

Appendix F: About the Authors

David Batker is Founder and Executive Director of Earth Economics. He is a leader in the field of Ecological Economics. An acclaimed speaker, leader, educator and advocate, Dave co-founded the non-profit Earth Economics to catalyze a global shift of investment to sustainable practices. His work has been quoted in the Washington Post, LA Times, and 40 other newspapers as well on radio and television. David is also a trained geologist.

Some of David's and the Earth Economics Team's recent accomplishments include:

- Improving the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) benefit/cost analysis for hurricane and flood mitigation (80% of FEMA's mitigation expenditures) to include environmental benefits.
- Examining the socio-economic impacts of multi-billion dollar projects for the restoration of the Mississippi River Delta.
- Analyzing the Yosemite Rim Fire for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission: The first natural asset fire loss analysis. California Gov. Brown used this for his disaster declaration; work completed in 60 days.
- Helping improve lending standards including environmental assessment, information disclosure and indigenous people's rights at the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, InterAmerican Development Bank, export credit agencies and private banks.
- David also co-authored the acclaimed book: *What's The Economy For, Anyway?* published by Bloomsbury Press. The New York Book Review ranked the book in the top ten economics and business books in 2011.

Rowan Schmidt leads Earth Economics' 21st Century Utility program with the goal of expanding water utility funding mechanisms for watershed health. Areas of the program include: providing accurate valuation of drinking water watersheds to inform utility investment decisions; updating national accounting standards to recognize watersheds that provide and filter water; improving asset management approaches for natural infrastructure; enhancing bond disclosure standards to include watershed and natural

capital conditions; and adjusting water utility rate structures to support natural capital investments. Rowan also works on projects to advance the methods and applications of ecosystem service valuation in source water protection, benefit-cost analysis, return on investment analysis, and other areas of policy making.

Recent areas of work include:

- Co-editing a World Resources Institute report on source water protection strategies and contributed chapters on natural capital finance mechanisms and accounting rules for water utilities. Planning and executing several workshops that brought together leaders from major water utilities to discuss natural capital valuation, accounting, and finance mechanisms for source water protection.
- Working with Duke University, three partner utilities, and a number of expert advisors to develop approaches to capturing the value of utility natural infrastructure using a traditional balance sheet format.
- Coordinating research, writing and economic valuation of damages due to the California Rim Fire near Yosemite Park and Hetch Hetchy Reservoir – a key drinking water source for San Francisco – which were used to support the State of California’s successful application for FEMA assistance.