

Breakout 1D: Carbon From A Policy Perspective: What's Next?

Panelists:

- Toby Tiktinsky, EKO Asset Management
- Tiffany Potter, EcoAnalytics
- David Tepper, Forest Trends
- Nick Martin, American Carbon Registry
- Scott Nissenbaum, Finite Carbon
- Moderator Mark Nechodom, Senior Advisor for Environmental Markets, US Department of Agriculture

1. Overarching themes and key takeaways

- How to successfully develop carbon market projects in a post-cap and trade policy environment. Are we doing enough to use existing policies—we can do a lot more.
- Connecting landowners with market policies. Landowners and investors need a long time horizon and greater certainty in order to participate
- “put a price on carbon” can’t ignore that project motive is part of carbon markets; people will invest in order to generate a return. Government purchase of carbon offsets can provide jump start that larger scale markets need.
- Landowners often in a difficult place to make decisions. How do you manage a productive forest (timber) while sequestering carbon?
- Current carbon market state is dismal, but the tools and infrastructure is in place to get it going again—provided landowners are presented with a long time horizon and ability to augment their revenue stream.
- Carbon credits need to be able to compete with timber markets to stay viable
- Don’t make promises to landowners that you can’t keep; keep landowners in the discussion, development of protocols.