

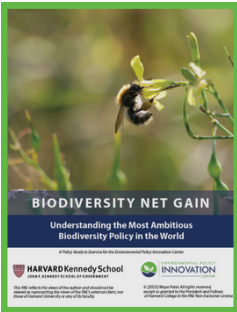
Building Biodiversity Credits Right

Meeting the global need with low risk nature projects

A \$4 billion annual market for nature credits already exists in the U.S. alone. The need for quantified credits from ecological restoration is growing exponentially. Avoiding the kind of headline risks that affected early efforts in these markets, and that plague carbon markets, is a key strategy for that growth in investment in biodiversity results.



EPIC's work is focused on four key issues in biodiversity crediting and the buyers who need them - accelerating restoration project approval, better crediting tools, strengthening demand in regulated systems, and understanding and improving policy.



Understanding Policy.

England's new net biodiversity gain law goes into effect in November 2023. Established US endangered species banks as well as aquatic habitat banking programs have 20 years of experience that could help England's efforts improve faster. This report provides an overview of US audiences of England's new regulation, how its being implemented, and how it relates to lessons learned in some U.S. wildlife impact offset programs.

It takes over 1,000 days to approve habitat & species banks in the US. It's not because of unreliable outcomes, but cumbersome permitting processes. We need to shrink these timelines. This report aims to provide a rigorous quantitative analysis of the most complete dataset available on the time it takes to approve mitigation bank instruments.

Accelerating project timelines.

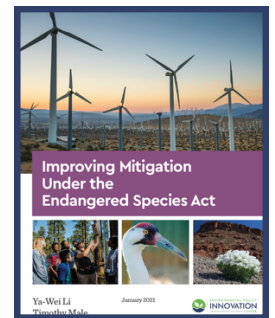


Better crediting tools.

Technological advances are paving the way for more reliable and cost-effective measures of ecological uplift. Without high-quality outcomes to buy, biodiversity markets can't be widely adopted. This blog discusses a real example of quantifiable ecological uplift using new technology and assessment criteria.

Strengthening demand in regulated systems.

Since 1973, the US Endangered Species Act regulates what species need to be mitigated for, and how mitigation is determined. In this report, we offer ideas for improving species mitigation to address past gaps in practice and to confront future challenges arising from infrastructure development. The report then offers near- and longer-term recommendations to improve ESA mitigation that has direct applicability to new biodiversity efforts.



Join us in shaping the future of how we buy and sell nature.

The [Environmental Policy Innovation Center](#) is at the forefront of thinking about, and researching how we buy and sell environmental credits including biodiversity credits. We understand existing barriers in the US, and other regions, and the attributes of policies and crediting protocols that are most likely to avoid risks to the environment and to buyers. Our focus is on expanding the use of biodiversity credits to meet offset, financial disclosure, and voluntary needs around the world, but only through programs and projects that adhere to the strongest principles and practices that generate additionality, durability, and demonstrable uplift in the condition of species and habitats or features that support them.

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