



Investments, Incentives, & Innovative Finance in Biodiversity Conservation

C. Josh Donlan



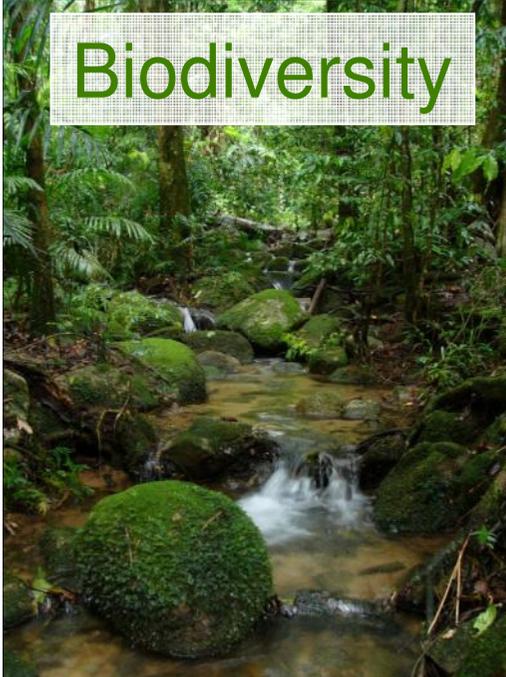
ADVANCED CONSERVATION STRATEGIES
 Innovative. Self Sustaining. Economically Efficient.



Idaho wolf found shot April 3, 2008



Biodiversity



Incentives



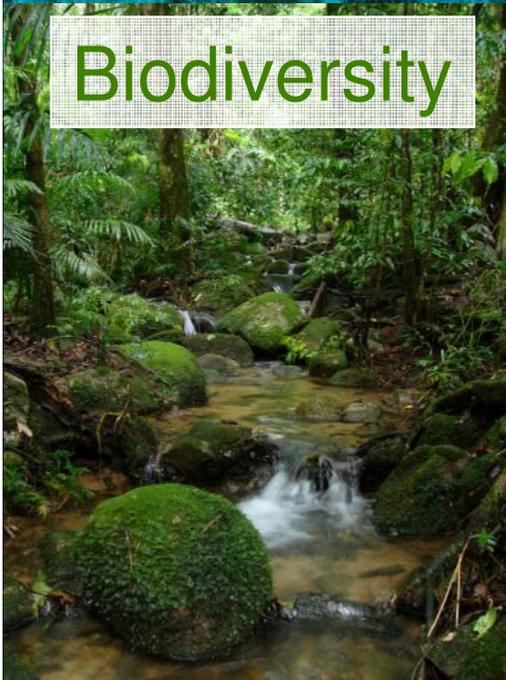
Livelihoods



Idaho wolf found shot April 3, 2008



Biodiversity



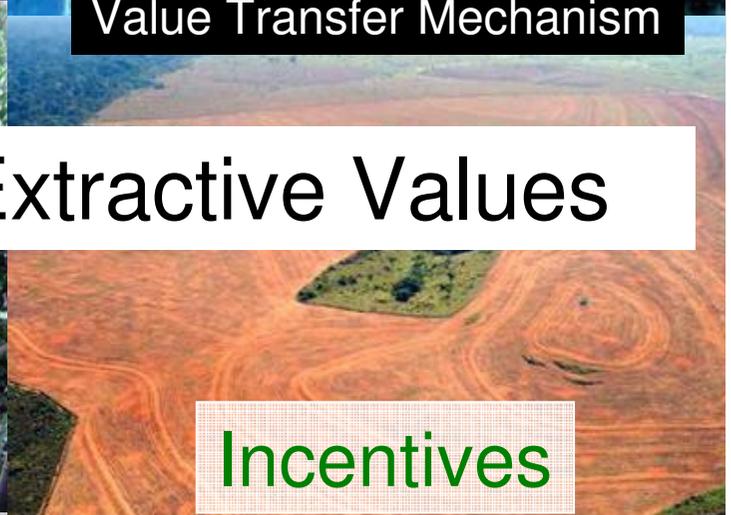
Global Existence Values



Value Transfer Mechanism



Local Extractive Values



Incentives

Livelihoods



Idaho wolf found shot April 3, 2008

Investments, Incentives & Innovative Finance in Biodiversity Conservation



- Biodiversity Conservation is a low priority
- Why we need innovative financing
- Investments in biodiversity conservation
- Governments, environmental costs, & market-based tools
- Examples across different socio-political scenarios

- Funding for biodiversity conservation traditionally comes in the form of grants, donations, concessional loans, government budgets
- Multi-laterals (e.g., GEF), NGOs, and foundations
- Low priority for governments, institutions, and individuals compared to other social and political issues



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- Low priority for governments, institutions, and individuals compared to other social and political issues

In 2008: \$504 mm of funding by bilateral donors for biodiversity conservation
— equal to 0.32% of total development assistance (\$157 billion).

Budgets for Protected Areas in developing countries are short >\$2 billion.

In 2005: U.S. households worth >\$50 mm gave an average of \$1.1 mm to charities—the average giving to environmental initiatives was <\$60,000.

Environmental sector stands to gain the most from developing and implementing innovative finance approaches



Innovative Finance: the use of financial engineering to generate *new* sources of funding or *increase the return on investment* from current funding sources.

Potential Investments For Biodiversity Conservation

Investment

Examples

Least Direct

Support for extracted bio-products

Logging, non-timber, hunting

Support for reduced impact use

Sustainable agriculture,
“alternative income generation”

Support for intact use

Eco-tourism, sport hunting, wild
honey

Payment for *other*
environmental services

Carbon, watershed protection

Payment for use rights

Easements, non-logging
concessions

Performance-based payments
for biodiversity

Paying for bird breeding success,
paying for occupied wolf dens

Most Direct



Potential Investments For Biodiversity Conservation

Investment

Examples

Least Direct Mature Markets

Support for extracted bio-products

Logging, non-timber, hunting

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Most Direct No Markets



How much for those dugongs?

Should we assign economic values to biodiversity?

Counterfactual:

Concerned with the welfare of a few species
Drive many more to extinction
Ignore the majority

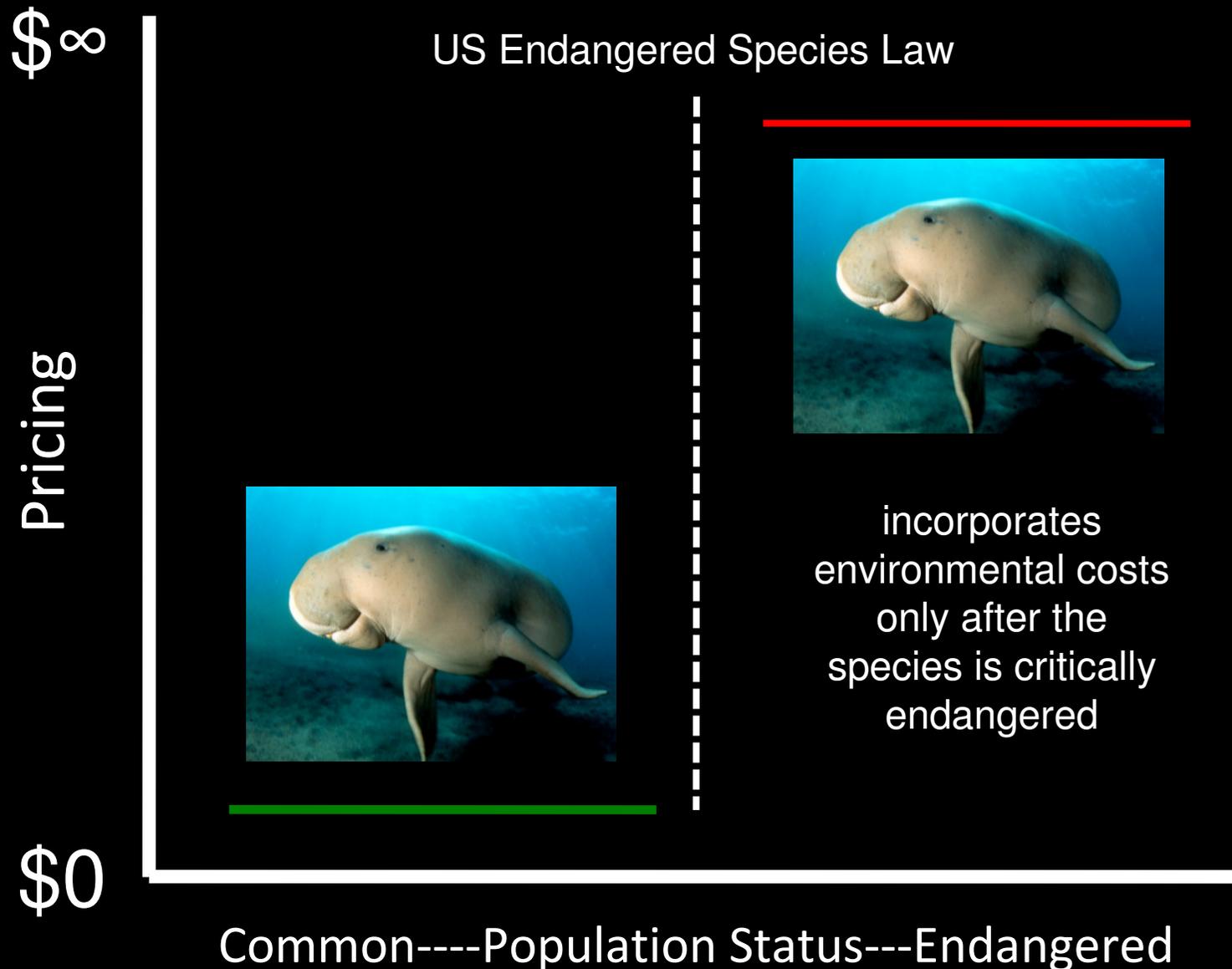


Two Approaches

Contingent Valuation: a survey-based economic method for the valuation of non-market resources.

Replacement Cost: the cost of maintaining (or restoring) a population of 500 dugongs.

