The urgency and pace of conservation can be delayed by a lack of timely funding. Our Conservation Loans program offers flexible financing as well as sustained and expert technical assistance to land trusts and other organizations aiming to protect key properties in their communities.

We’ve helped over 170 partners and local conservation organizations protect land—more than 141,000 acres across 37 states and five Canadian provinces, at a value of $421 million. We are a land trust as well as a lender, investing in our shared conservation goals.

Our Approach
Through our loans, we provide bridge financing and unparalleled real estate expertise that make it possible for land trusts to protect historic farms, natural areas, favorite parks and more. Unlike traditional lending organizations, we understand the complexities of conservation financing and can provide immediate assistance and terms tailored to meet, and exceed, each of our partner’s unique needs.

We are a conservation leader, not just a lender, and we invest in your success. We act as partners, mentors and trusted advisors. By continually revolving our $50 million loan fund, we have served more than 170 partners—providing loans from $12,000 up to $5 million—for a total of more than $195 million.
Our Impact

141K acres conserved using more than 345 loans by conservation groups in 37 states and five Canadian provinces

$195M funds loaned to our partners to acquire land valued at $421M

About The Conservation Fund

At The Conservation Fund, we make conservation work for America. By creating solutions that make environmental and economic sense, we are redefining conservation to demonstrate its essential role in our future prosperity. Top-ranked for efficiency and effectiveness, we have worked in all 50 states since 1985 to protect over 8 million acres of land.

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Projects at a Glance

Children in Nature in California’s Salinas Valley. The Conservation Fund refinanced the historic building that the Big Sur Land Trust calls home in Monterey, California. The group used the savings from our lower interest rate to hire a bi-lingual outdoor program coordinator to advance “Children in Nature” programs in the underserved communities of the Salinas Valley.

Boston Public Market. The Fund provided financial support and technical advice to the Boston Public Market, a year-round indoor market bringing locally sourced food and goods to Bostonians in need of access to sustainable produce. Many of the farms providing goods to the Market have been conserved with our financing.

Connecticut River Valley. The Franklin Land Trust has used more than 50 loans from our program to protect more than 1,700 acres of historic farmland in the Connecticut River Valley. This land is a special nesting and breeding habitat for dozens of bird species, some of which are threatened by rapid development.