



## THE CONSERVATION FUND

*America's Partner in Conservation*

### 2015 CONSERVATION BANKING TRAINING COURSE

*\*\*\*Incorporating Elements from the New FWS Mitigation Policy Due Out Later This Year\*\*\**

**WHEN:** Monday, July 13th (8:00 am) - through Friday, July 17th (Noon), 2015

**WHERE:** National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) in Shepherdstown, WV

Conservation banking is a tool to conserve species and their habitat, while simultaneously streamlining the mitigation process for regulatory agencies, bank sponsors, project permittees and credit buyers. This course is designed to foster collaboration among regulators, bankers and users ensuring that all entities have a thorough grounding in conservation banking policy in order to facilitate the establishment of banks and in-lieu fee programs on the ground. In addition to covering the core elements of conservation banking establishment and implementation, In-Lieu Fee and other credit trading systems and concepts will be addressed.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Provide a thorough grounding in the relevant federal policy and regulations guiding the review, establishment, and operation of conservation banks and in-lieu fee programs
- Enable participants to identify the need for and opportunities associated with conservation banking programs including economic benefits of third party compensatory offsets from both a bankers' and users' perspective
- Provide solid expertise and understanding in how conservation banks and in-lieu fee programs are effectively and efficiently reviewed and overseen in both their establishment and operation
- Provide leadership and team building skills necessary to be an effective member of a conservation banking partnership and, for agency staff, an effective member of a Conservation Banking Review Team

**WHO CAN ATTEND:** Participant slots are allocated to sponsoring agencies including: USFWS, BLM, NMFS, DOD, USACE, FHWA, and USDA -- as well as their state agency counterparts. Participants that attend with their agency partners from the same geography will be given preference.

**HOW TO REGISTER:** Federal agency representatives interested in attending should contact their agency POC (see below list) as soon as possible as slots are limited. Each POC will then compile and submit their agency participant list to course organizers by May 29th. State agency representatives need to submit an application form (available at <http://bit.ly/1DKUKCq>) by May 15th to be considered for acceptance into the course. Logistical information will be provided to all confirmed participants in early-June.

**REGISTRATION CONTACTS:** US FWS: Deblyn Mead ([deborah\\_mead@fws.gov](mailto:deborah_mead@fws.gov)), BLM: Matt Preston ([mpreston@blm.gov](mailto:mpreston@blm.gov)), NMFS: Angela Somma ([angela.somma@noaa.gov](mailto:angela.somma@noaa.gov)), DOD: Ryan Orndorff ([ryan.orndorff@osd.mil](mailto:ryan.orndorff@osd.mil)), USACE: Steve Martin ([steven.m.martin@usace.army.mil](mailto:steven.m.martin@usace.army.mil)), FHWA: Mike Ruth ([mike.ruth@dot.gov](mailto:mike.ruth@dot.gov)) / Dan Buford ([daniel.buford@dot.gov](mailto:daniel.buford@dot.gov)), USDA: Chris Hartley ([chartley@oce.usda.gov](mailto:chartley@oce.usda.gov)), State Agencies: Margarita Carey ([mcarey@conservationfund.org](mailto:mcarey@conservationfund.org)).

**COST:** No tuition will be charged to attend this training. A block of lodging rooms has been reserved at NCTC. Lodging and meal packages (including private room and full meal plan) are available for \$150/night, which is within the government per diem rate. Lodging and meals will be provided to attendees from state agencies.

#### COURSE

#### PARTNERS:

The Conservation Fund  
(TCF)

US Fish & Wildlife  
Service (USFWS)

Bureau of Land  
Management (BLM)

NOAA National Marine  
Fisheries Service (NMFS)

Department of Defense  
(DOD)

US Army Corps of  
Engineers (USACE)

Federal Highway  
Administration (FHWA)

USDA Office of  
Environmental Markets  
(OEM)

National Mitigation  
Banking Association  
(NMBA)