How we value species in the United States



Shoot, Shovel, and Shut-up

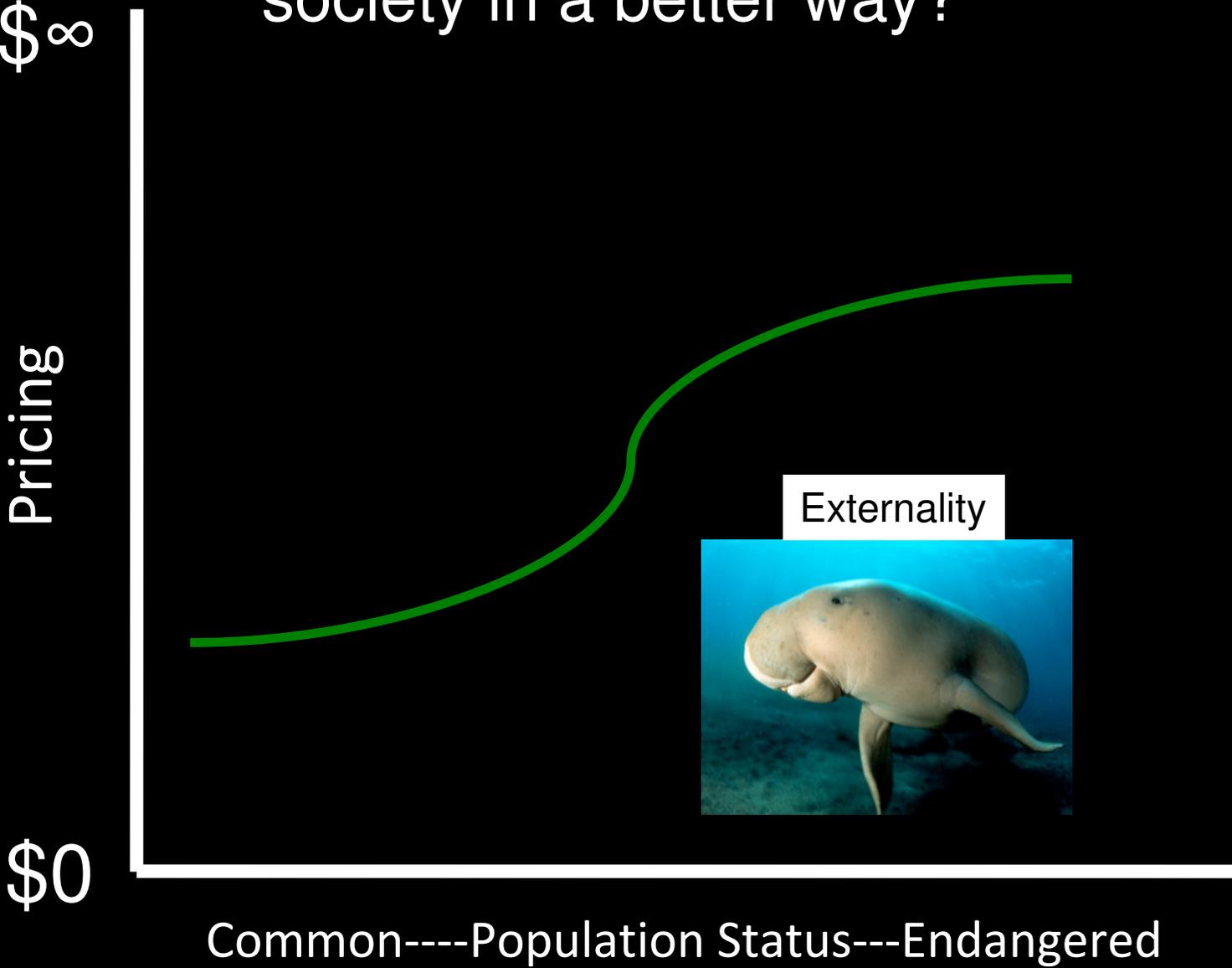


Incentives Are Misaligned



Idaho wolf found shot April 3, 2008

How do we incorporate environmental costs into society in a better way?



How do governments incorporate externalities (environmental impacts)?

Direct Regulation or Market-based Instruments



Taxes: A fee on the production that raises the cost directly

Environmental Assurance Bonds: A fee imposed if social costs are high

Cap and Trade Systems: A fixed and tradable total amount, scarcity drives cost

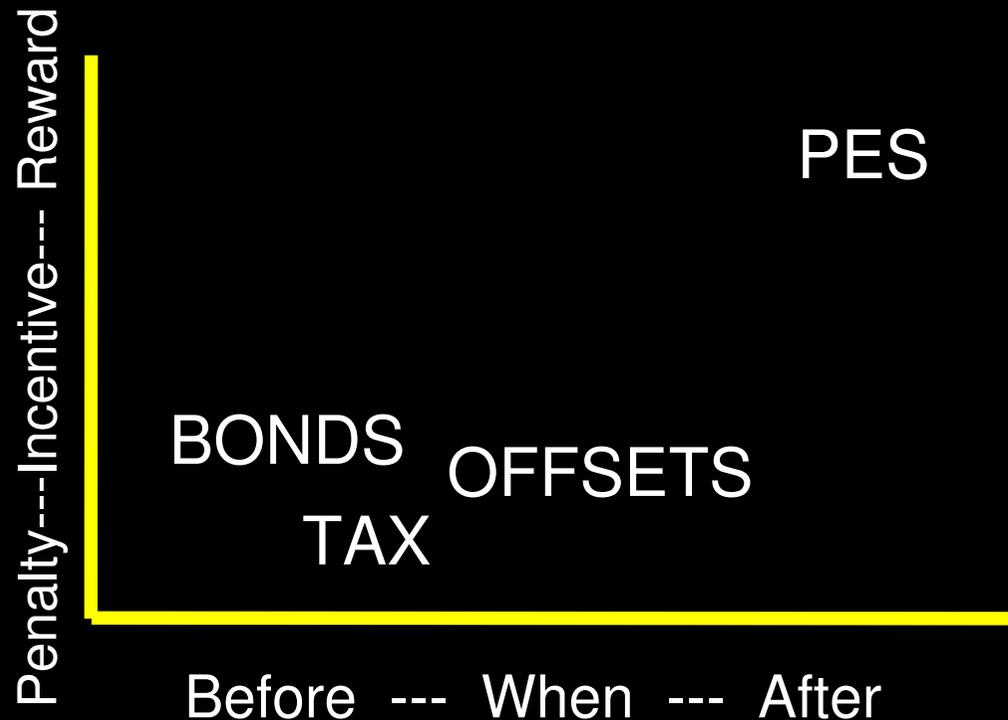
Offsets: An “in kind” fee, i.e. compensation with a equivalent environmental asset

Payment for environmental services: A positive incentive, attempting to reduce the social cost to zero

Advantages, challenges, and requirements for each approach

How do governments incorporate externalities (environmental impacts)?

Direct Regulation or
Market-based Instruments



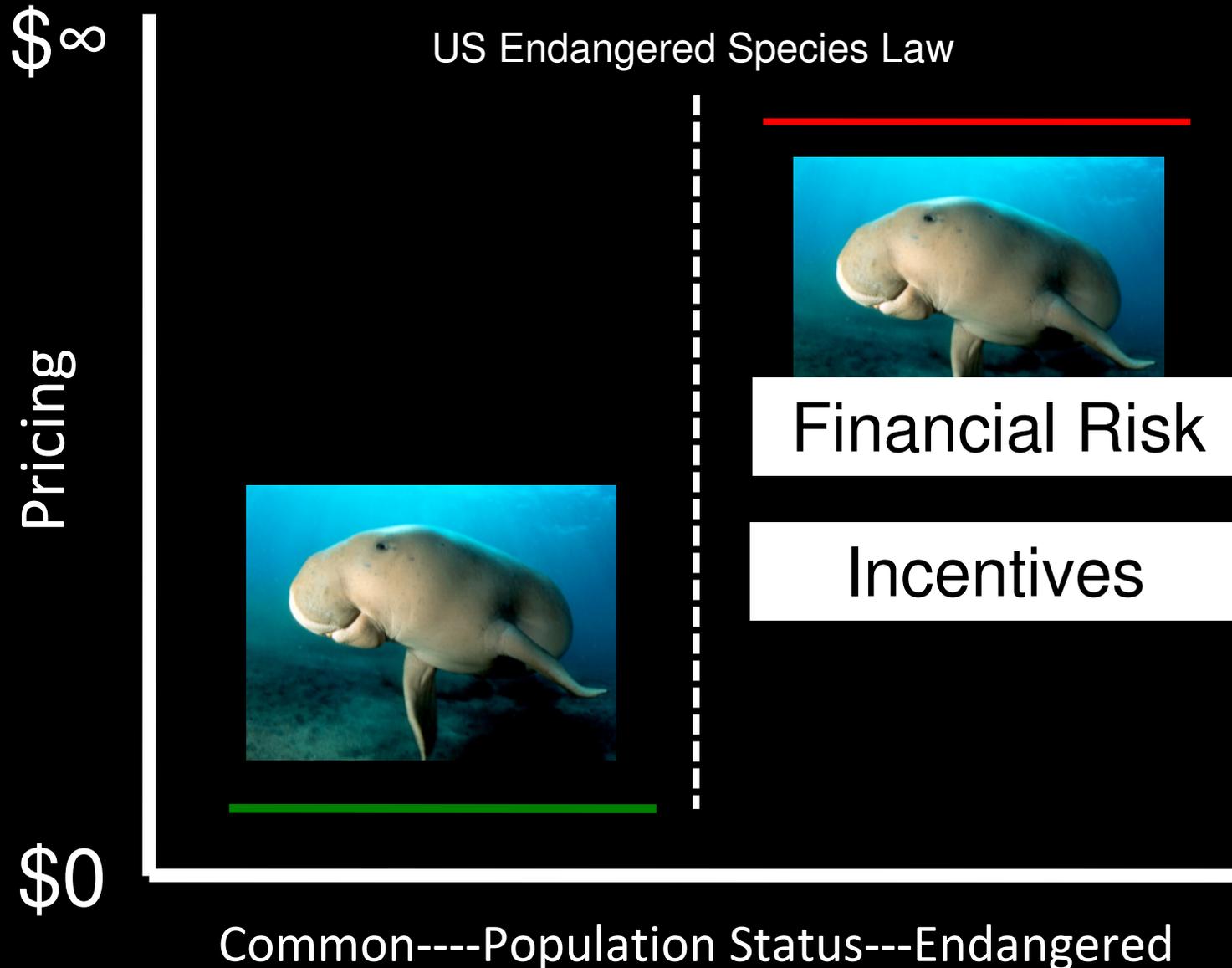


US Endangered Species Act



- Litigation:
 - In 2003, 9\$ million was appropriated to US Fish & Wildlife listing program
 - But, faced \$8 million in court-related expenses to already listed species
- Result: listing delays, and inadequate and last-minute recovery actions
- Costs of species recovery are sometimes ignored

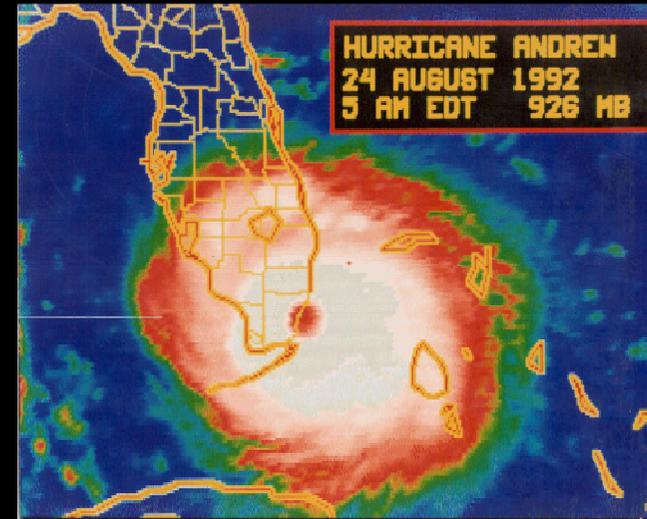
How we value species in the United States



Catastrophe Bonds

Insurance companies lack capacity to meet all claims from a category V hurricane.

They sell catastrophe bonds to market investors, which pay an interest rate substantially higher than a risk-free rate.



Bondholders lose, insurance companies use principal to pay claims.



Bondholders reap benefits of interest rate. Insurance company has insurance.

Weather Derivatives

Companies whose business depends heavily on weather use weather derivatives to hedge against the risk of extreme weather.

A certain weather event (e.g., number of days in a month below a certain temperature) triggers a payout.



Being adopted in the fields of economic and social development, as a way to manage risk.

Humanitarian Insurance

Rainfall in Ethiopia is directly linked to crop failure, which is linked to famine.

UN WFP faces uncertainty and risk with famine relief, leading to inefficiencies and high costs.

UN WFP sells that risk as a derivative tied directly to the amount of rainfall that induces famine.

Paris RE buys the derivative at a discount in exchange for face value if the “event” does not occur. Otherwise, the Paris RE loses.



Employee Stock Options

ESOs give employees the potential for future ownership of the company for which they work.

Employees are motivated to manipulate the underlying asset: the success of the company.

Does not hedge risk, but used to align incentives among stakeholders.



A company pays, in the form of ownership, to ensure that employees have the business' best interest in mind.

Biodiversity Performance Contracts



Biodiversity Contracts: **How would it work?**

A species is declining, making it a likely candidate for threatened or endangered status.

