Infrastructure development is underway throughout America, and The Conservation Fund recognizes that balancing economic development with sound environmental practices is essential for America’s prosperity.

That’s why we act as a partner, working with project developers, regulators and conservationists to create plans and lasting conservation solutions that mitigate for unavoidable effects of new energy, transportation and other essential infrastructure improvements.

Our Approach
We prioritize conservation solutions that provide the highest quality of ecological outcomes. We help ensure that environmental impacts are a consideration from the start and not an afterthought, and are developed through a lens of conservation not just compliance.

We work at the site level and landscape scale, offering highly efficient services to develop compensatory mitigation packages, with keen business and legal expertise. Our goal is to accomplish mitigation that is meaningful, comprehensive and transparent.

What We Offer
We provide expertise and counsel on: review of siting options; identifying and detailing environmental impacts; developing comprehensive mitigation solutions; engaging with regulatory agencies during the permitting process; and implementing mitigation strategies. By starting with the establishment and administration of mitigation financial accounts through identification of long-term stewards, we offer a comprehensive approach for implementing mitigation when the permit is approved.
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

Natural Gas Pipeline Supports Expanded Bird Migration. The natural gas Rockies Express Pipeline (REX), which stretches from Colorado to Ohio, voluntarily agreed to establish mitigation funds to compensate for the loss of forestland. The Fund managed these accounts and provided grants to preserve habitat in a migration corridor for vulnerable bird species. Fourteen acquisition and restoration projects were completed for a total of 17,340 acres. Through our partnership with REX and state and federal agencies, migrating warblers, wood thrushes and whip-poor-wills gained extensive new habitat area to stretch their wings.

Strategic Mitigation for Pipelines: NiSource Gas. Fortune 500 company NiSource Inc. operates a 15,500 linear mile network of natural gas pipelines through 14 states, delivering gas to nearly four million customers. To more efficiently mitigate the impacts of the operations and maintenance on its network, they partner with the Fund and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to uncover the best locations for mitigation—a strategy that over time will provide significant conservation benefits and which facilitated the establishment of their multi-species habitat conservation plan.

Protecting Wetlands Systems Throughout Alaska. In collaboration with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Fund started an in-lieu fee wetlands mitigation program in 1998, the first of its kind in Alaska. Future development in Alaska will have an impact on wetlands, and our challenge is to mitigate those effects by enhancing the state’s system of protected wetlands. The Fund has managed the investment of in-lieu fee proceeds for over 300 projects across Alaska, protecting over 300,000 acres of high-value wetlands valued at $30 million.

“The Conservation Fund has shown great professionalism in facilitating meetings between our company, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state representatives. We look forward to working with them... as we continue to find innovative methods for conducting our business while protecting the environment.”

Rick Hall, Jr.
Principal, Nature Resource Sustainability, NiSource Gas Transmission and Storage

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