



Training after 2015 ESP World Conference



We're holding a three day training course on The Natural Capital Project approach and toolkit at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study, in South Africa, right after the Ecosystem Services Partnership World Conference, Nov 14, 16-17. Attendance for Day One only or all three days is possible. Click [here](#) for more information or [here](#) to register.

2016 Natural Capital Symposium Call for Abstracts: Due Dec 18



The [call for abstracts](#) is now open. There are several ways to participate in and contribute to the 2016 Symposium.

The **Pathways to Impact** track highlights engagements where ecosystem services information has had an impact on a decision, a stakeholder process, or an outcome. [Click here](#) to

Why Conservation + Economics = Good, Basic Economics

AN INTERVIEW WITH ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMIST STEVE POLASKY

[The Natural Capital Project](#) was conceived a decade ago by Gretchen Daily, Taylor Ricketts and Peter Kareiva - all ecologists, and Steve Polasky, the lone economist.

At the time, economics was still viewed with suspicion by many conservationists. In an interview commemorating ten years of this work, Polasky, a professor of Ecological/Environmental Economics at the **University of Minnesota**, with a joint appointment in the Department of Applied Economics and Department of Ecology, Evolution & Behavior, and a faculty fellow at the [Institute on the Environment](#), opens up about what it was like to be seen by some as an enemy of conservation.

He also talks about what's inspired him along the way, including how both **China** and **Rwanda** have embraced conservation as a way to bring prosperity to people. **Has NatCap accomplished what he imagined back in the beginning?** [Click here](#) to read the interview.



Steve Polasky, traveling in China.
Photo: Gretchen Daily

NatCap Kicks Off Anniversary Celebration at Stanford ALUMNI, COLLABORATORS, AND INNOVATORS DESCRIBE NATCAP'S EARLY DAYS AND EVOLUTION

To kick off our anniversary celebrations, we hosted a [symposium](#) and dinner at **Stanford** in mid-October. The symposium consisted of two panels in which partners, collaborators, and innovators looked back at what's been accomplished and forward at

submit your abstract.

The **Learning Exchange** will feature in-progress, theoretical, and experimental work, still on the way to finding its impact. [Click here](#) to submit your abstract, or to suggest your own learning exchange session.

We will also be holding a **Poster Session**: [Click here](#) to submit your poster abstract.

Additionally, we are still accepting proposals for **Working Groups** to meet on the new 4th day of the Natural Capital Symposium. [Click here](#) to submit a working group proposal.

Please visit the [2016 Natural Capital Symposium website](#) for more information, or [click here](#) if you're ready to register.

Software Tools



InVEST
integrated valuation of
ecosystem services
and tradeoffs

[InVEST](#) is a free and open-source software suite developed by the Natural Capital Project. You can download the latest version of InVEST [here](#).



OPAL

[OPAL](#) is NatCap's latest

what's to come.

Wrapping up the symposium, [Heather Tallis](#), now **Acting Chief Scientist at The Nature Conservancy**, described what it was like to be one of NatCap's first two employees. Tallis and **Christine Tam**, (now the **China-Africa Trade and Investment Coordinator at the World Wildlife Foundation in Coastal East Africa**), set up shop in a windowless room in Herrin Labs at Stanford, and had weekly conference calls with "the Amigos" **Gretchen Daily**, **Peter Kareiva**, **Taylor Ricketts** and **Steve Polasky**, which Tallis described as having "a high personality to staff ratio." NatCap has since expanded its work with partners, from three pilot sites to [dozens of places](#) around the world. Examples of institutional change since those early days include TNC's new [Conservation by Design](#) initiative, which highlights the importance of **mapping ecosystem services**, and the inclusion of nature for people in the organization's updated mission statement.

NatCap's sphere of influence continues to expand beyond its four founding partner institutions ([The Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment](#), [University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment](#), [TNC](#) and [WWF](#)). For example, Daily is extending ecosystem services research into **mental health benefits** at the [Department of Biology](#) in partnership with the [Department of Psychology](#) at Stanford; Ricketts now heads the [Gund Institute for Ecological Economics](#) at the [University of Vermont](#), and Kareiva is the new director of the [University of California's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability](#).

Prosperity, Inspiration, Innovation ...

WE COULDN'T PICK ONE WORD TO DESCRIBE WHAT NATURE PROVIDES

This month, NatCap begins a year-long celebration of our 10-year anniversary, which is really about celebrating our collaborations with all of you who've made changing the way people think about the value of nature possible.

We aspire to continue to grow the audience for this message and with that in mind, we've updated our web presence. Check it out at www.naturalcapitalproject.org and let us know what you think. Contact Stacey Solie at sslolie@stanford.edu with feedback.



Anne Guerry (NatCap), Gretchen Daily (NatCap), Tom Dillon (WWF), Steve Polasky (UMN) and Glenn Prickett (TNC), at Stanford University. Photo: Rob Jordan, Stanford Woods Institute of the Environment



Homepage of our new website.