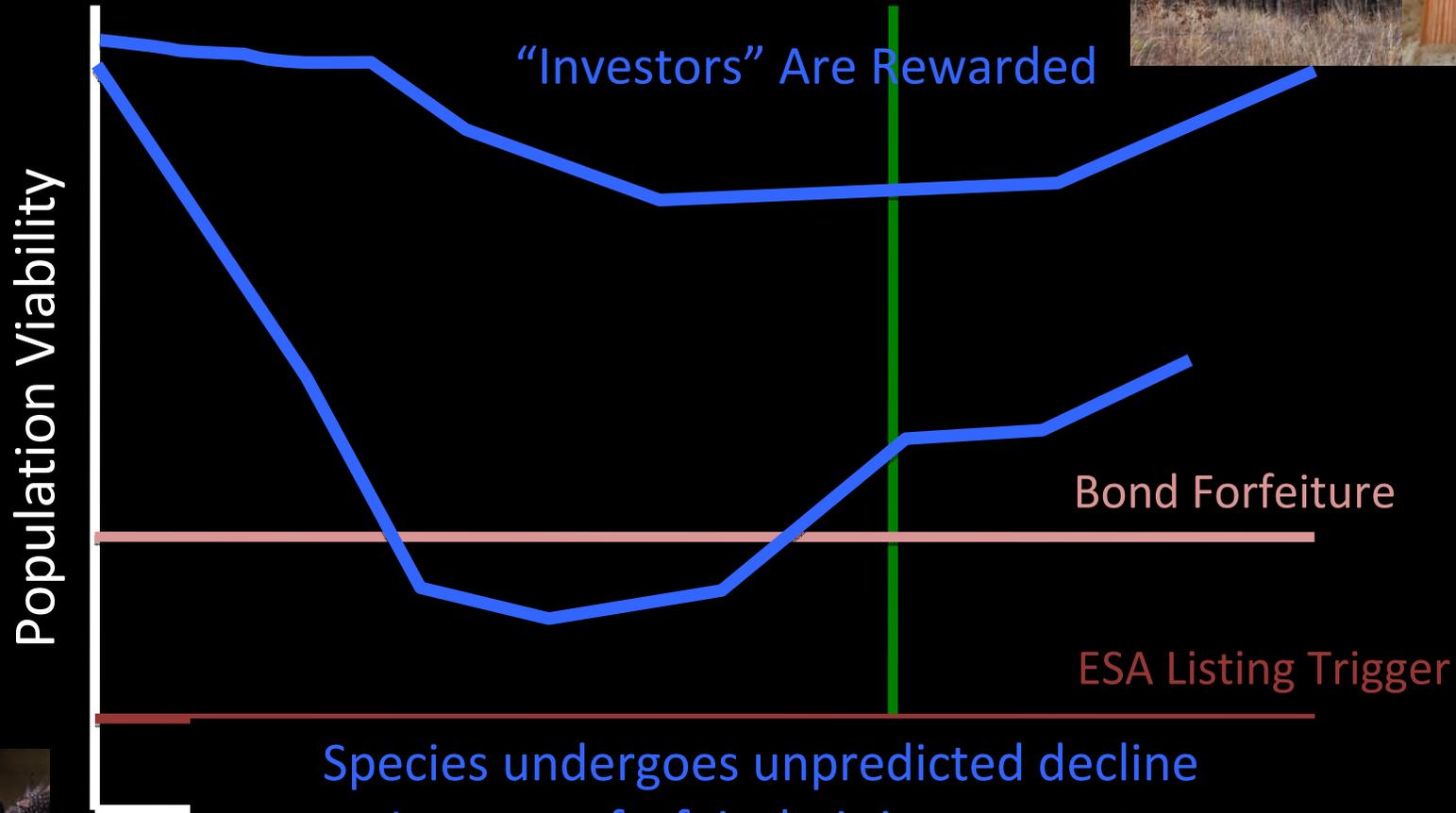
Government (or other institution) faces uncertainty and risk, leading to last-minute responses, inefficiencies, and high costs.

Institution sells performance bonds tied directly to the viability of the species (i.e., trigger point).

“Investors” buy bonds at a discount (e.g., \$100 for \$90) in exchange for face value if the trigger point is not reached. Otherwise, the investor loses.

If the trigger point is reached, capital is immediately available for species recovery efforts.





"Investors" Are Rewarded

Maturity Date

Bond Forfeiture

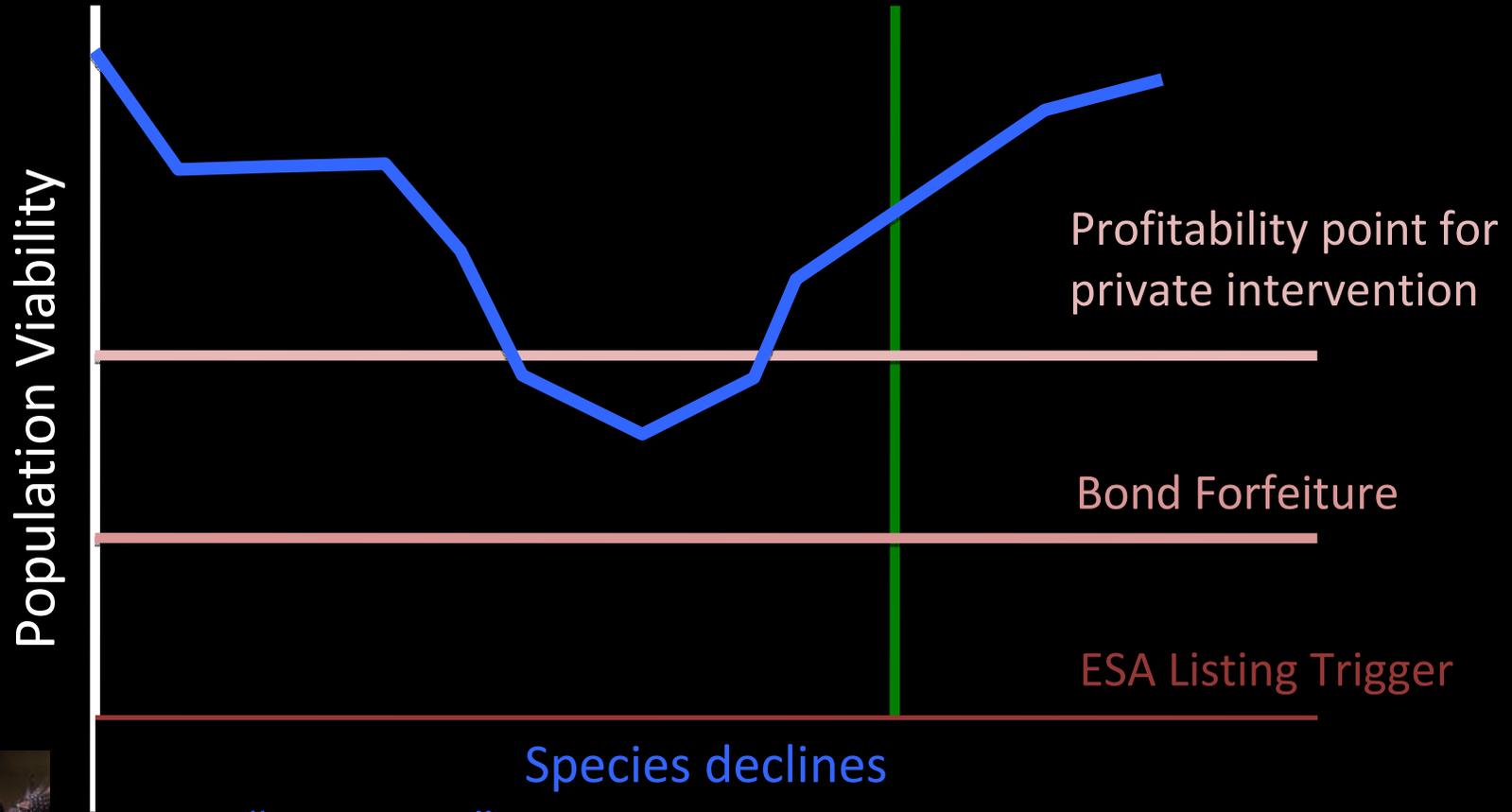
ESA Listing Trigger

Species undergoes unpredicted decline
Investors forfeit their investment
Money is available for remediation and recovery





Maturity Date



“Investors” engage in preemptive actions
Species recovers and investors are rewarded

Biodiversity Contract: **What about the costs?**

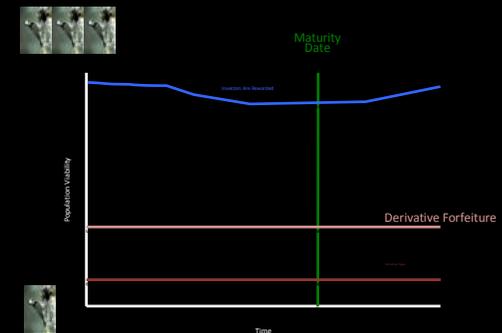
Current Approach: Very Expensive

- \$4.4 million per year: cost of meeting ESA's goal of 500 active groups



A Biodiversity Contract Approach

- Issued derivatives 10-20 years prior to ESA listing
- Cost of Insurance Policy (30% chance of listing): \$307,000
- Cost of Insurance Policy (50% chance of listing): \$717,000



A Second Example: Species Swap



**Government
And/Or
Private-party**

A Second Example: Species Swap



**Government
And/Or
Private-party**



Pays an annual fixed rate based on number of tortoises (i.e., agreed upon proxy and methodology) on the land at the time of project initiation

10 tortoises @ \$1
\$10 total



**Government
And/Or
Private-party**

Pays an annual fixed rate based on number of tortoises (i.e., agreed upon proxy and methodology) on the land at the time of project initiation

10 tortoises @ \$1
\$10 total



**Government
And/Or
Private-party**

Pays an annual floating rate based on number of tortoises (i.e., agreed upon proxy and methodology) on the land every year after

10 tortoises @ \$1
\$10 total

YEAR 1

Pays an annual fixed rate based on number of tortoises (i.e., agreed upon proxy and methodology) on the land at the time of project initiation

10 tortoises @ \$1
\$10 total



**Government
And/Or
Private-party**

Nets \$5

Pays an annual floating rate based on number of tortoises (i.e., agreed upon proxy and methodology) on the land every year after

5 tortoises @ \$1
\$5 total

YEAR 2

Pays an annual fixed rate based on number of tortoises (i.e., agreed upon proxy and methodology) on the land at the time of project initiation

