America faces an urgent conservation challenge: the loss of our last big, intact, privately-held forests. Today, more than 45 million acres of these forests are at risk of fragmentation and conversion to other uses due to short-term financial interests. To meet the pressing need for forestland conservation, we pioneered the Working Forest Fund (WFF) as a dedicated source of conservation capital and timberland expertise to quickly acquire threatened forests with high conservation value.

**What Forests Do For Us:**

**Filter the water we drink.**  
53% of the drinking supply flows through America’s forests.

**Clean the air we breathe.**  
12-17% of global greenhouse gas emissions are attributed to deforestation. Protecting and restoring forests can reverse that trend.

**Strengthen our economy.**  
2.8 million American jobs are supported by U.S. forests, contributing $119 billion to the economy.

**Provide wood for packaging.**  
25% of the world’s pulpwood for paper, and 18 percent of its industrial timber, comes from the forests in the Southeastern United States.

**Protect wildlife habitat.**  
60% of at risk species in the United States, like the Louisiana black bear, northern spotted owl and coho salmon, live in America’s private forests.

Citations for statistics can be found at:  
http://www.conservationfund.org/what-we-do/working-forestfund/resources
The Challenge and Our Conservation Goal:

45M acres are at risk of fragmentation and conversion.

Our goal: 5M acres of high conservation value working forests. (The size equivalent of approximately five Grand Canyon National Parks).

Our Model:

1. Buy forest
2. Develop sustainable management plan
3. Harvest timber
4. Place conservation easement
5. Re-sell forest