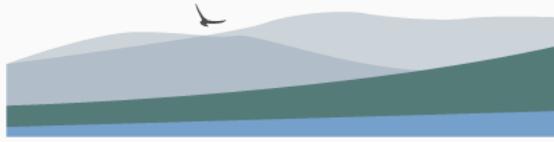


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INTERNATIONAL  
LAND CONSERVATION  
NETWORK

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## [Register now: ILCN Conservation Finance Webinar](#)

"Harnessing private investment capital to accelerate and expand land conservation: the role of impact investing"

May 29, 2018 at 5pm EDT

Over the past century, the public sector was the predominant funder of land conservation projects, creating national parks, national forests and wildlife refuges in countries around the world. More recently, inventive conservation finance practitioners have discovered myriad ways to bring private capital to the effort – for example, funding for-profit mitigation banks and providing impact capital to fund the acquisition and stewardship of working forests and farmlands. The webinar will explore several of these private and civic funding methods in depth.

[Register for the webinar here.](#)

This webinar is being moderated by Leigh Whelpton, Program Director at the Conservation Finance Network, and will feature presentations by Peter Stein, Managing Director at the Lyme Timber Company, James Fitzsimons, Director of Conservation at The Nature Conservancy Australia, and John Earhart, Chairman of the Global Environment Fund.

This is part of a series of ILCN webinars that explore the latest innovations in conservation finance, law and policy, organization and governance, and stewardship.



This webinar is being hosted in partnership with Yale's Center for Business and the Environment as part of their Nature's Returns series.

Space is limited, so please register in advance [here](#).

If you are not able to attend the live presentation, the webinar will also be recorded. If you have any questions, please e-mail Jivan Sobrinho-Wheeler, Project Coordinator at the International Land Conservation Network at [jsobrinhowheeler@lincolinst.edu](mailto:jsobrinhowheeler@lincolinst.edu)

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## Moderator

Leigh Whelpton leads the Conservation Finance Network's (CFN) effort to accelerate 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. As Program Director, Leigh has developed a range of strategic initiatives and partnerships to help practitioners achieve new or better-leveraged conservation outcomes. Prior to this role, Leigh managed professional training programs and coordinated conservation initiatives and operations for the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia. Leigh holds an M.E.Sc. from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and a B.S. (Hons.) from the University of California at Berkeley.



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## Panelists

Peter Stein is the Managing Director of The Lyme Timber Company and has extensive experience in conservation-oriented forestland and rural land purchases and dispositions. He develops conservation sale strategies for Lyme and also leads its conservation advisory business. Previously, Peter served as Senior Vice President of the Trust for Public Land, where he directed TPL's conservation real estate acquisitions in the Northeast and Midwest. Peter is a member of the Board of Advisors of the Appalachian Mountain Club, serves on the board of the National Alliance of Forest Owners, as well as the Montshire Museum. He is past Chair of the Land Trust Alliance, a founding Commissioner of the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, and past board member of the Forest History Society. Peter is a graduate of the University of California at Santa Cruz, where he received Highest Honors. He received a Certificate in Advanced Environmental Studies from Harvard University and was a Loeb Fellow. Peter has been awarded the Kingsbury Browne Fellowship from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and the Kingsbury Browne Award from the Land Trust Alliance.



Dr. James Fitzsimons is the Director of Conservation for The Nature Conservancy's Australia Program where he oversees the organization's conservation planning, science, implementation and policy functions. He is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Life and Environmental Sciences, Deakin University, Australia, with particular research interests in the fields of protected area policy, practical conservation planning and mechanisms to integrate conservation outcomes on public and private lands and has edited four books (Innovation for 21st Century Conservation, Linking Australia's Landscapes, Valuing Nature, and Big, Bold and Blue: Lessons from Australia's Marine Protected Areas). He has previously worked in the fields of conservation policy and planning for government environment departments and agencies, and for non-government environment organizations.



John Earhart, co-founder of the Global Environment Fund, recently stepped down as chairman of GEF to focus on its Africa Sustainable Forestry Fund. He has extensive experience in international environmental policy and natural resource management. Mr. Earhart has served as an investment officer, helping to structure private equity investments, project finance and international grants for a number of major forest management projects undertaken by GEF throughout the world. He currently sits on the investment committees of several GEF entities. Prior to starting GEF, Mr. Earhart served as Senior Fellow for Forestry at the World Wildlife Fund-US, founder of the Homeland Foundation, and served as an associate director of environmental programs for Peace Corps in Paraguay. He also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala. Mr. Earhart holds a BS from the California State University, Sacramento and received a Master's of Forestry degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.



The mission of the International Land Conservation Network is to connect organizations and people around the world that are accelerating voluntary private and civic sector action that protects and stewards land and water resources.

Learn more at [landconservationnetwork.org](http://landconservationnetwork.org).



The ILCN is a project of the [Lincoln Institute of Land Policy](http://Lincoln Institute of Land Policy).