10 tortoises @ \$1
\$10 total



Nets \$5

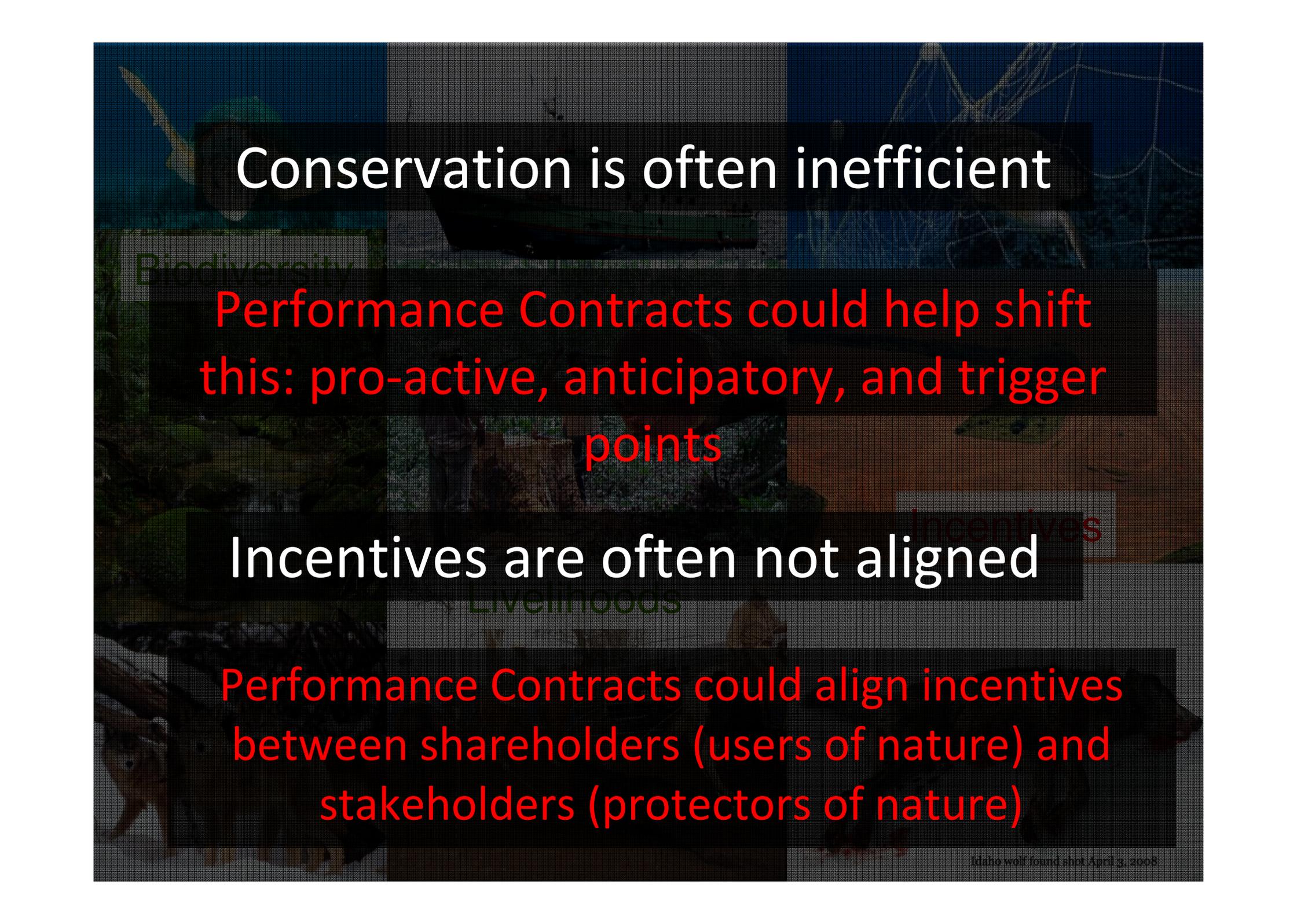


**Government
And/Or
Private-party**

Pays an annual floating rate based on number of tortoises (i.e., agreed upon proxy and methodology) on the land every year after

15 tortoises @ \$1
\$15 total

YEAR 2



Conservation is often inefficient

Performance Contracts could help shift this: pro-active, anticipatory, and trigger points

Incentives are often not aligned

Performance Contracts could align incentives between shareholders (users of nature) and stakeholders (protectors of nature)





16% of the world's protein

>200 million people

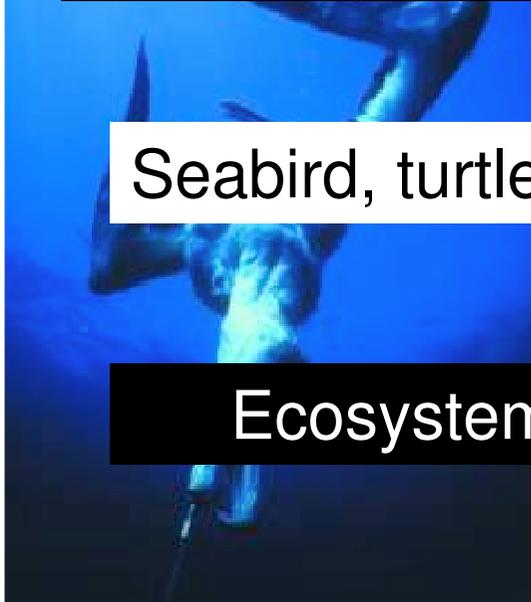


\$82 billion



1/4 of global catch is bycatch

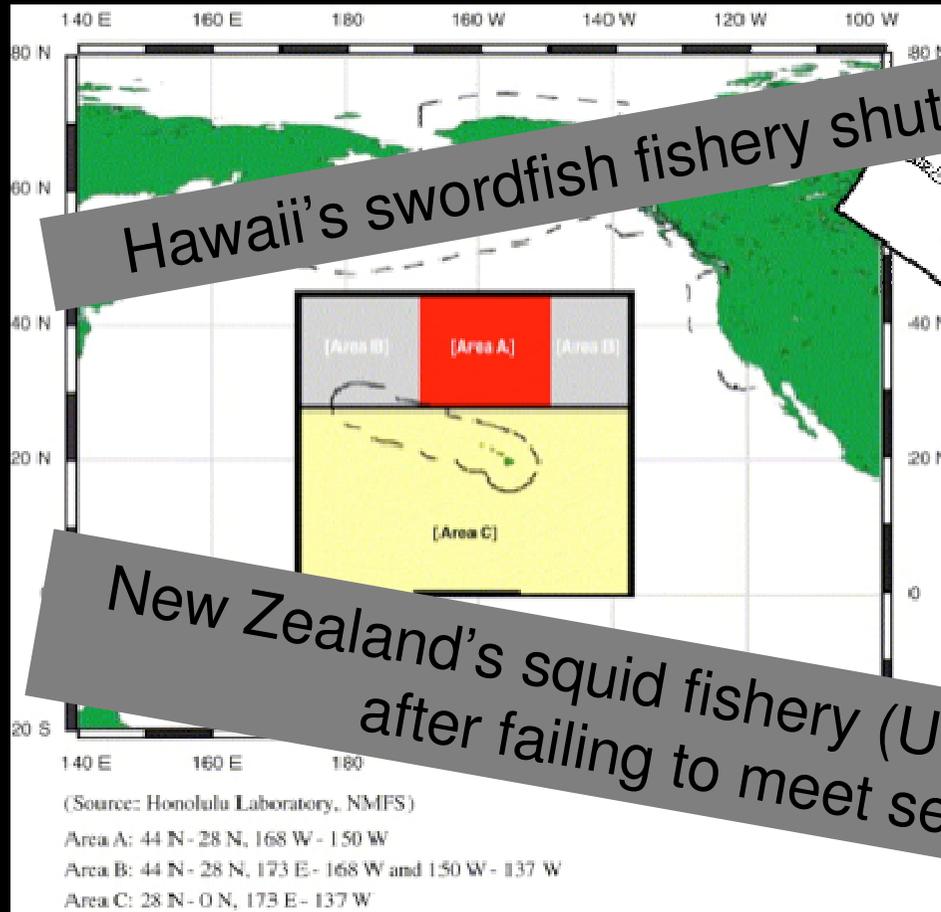
Seabird, turtles, mammals



Ecosystem impacts

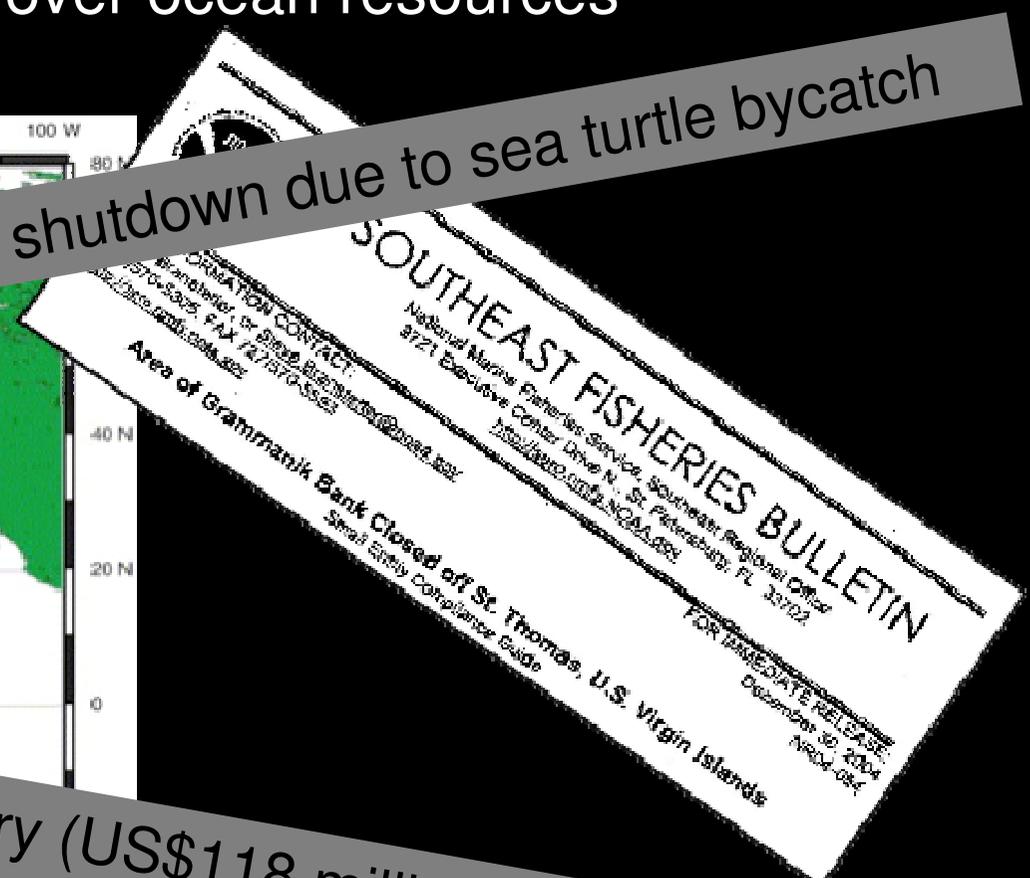


The social and economic importance of fisheries and the biological realities of overfishing and bycatch result in major tensions over ocean resources



Hawaii's swordfish fishery shutdown due to sea turtle bycatch

New Zealand's squid fishery (US\$118 million / year) sent home after failing to meet seabird bycatch quotas



