

Insurance for Nature and Nature for Insurance

April 3, 2025

Convene, 600 14th Street, Washington, D.C.

Building Entry/Access:

Located on the 14th Street between G Street and F Street.

Upon arrival, please proceed to the second elevator bank and ride up to the 4th floor to Convene.

Guests arriving any time after the check-in process can still report to the lobby desk and will be directed by security to the elevators and up to the 4th floor, where they will approach a Convene Welcome Desk for official check-in.

8:00 – 8:30am Breakfast available

8:30 – 8:45 **Welcomes**

Tom Murray, EDF

8:45 – 9:00 **Overview of insurance and nature**

Carolyn Kousky, EDF

9:00 – 10:30

Quantifying and Capturing the Benefits of Nature to Insurance

This session will discuss what is known about the relationship between nature and loss reduction. It will also discuss how benefits of nature can inform insurer decisions through catastrophe models and how to ensure low-income and other vulnerable communities have access to the benefits of nature-based solutions.

Moderator: Liz Russell, EDF

Panelists:

Todd Bridges, University of Georgia

Renee Collini, Water Institute of the Gulf

Megan Kelso, University of California, Santa Cruz

Marta Vicarelli, University of Massachusetts

10:30 – 10:45

Design-Think Exercise and Break

10:45 – 12:00pm

Underwriting for Nature

Underwriting is the process of deciding what risks to insure and on what terms. This panel will discuss how nature can be integrated into underwriting with examples from several insurers.

Moderator: Talley Burley, EDF

Panelists:

Dave Jones, University of California – Berkeley

Margaret Peloso, Chubb

Eric Roberts, The Nature Conservancy

Sheri Wilbanks, Axa

12:00 – 12:30

Fireside chat with Rhode Island Superintendent of Insurance Beth Dwyer and Alice Hill from the Council on Foreign Relations

12:30 – 1:15

Lunch

1:15 – 2:30

New Approaches for Insurance to Support Nature Part 1: New products

This panel will discuss new emerging insurance products, including those that can support quality of life and equitable outcomes for low-income communities and communities of color. These include insurance against losses of forestry offsets, wetland mitigation, or livelihood insurance for small-scale fishers.

Moderator: Francis Bouchard, MMC

Panelists:

Deborah Halberstadt, CA Department of Insurance

Karen Sack, Ocean Risk & Resilience Action Alliance

Robert Spoth, Ecosystems Insurance

2:30 – 3:15

New Approaches Part 2: New Business Models

In this fireside chat we will discuss business models that can support nature-positive activities and inclusive, equitable access to financial protection.

Moderator: Carolyn Kousky, EDF

Panelists:

Gabe Martinez, TerraFirma

Mara Mordecai, NatureForce

Amanda Pinelli, NatureX RMS

3:15 – 3:30

Design-Think Exercise and Break

3:30 – 4:45

New Approaches Part 3: New Business Practices

This final panel will discuss changes to insurer practices, from their investment practices to their philanthropy to support equitable and nature positive outcomes.

Moderator: Liz Whiteman, Ocean Science Trust

Panelists:

Samantha Cook, World Bank

Steven Rothstein, Ceres

Swenja Surminski, Marsh McLennan and LSE

Raghuveer Vinukollu, Munich Re

4:45 – 5:00

Closing