15 a.m.	Coffee Service
9:15-10:00	<p>Session 6 – Corporate Commitments: Getting from Road Map to Destination</p> <p>Moderator: Carl Palmer, <i>LegacyWorks Group</i></p> <p>Presenters: Ryan Smith, <i>Danone</i>; Rick Saines, <i>Pollination</i></p>
10:00-10:45	<p>Session 7 – Great Lakes Innovation Roundup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mike Piskur, <i>Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers - Trees Initiative</i> ● Alan Martinez and Josefina Uranga, <i>Cornell Atkinson Center - NY Outcomes Fund</i> ● Staci Orr Gardner and Shaun O'Rourke, <i>Quantified Ventures</i> ● Todd Holman, <i>The Nature Conservancy - Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape</i> ● Charles Carlin, <i>Gathering Waters Conservancy</i> and Clint Miller, <i>The Conservation Fund - Pelican River Project</i>
10:45-11:15	Break
11:15-11:45	<p>Session 8 – Farm Bill Prognostication</p> <p>Presenter: Callie Eideberg, <i>Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry (Remote)</i></p>
11:45-11:50	<p>Session 9 – Dolphin Tank Introduction</p> <p>Dolphins:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gary Matteson, <i>The Farm Credit Council</i> ● Margaret Bowman, <i>Bowman Environmental Consulting</i> ● Kevin Fanfoni, <i>Calvert Impact Capital</i> ● Carl Palmer, <i>LegacyWorks Group</i>
11:50-12:15 p.m.	<p>Project I – Regenerative Grazing in Western Kansas</p> <p>Presenter: Dominick Grant and Amanda Zakharov, <i>Dirt Capital</i></p>
12:15-12:40	<p>Project II – DC's Stormwater Retention Credit (SRC) Market</p> <p>Presenter: Matt Johnson, <i>Washington, DC Department of Energy & Environment</i></p>
12:40-12:50	<p>Wrap-Up</p> <p>Facilitators: Leigh Whelpton, Julia Mettler-Grove, and Mary Powers, <i>The Conservation Finance Network</i></p>
12:50-1:45	Lunch
1:45-3:00	Open for Meetings
3:00-4:30	<p>**Great Lakes Project Development: Debrief and Next Steps Discussion</p> <p>We invite practitioners from across the Great Lakes basin to stay and join us for a regional discussion that will build on a CFN report produced for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers, "Great Lakes of Opportunity: A Playbook to Accelerate the Region's Conservation Finance Project Pipeline."</p>