Flesh-footed Shearwaters

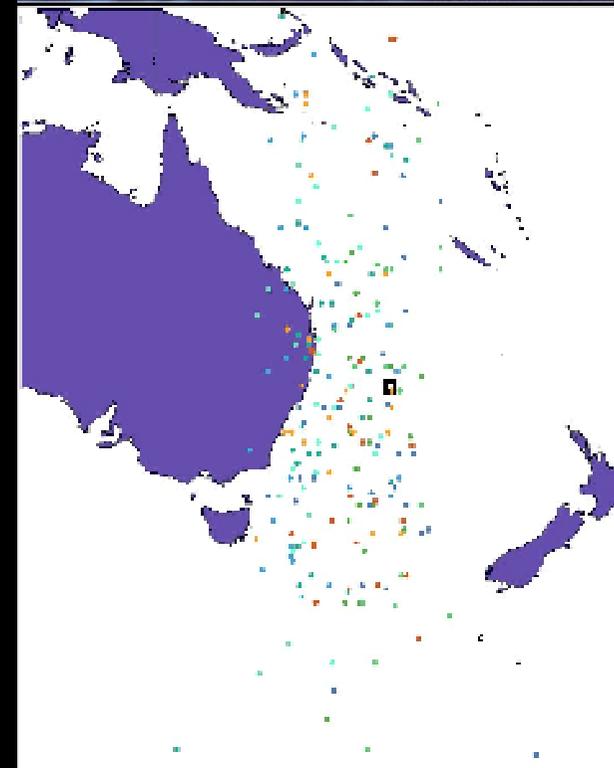
Breed on Lord Howe Island

Invasive rats are present

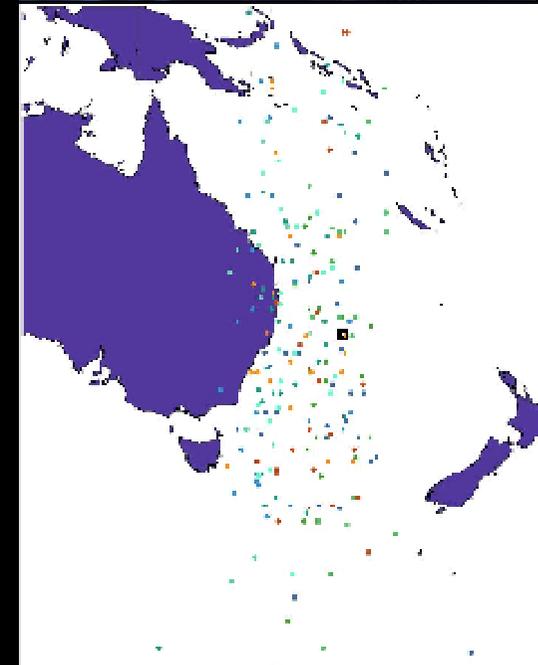
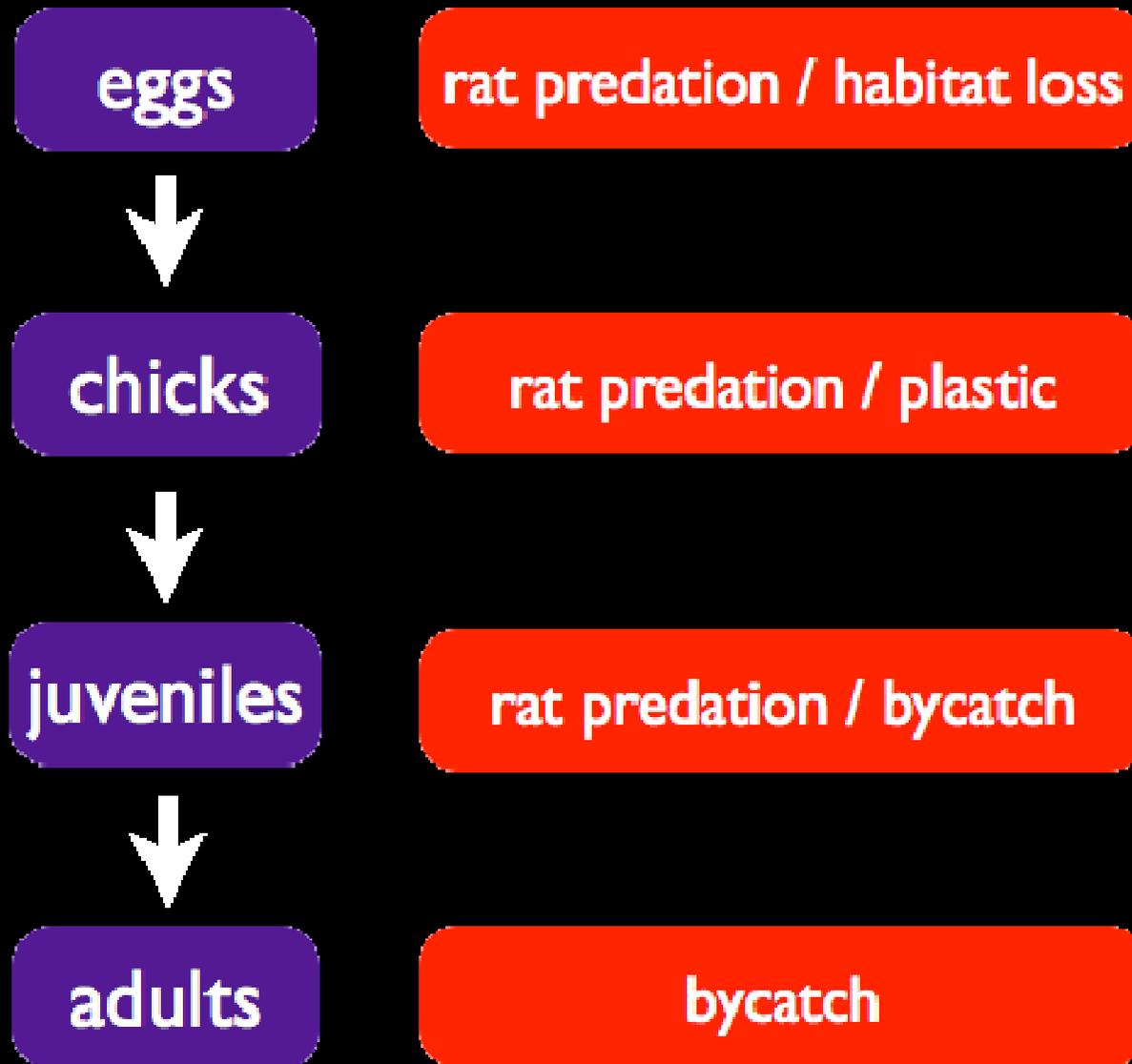
Overlap entire fishery

Australia's Eastern Tuna & Billfish
Fishery

- \$30-70 million annually
- Regulated and responsible
- Gear modifications are not effective for some species
- Facing closure with new regulations



Flesh-footed Shearwaters: Mortality Portfolio



A Return On Investment Approach

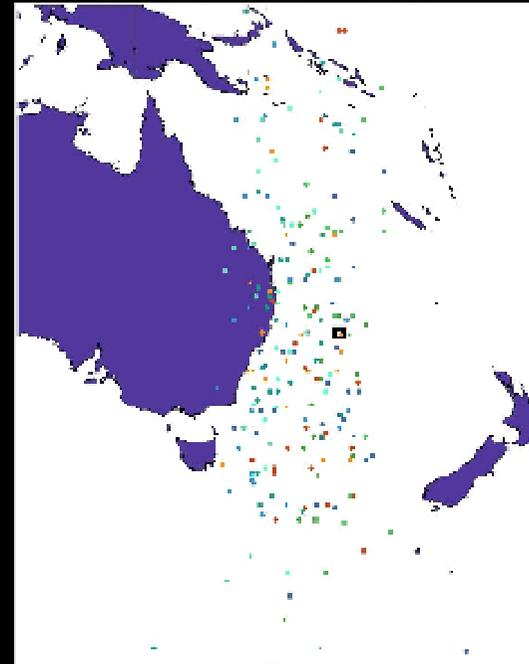
Goal: compare cost-effectiveness of fishery closures and eradication program for rats

Demographics (% change in λ)

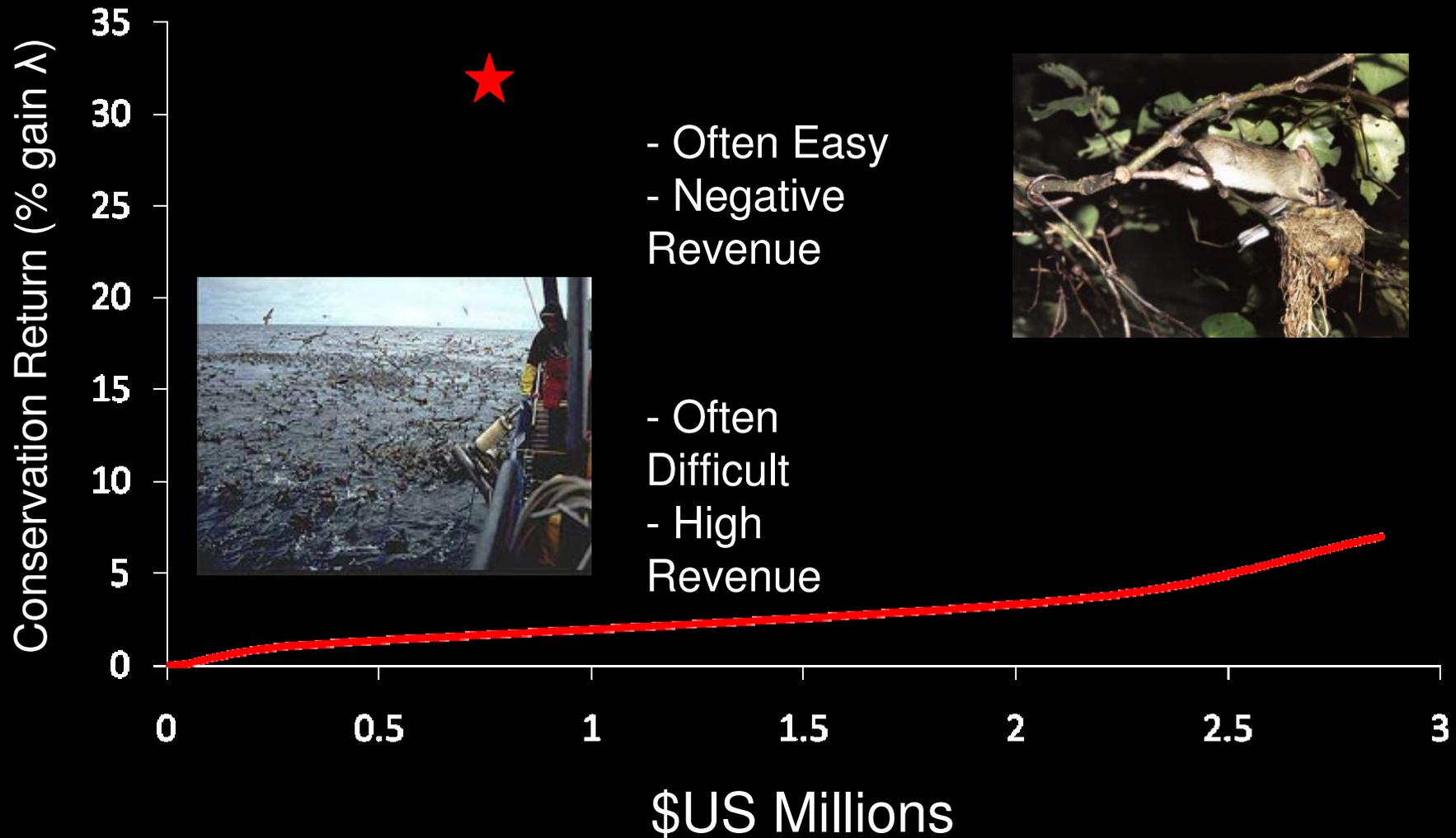
- age structured population model
- fishery observer / necropsy data
- rat impacts

Economics (net present value @ 5% inflation)

- estimated \$ of closure around L. H. Island to meet mandated levels - value of catch as the opportunity cost
- cost of rat eradication



