

SUSTAINABLE FLOWS

Improving Financial & Ecosystem Service Flows

SUSTAINABLE FLOWS HELPS MANAGERS IMPROVE FINANCIAL AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES FLOWS BY DEVELOPING STRATEGIES TO BETTER MANAGE RISK AND OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

Update — Summer 2014

We are please to provide you this update on our work and reflections on newsworthy sustainability issues.

EXPANDED TEAM

We are pleased to announce the **Dr. Jeffrey Wielgus** and **Dr. Steven Saul** have joined Sustainable Flows. [Jeffrey](#) has spent nearly two decades analyzing the ecological and economics impacts and dependencies of human activities on marine and terrestrial ecosystems. He helped write the *WBCSD Guide to Corporate Ecosystem Valuation* and *TEEB for National and International Policy Making*. [Steven's](#) expertise is in ecosystem services, agent based modeling and fisheries management. Along with the numerous publications they've written, their work has reduced corporate risk and improved the management of natural resources by public and private stakeholders.



Dr. Wielgus



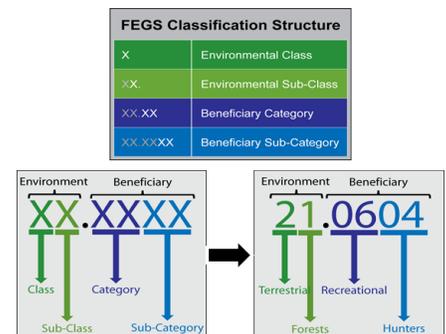
Dr. Saul

INTEGRATING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES INTO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Sustainable Flows is working with our partner, Ecoral, to integrate ecosystem services into an EIA for one of Colombia's largest companies. Our work focuses on three key executive decisions. Our ecological modeling and economic valuation will provide additional information to improve the firms' management of risks and opportunities. This is the first known application of the *Final Ecosystem Goods and Services Classification System*.

FINAL ECOSYSTEM GOODS AND SERVICES WORKSHOPS

In May, Sustainable Flows hosted two workshops on the new *Final Ecosystem Goods and Services Classification System*. The **FEGS Classification System** eliminates double counting, improves communication among disciplines and aids the integration of natural capital into national and corporate accounts. The workshop at the World Bank included economists and [WAVES](#) staff. While the workshop at the EPA's Office of Water included members of the [PCAST](#) team, Conservation International, TruCost, EPA's Office of Research and Development among other leaders. Participants remarked on the utility of the *System* and its likely adoption by organizations around the globe.



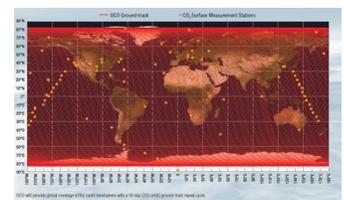
Graphic from Landers' presentation at events

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN ACCOUNTING

Strides are being made to develop accounting systems for ecosystem services. In the public sphere, [WAVES](#) and [SEEA](#) are developing methods, building capacity and promoting the use of natural capital in national accounts. On the corporate side, the [Natural Capital Coalition](#) aims to build a protocol for integrating the value of natural capital into corporate decision making. Sustainable Flows [recently coauthored an article](#) that proposes some of these approaches.

REMOTE SENSING, A GROWING PART OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Data from NASA's newly launched [Orbiting Carbon Observatory-2](#) will improve our understanding of carbon flows and predictions of sequestration rates. OCO-2 is one example of how remote sensing is both replacing traditional data collection and providing unique information. We have been working with the [European Space Agency's G-ECO-MON](#) project to drive best practices in using earth observation for ecosystem services assessment and monitoring.



OCO-2's coverage map (NASA)