



Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF), a 501(c)3 charitable and nonprofit public benefit corporation that pioneers entrepreneurial solutions to address the earth's most pressing concerns at the intersection of renewable energy and freshwater.

BEF has successfully developed several market-based ecosystem service programs that generate new revenue sources for watershed restoration, stream flow restoration, renewable energy development, and STEM education. BEF has effectively deployed diverse philanthropic funding resources to leverage millions of private dollars into watershed restoration and renewable energy programs.

Freshwater Stewardship Partnerships and Achievements

For over 18 years, BEF has worked collaboratively with utilities, corporations, foundations, schools, educators, NGOs, tribes, and the public to solve pressing freshwater challenges. Our work has focused on developing and bringing game-changing ideas to market, including:

- Developing the first 10-year Model Watershed Program funding and restoration strategy. This [program](#) has supported NGO-led efforts across 17 Western Watersheds; one of which was awarded the [2012 Thiess International Riverprize](#)
- Creating the only national water restoration program ([Water Restoration Certificates®](#) - WRCs) that enables companies to balance a water footprint by restoring freshwater to depleted ecosystems while receiving a product that can be used against corporate sustainability metrics
 - WRCs are recognized by [The Alliance for Water Stewardship Standard](#) as well as the USGBC's [LEED](#) rating system
- Creating the [award-winning Change the Course](#) campaign, in partnership with National Geographic and Participant Media, that connects corporations, NGOs and the public to restore freshwater and inspire water conservation
 - Change the Course has over 40 corporate sponsors that have supported over 35 restoration projects across 11 states and Mexico, restoring over 8 billion gallons of water and inspiring over 250,000 individual pledges to conserve water
- Launching the [Business for Water Stewardship](#) which works in partnership with businesses to advance solutions necessary to sustain the well-being of communities, economies and freshwater
- Building a [Water Project Bank](#) that allows companies to explore a diverse portfolio of restoration projects across North American in geographies material to a company's operations or supply chain

Organizational Niche

BEF focuses its work in corporate and environmental water stewardship to develop the strategies, services and programs needed to engage new private sector companies in using their brands, resources and capacity to build and support environmental water restoration.

BEF is known in both the NGO and corporate sector as having a unique understanding of how to package and use environmental programs to meet business needs while advancing and supporting ecosystem needs. While many NGOs work on developing the on the ground projects that lead to conservation outcomes, BEF is focused on building the corporate interest and demand necessary to expand the long-term impact of NGO-led projects and conservation efforts.

Corporate Water Stewardship Experience

BEF has worked with many of the Fortune 500 (Coca-Cola, DanoneWave, Delta Air Lines, Disney, Intel, Salesforce, Waste Management, Wells Fargo and multiple technology companies) to support the development and implementation of environmental water strategies. This compliments the organization's work with small to midsize companies from multiple industry sectors (Kohler, NHL, Reformation, REI, Xanterra Parks & Resorts and many others). Through this set of diverse experiences, the BEF team has learned how to approach this work and have successfully leveraged our national NGO connections and programs to a) manage risk for our corporate partners, b) set and achieve specific corporate water goals that fit within and reinforce larger sustainability objectives, and c) minimize project costs by representing a full spectrum of project options. BEF has developed and supported over 50 projects that represent over 10 billion gallons of volumetric benefit. Our team scopes, and represents projects across a spectrum of large and small NGOs that offer the broadest possible set of opportunities for companies to select and support projects that meet materiality, CSR, and PR objectives.

As a committed advocate for our corporate partners, we have been able to frame strategies that incorporate real world understanding of on-the-ground opportunities and challenges, maximize project impact, contain project costs, and achieve specific volumetric outcomes in key geographies.

Team Members

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