Cost-effectiveness of Interventions







Country A

Commercial Fishery

Land-based User

Country B

Artesanal Fishery

Marine-based User

Convention on Biological Diversity & Bycatch

1. Avoid

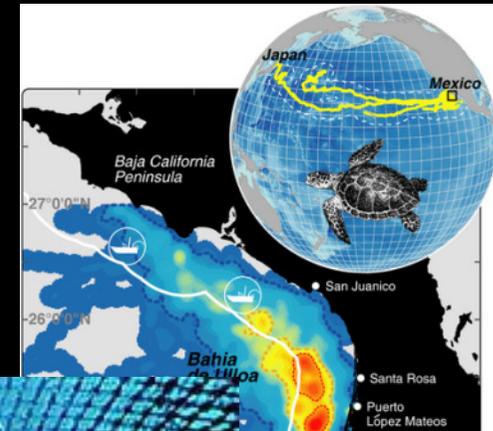
Fleet communication systems

2. Mitigate

Tori poles, circle hooks, weighted lines

3. Offset

Funding measurable conservation interventions



Convention on Biological Diversity & Bycatch

3. Why Offset?

Funding measurable conservation interventions

Opportunities for conservation gains

Cost-effective

Opportunity for net neutral impact

Business case: market access

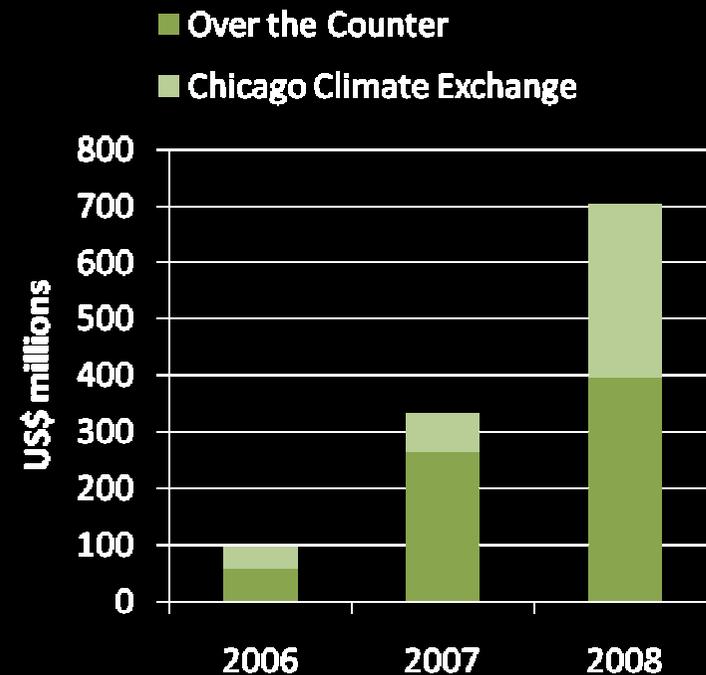
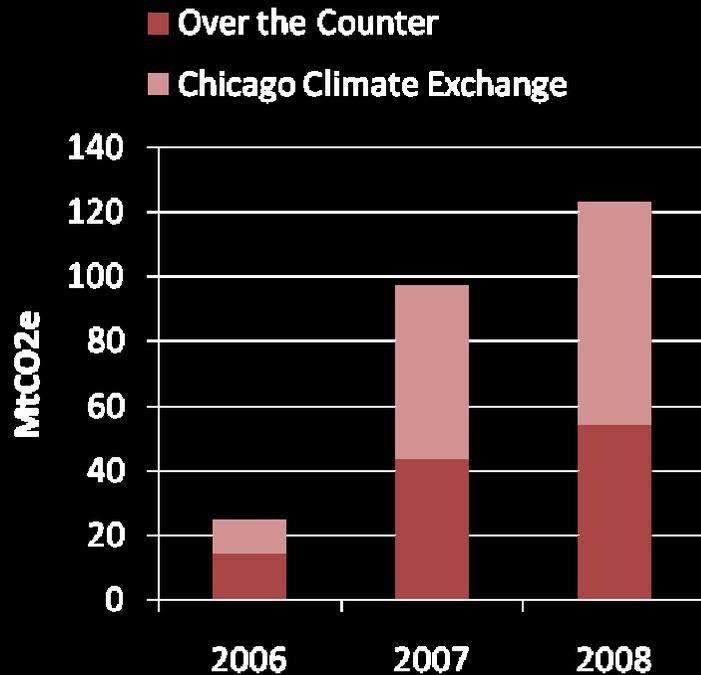




In 2008:



- The global carbon market was worth \$120 billion.
- The voluntary carbon market was worth \$700 million.
- Reforestation, Forest Management & Avoided Deforestation: 3% of transactions on the voluntary carbon market.
- Middle East: 15% transactions on the voluntary carbon market.



Beavers in Tierra del Fuego

>7 million ha (27,000 km² waterways

Colonized the mainland

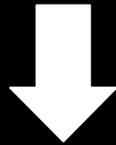
Degrading biodiversity & ecosystem services and threaten the economy

Feasible to remove but unprecedented

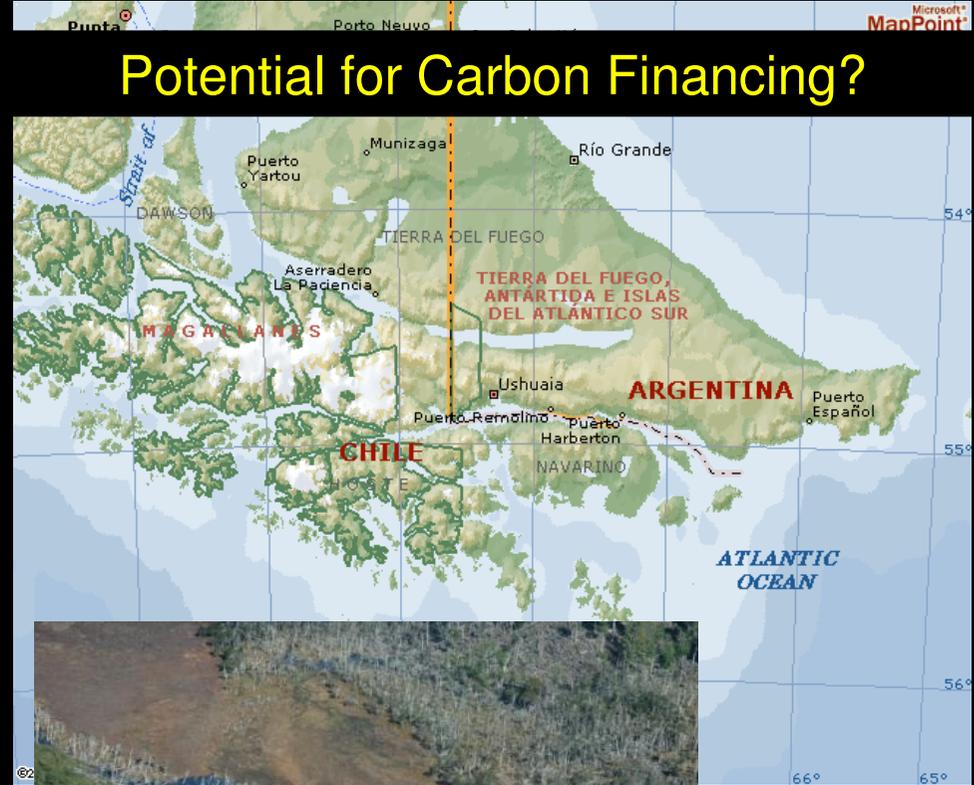
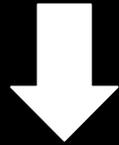
Cost >US\$30 mm

All approved Chile GEF Biodiversity Projects since 1991: \$29 mm





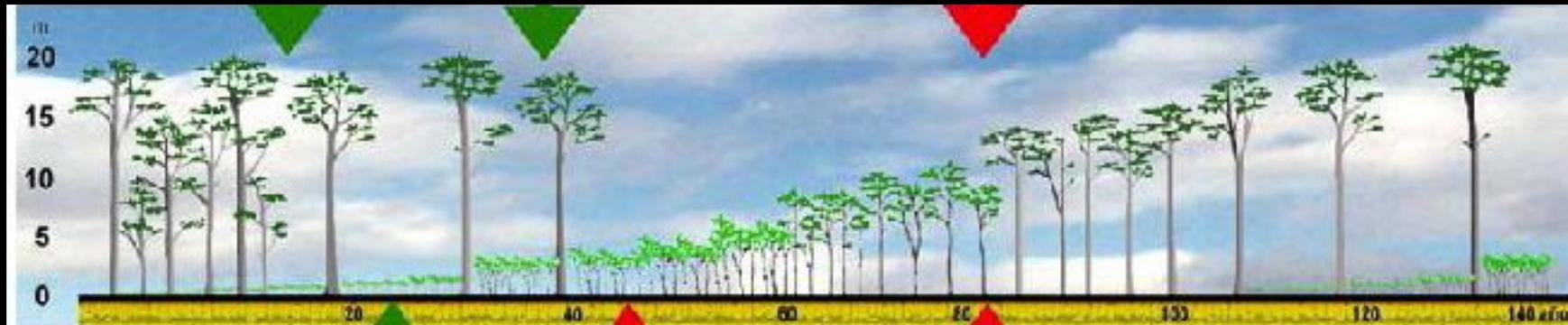
Remove Beavers



Imagine the following scenario...

Riparian Forest	1 hectare
Estimated 30-year Carbon storage	36.3 tonnesCO ₂
Gross revenue @ \$2.00 per tonne CO ₂	\$72.60
Gross revenue @ 16.00 per tonne CO ₂	\$580.80

Are restoration costs (eradication + reforestation)
less than potential carbon revenue?

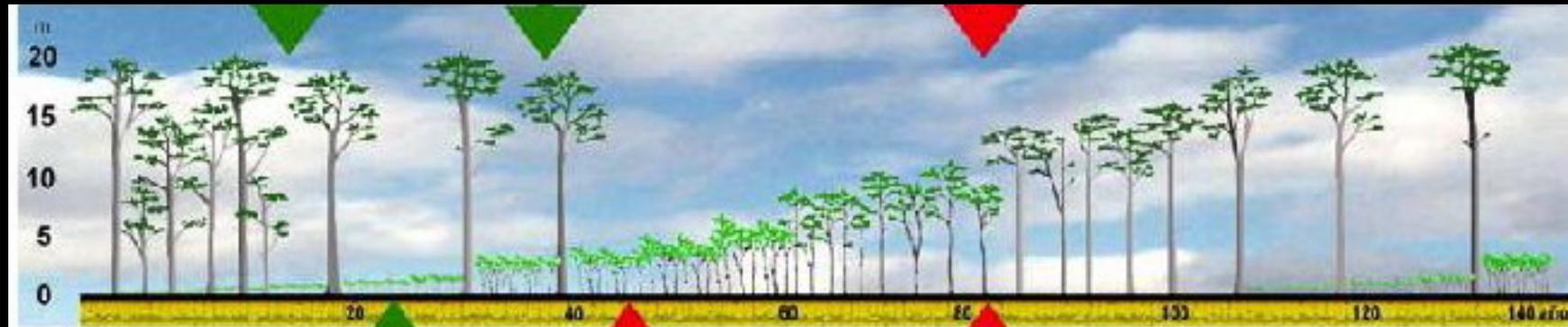


75% of TDF+Riparian Area ($\pm 30\text{m}$)

90,000 hectares

Estimated 30-year Carbon storage

3,269,970 tonnes CO_2e

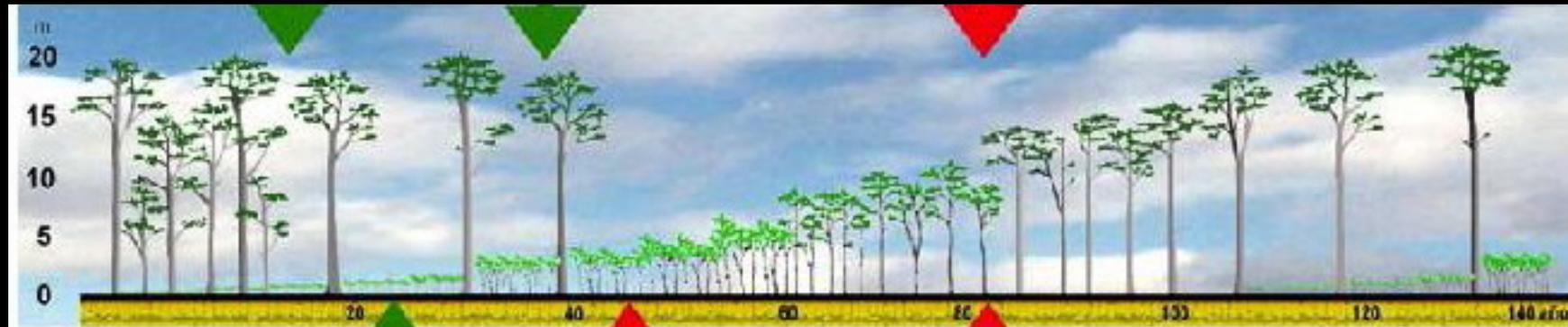


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How much carbon is that?