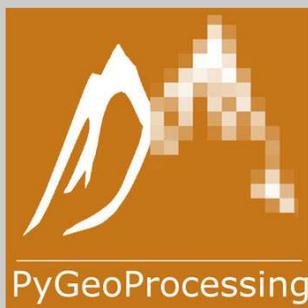
Water Funds: A Personal Account

READ ABOUT PERUVIANS RESTORING ANCIENT PRE-INCAN CHANNELS IN THE ANDES, AND THE SECRET TO EARLY SUCCESS IN THIS WATER

free and open-source software for mitigating development impacts. You can download the latest version of OPAL [here](#).



[RIOS](#) is a software tool that helps design cost-effective investments in watershed services. You can download the latest version of RIOS [here](#).



[PyGeoProcessing](#) was developed at the Natural Capital Project to create a programmable, open source, and free GIS processing library to support the ecosystem service software InVEST. The latest version 0.2.1 fixes several bugs. Users can pip install pygeoprocessing, upgrade or download the package [here](#).

NatCap Forums

For help using InVEST, OPAL and RIOS, visit the [NatCap Forums](#), our online user community.

FUND COLLABORATION

With dozens of water funds springing up across Latin America, NatCap's **Leah Bremer** spent the last two years working with colleagues and partners to establish programs and guidelines for measuring how well water funds work. Bremer's work took her to **Huamantanga**, a village perched in one of three watersheds draining into Lima, Peru, a city of 9 million facing severe water shortages. In [Six Things I've Learned About Water Funds](#), Bremer describes how installing weirs to track flows and tests for sediment loads is only a small part of the job.

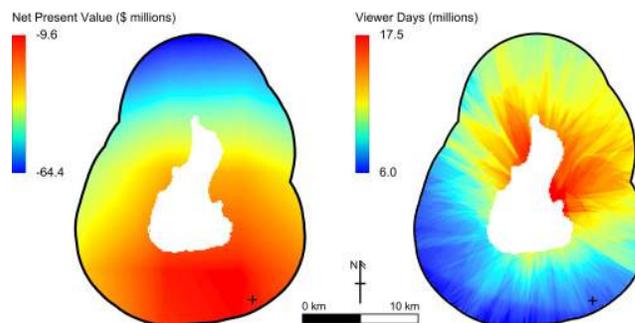


Photo: Leah Bremer

Recent Press and Publications

IN THE LINE OF SIGHT

The first offshore wind farm in the United States has broken ground off the coast of Rhode Island. New research published in **Marine Policy** highlights a breakthrough in the way projects are sited, by modeling both viewshed data and wind power. If utilized for the many future proposed projects off the east coast, this research could potentially save years of time and millions in litigation.



This map shows the value of wind energy and the viewshed for the first US offshore wind farm.

[Click here](#) to read the full story, including how Rob Griffin obtained some of the economic data through clandestine meetings with German industry insiders.

[Incorporating the visibility of coastal energy infrastructure into multi-criteria siting decisions](#)

Griffin, Robert; Nicolas Chaumont; Douglas Denu; Anne Guerry; Choong-Ki Kim; Mary Ruckelshaus. *Marine Policy*. December 2015, Vol. 62, pp 218-223. doi:10.1016/j.marpol.2015.09.024

Other Press and Publications:

[Getting water right: A case study in water yield modelling based on precipitation data](#)

Pessacq, N.; S. Flaherty; L. Brandizi; S. Solman; M.A. Pascual. *Science of the Total Environment*. December 15, 2015, Vol. 537, pp 225-234.

[National indicators for observing ecosystem service change](#)

Karp, Daniel S.; Heather Tallis; Rene Sachse; Ben Halpern; Kristen Thonicke;

Newsletter Archive

Check out NatCap's previous newsletters in [Our Library](#).

Follow Us Online



Wolfgang Cramer; Harold Mooney; Stephen Polasky; Britta Tietjen; Katharina Waha; Ariane Walz; Stacie Wolny.

Global Environment Change. November 2015, Vol. 35, pp 12-21.

doi:10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2015.07.014

[Mitigation for one & all: An integrated framework for mitigation of development impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services](#)

Tallis, Heather; Christina M. Kennedy; Mary Ruckelshaus; Joshua Goldstein; Joseph M. Kiesecker. Environmental Impact Assessment Review. November 2015, Vol. 55, pp 21-34. doi: 10.1016/j.eiar.2015.06.005

[Towards integrated social-ecological sustainability indicators: Exploring the contribution and gaps in existing global data](#)

Selomane, Odirilwe; Belinda Reyers; Reinette Biggs; Heather Tallis; Stephen Polasky. Ecological Economics. October 2015, Vol. 118, pp 140-146. doi:10.1016/j.ecolecon.2015.07.024

[Watershed Moment for IonE's NatCap](#)

by Marie Donahue, UMN Institute on the Environment, October 16, 2015

[La ALO no da espera](#)

by Eduardo Behrentz, El Tiempo, September 14, 2015

[Nature Conservancy launches major water fund to protect clean water in MN](#)

WaterWorld, September 11, 2015

[New fund aims to protect Mississippi headwaters while they're still clean](#)

by Josephine Marcotty, Minneapolis StarTribune, September 11, 2015

[Cities Are Finally Treating Water As A Resource, Not A Nuisance](#)

by Erica Gies, Ensia, September 1, 2015

For more news stories and publications search [Our Library](#) on our website. Access to full articles may require library access.

Thank you for your continued interest in The Natural Capital Project. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at contact@naturalcapitalproject.org.