The Need for Natural Climate Solutions

The graph shows global carbon emissions (pgCO₂ yr⁻¹) from 2000 to 2050. The emissions are categorized into historic emissions, business-as-usual emissions, fossil fuel mitigation, and natural pathways mitigation. The <2°C pathway is indicated, showing a significant reduction in emissions by 2050. The diagram highlights the importance of natural climate solutions in achieving a lower carbon footprint.
Marketplace Opportunity

![Bar chart showing emission reductions for reforestation, improved forest management, and avoided conversion.]

- **Reforestation**: Large green bar indicating significant emission reductions.
- **Improved Forest Management**: Medium-sized orange and green bars showing moderate emissions reductions.
- **Avoided Conversion**: Small green bar indicating minimal emission reductions.

Legend:
- Orange bar: Total ERs voluntary and compliance markets through 2018 Tg CO2e
- Green bar: US NCS potential Fargione et al 2018 Tg CO2e/yr
Family Forests’ Climate Potential...

39% of all U.S. forests are owned by family forest owners

1 in 4 rural Americans own forestland

15% of U.S.’s emissions are sequestered by rural America

Natural climate solutions could double family forests’ carbon sink potential through climate-smart forestry
…But Missed Opportunity

**Barriers to Market Entry:**

- High up-front costs
- Lack of technical assistance
- Risk of market volatility
The Government’s Role

One-time grants $\rightarrow$ Long-term catalyst
Current Investments in Small Forest Landowners

- Current Spending on US Private Forests
- Current VCM small landowner access
Potential Leveraged Impact

Current Spending Less 1% Government Investment
Resulting VCM Leverage
Protect IRA Investments in the Farm Bill

- Historic level investments in small and underserved landowners
- USFS Landscape Scale Restoration; NRCS EQIP and CSP
Administrative Flexibilities

• Billions in IRA and BIL are administratively hindered from being delivered equitably

• Streamline RCPP delivery

• Landowner enrollment flexibility
Rural Forest Markets Act (RFMA)

- Leverage federal investments with private capital
- $150 million in loan guarantees
- Allows the U.S. to significantly scale climate impact
Questions?