USA 2006: 5.7 billion

UAE 2006: 110 million

Chile 2006: 6 million

Annual CO_2e emissions:

BHP Billiton: 382,000

British Petroleum: 595,000

Rio Tinto: 710,000

Coca Cola Company: 5,000

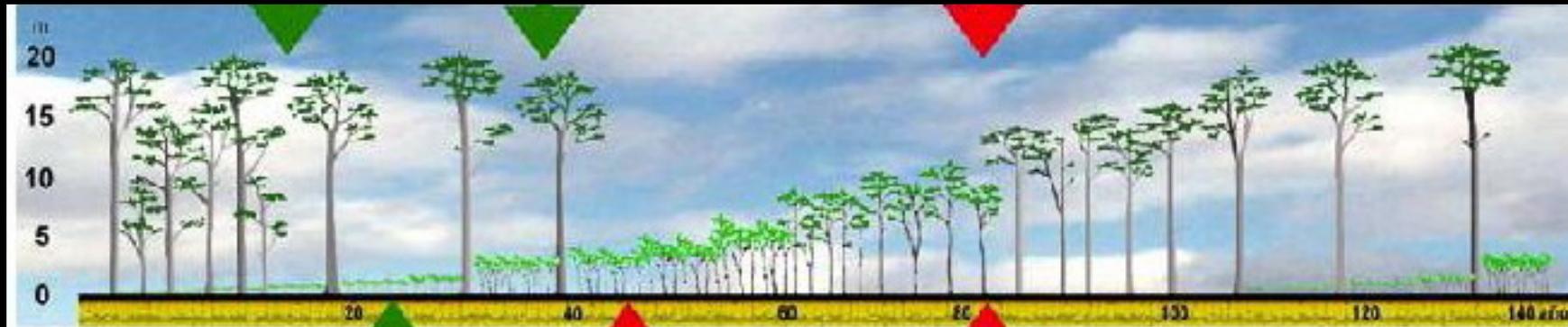


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Estimated Eradication Cost

\$32.0 million

Estimated Reforestation Costs ($\$93 \text{ ha}^{-1}$)

\$8.4 million

Fencing for Guanaco ($\$201 \text{ ha}^{-1}$)

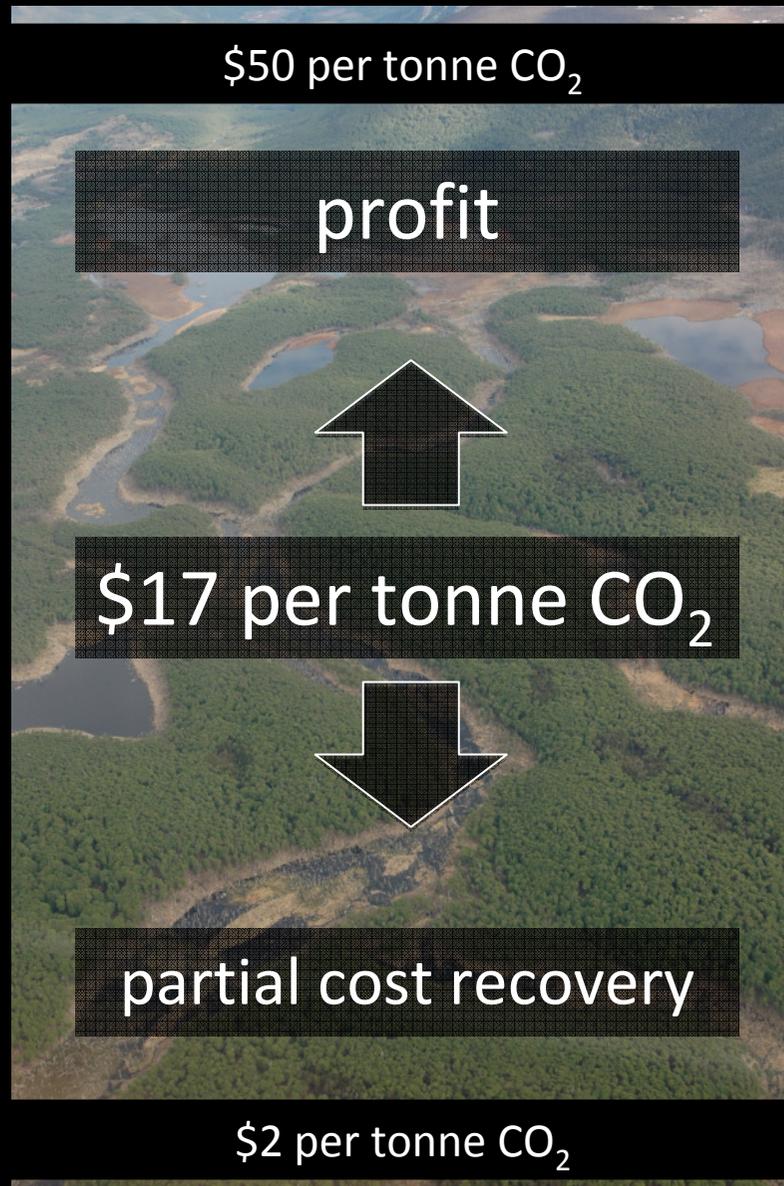
\$18.1 million

Total Restoration Costs

\$58.5 million



Are restoration costs less than potential carbon revenue?



Price on the carbon market(s) that would pay for the entire project (\$58.5 mm)



Opportunities for Blue Carbon?

Riparian Forest	1 hectare
Estimated 30-year Carbon storage	36.3 tonnesCO ₂
Mangroves	56.7tonnesCO ₂
Salt March	71.1 tonnesCO ₂
Sea Grass	41.1 tonnesCO ₂





Potential Investments For Biodiversity Conservation

Investment

Examples

Least Direct Mature Markets

Support for extracted bio-products

Logging, non-timber, hunting

Support for reduced impact use

Sustainable agriculture,
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Most Direct No Markets



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Most Direct Payments



Potential Investments For Biodiversity Conservation

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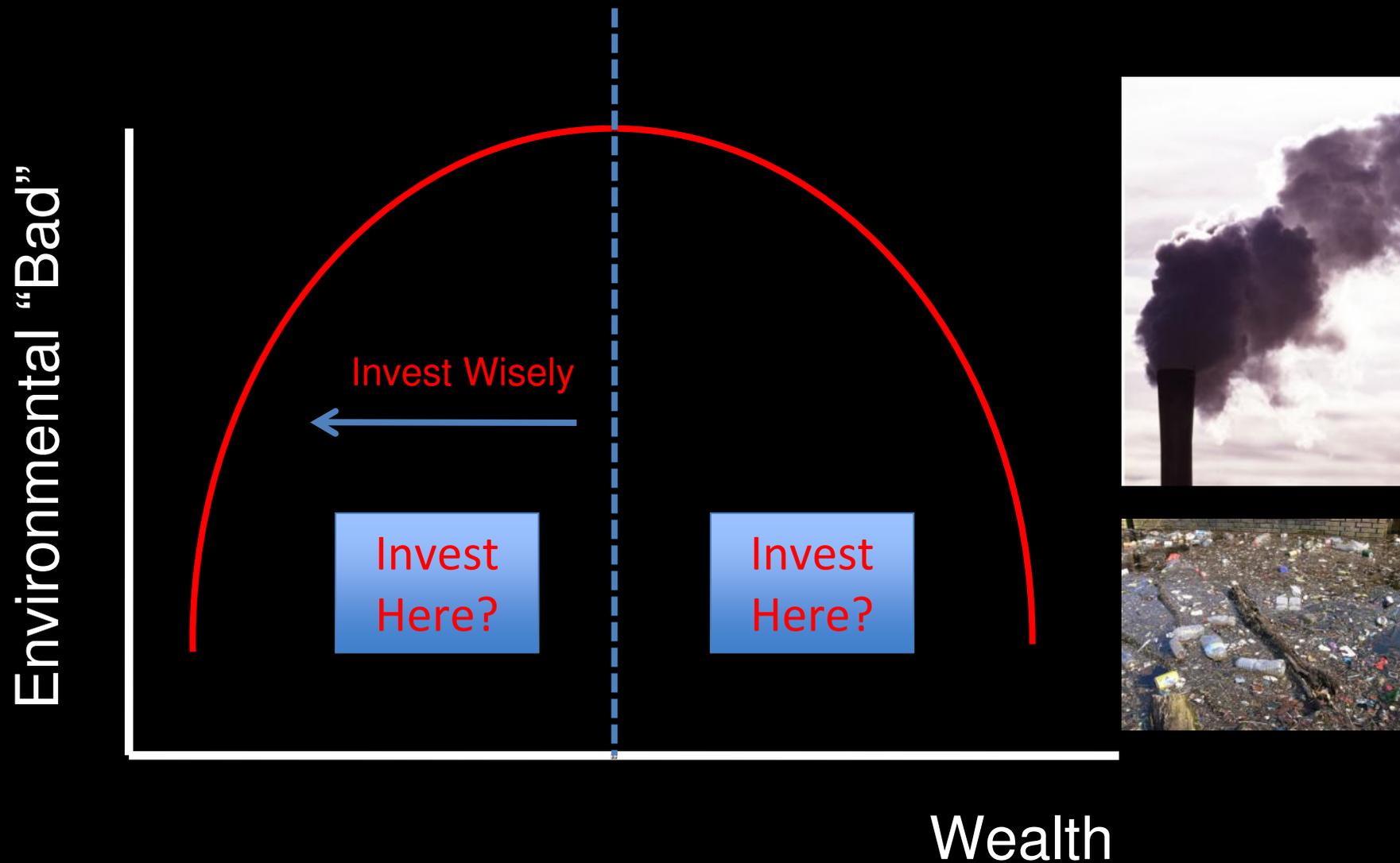
Performance-based payments
for biodiversity

Most Direct Payments

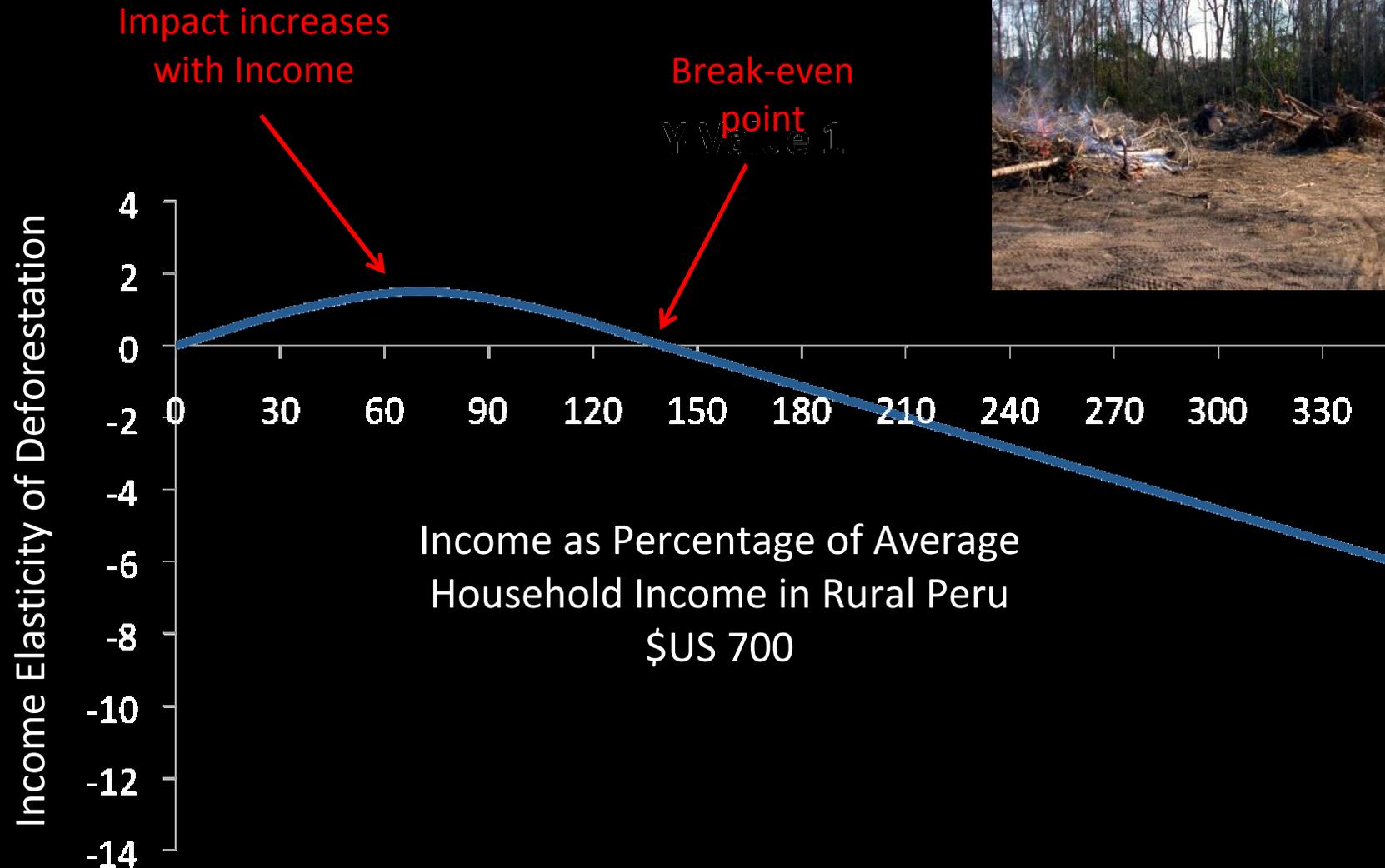
Low-Impact
Livelihoods

Paying For
Biodiversity
Directly

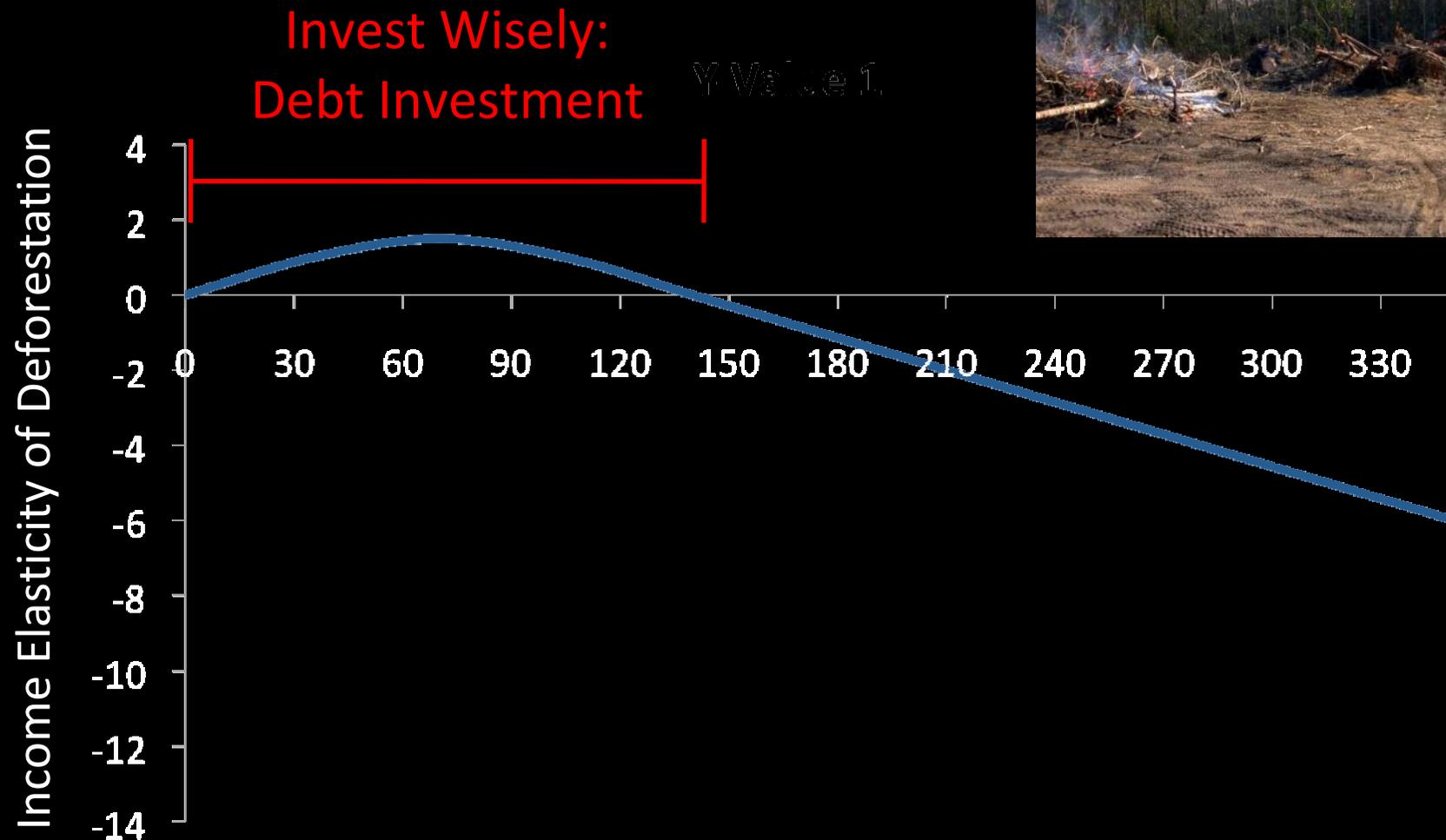
Biodiversity Investments Along The Environmental Kuznets Curve



The Role of Income on Biodiversity Investments



The Role of Income on Biodiversity Investments



Potential Investments For Biodiversity Conservation

Investment

Least Direct Livelihoods

Support for extracted bio-products
Support for reduced impact use
Support for intact use

Payment for *other*
environmental services

Payment for use rights

Performance-based payments
for biodiversity

Most Direct Payments

Low-Impact
Livelihoods

Debt Investment

Paying For
Biodiversity
Directly

Combining Microfinance & Environmental Stewardship

Microfinance Framework

- Tapping social capital to lend money
- High repayment rates under right social conditions
- Associated services (e.g., savings, business)
- Worldwide: 1,750 MFIs with \$39 billion in loans and 76 million borrowers

Biodiversity Performance “Collateral”

- Loan is directly tied to an environmental asset
- ↑asset = ↑higher line of credit
- ↓asset = ↓lower line of credit and eventually lack of credit access
- Short-term incentive: credit access and/or reduced interest rate
- Long-term incentive: repeat credit access



Environmental Mortgages

How would it work?

- Scope low-income communities with legal or *de facto* control over high-value biodiversity assets and livelihood improvement options.
- Establish a community lending trust that gives low-interest livelihood loans tied to some environmental asset.
- The environmental asset is independently audited and drives the amount of future capital available to the community (e.g., the following year).
- Associated services would come with the loan.



The Recôncavo Carbon & Livelihoods Initiative

Atlantic Rainforest: historically covered 1/3 of Bahia. 9% remains today.

Recôncavo Baiano is a group of 25 municipalities.

Rural poor communities within a matrix of degraded and intact rainforest and mangrove ecosystems.



The Recôncavo Carbon & Livelihoods Initiative

Project Goals:

Convert Recôncavo into an extensive carbon sink over the next 30 years (6mm tons).

Efficient stove substitutions, converting pastures back into rainforest, and reducing forest degradation.

Provide environmental health and biodiversity co-benefits.

Provide livelihood improvement via a lending trust to increase agricultural productivity.



Efficient Stoves

- 18 tons CO₂ per unit (6 yrs)
- NaturaCosméticos buying the reduced carbon emissions
- Recôncavo: 15,000 units
- Bahia: 500,000+ units



Stage: Implementation



Forest Restoration

- 260 tons CO₂ per ha (30yr)
- Recôncavo: 10,000+ ha
- Bahia: 250,000+ ha

Stage: Community Engagement



REDD

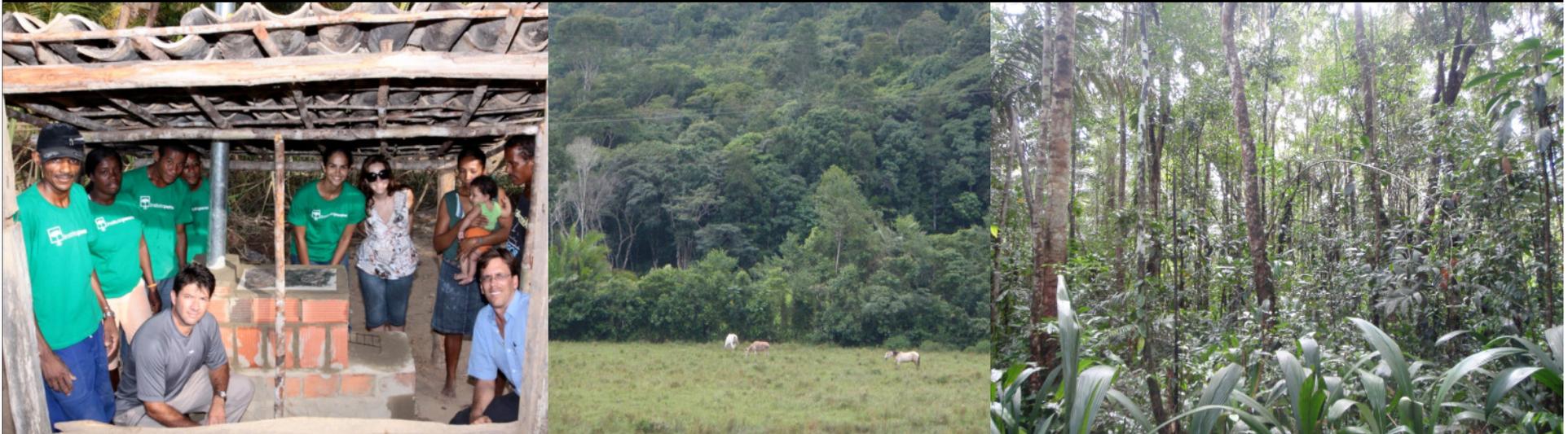
- 250 tons CO₂ per ha
- Recôncavo: 25,000 ha
- Bahia: 3,000,000+ ha

Stage: Community Engagement



Opportunities

- Brazil: 37 MFIs with 810,000 borrowers with \$520mm loan portfolio (\$816).
- Community buy-in, largely result of a strong local presence and stove results.
- Proximity to Salvador.



Challenges

- Land tenure.
- Committed engagement from all stakeholders.

Voluntary Carbon Market



**Socially responsible
forest carbon
emission credits**

Efficient Stoves

Reforestation

Avoided
Deforestation



Capital

Conservation Lending
Trust



**Repeat access to
affordable credit and
business services**

Local Rural Communities

“Buyer” or Revenue Stream



Dugong
Conservation
Activity #1

Dugong
Conservation
Activity #2

Dugong
Conservation
Activity #3



Conservation Lending
Trust



Local Rural Communities





Scaling Up: Costa Rica's Payment for Environmental Services Program

- Pays forest owners for
 - watershed protection
 - carbon sequestration
 - landscape beauty
 - biodiversity protection
- 670,000+ ha under contract with 8,000+ landowners
- Paid for by a
 - fuel tax
 - agreements with private and public companies
 - World Bank / GEF funding
- Current annual budget: US\$15 mm
- Delivering biodiversity and social outcomes





ADVANCED CONSERVATION STRATEGIES
 Innovative. Self Sustaining. Economically Efficient.

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www.advancedconservation.org

