



BIG TROUT BAY

Participant: The Conservation Fund in partnership with the Nature Conservancy of Canada

Location: Neebing, Ontario, Canada

Investment class: Green Lending

Amount financed: US\$1,100,543

Total Project Value: US\$5,543,000

Example Project: Executed independently of the Platform, this already-completed project aligns with the Platform’s structure and environmental goals.

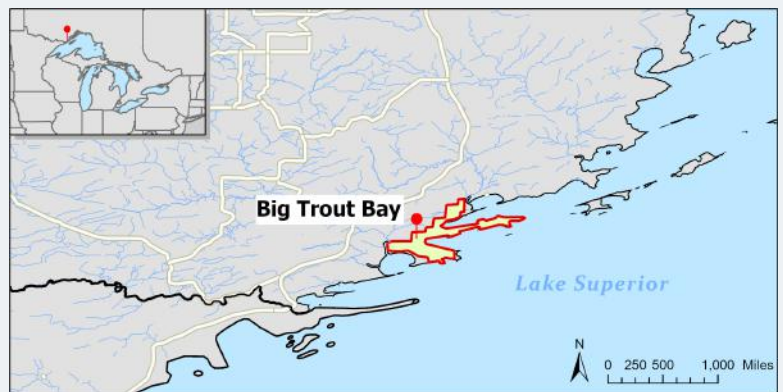
The Project: The Big Trout Bay property boasts more than 2,500 acres of undisturbed habitat along 12 miles of pristine shoreline that supports several rare plant species such as inland bluegrass, western cliff fern and Missouri goldenrod. Its high-quality coastal cliff habitat and dense forests provide a home for wildlife species like the bald eagle and peregrine falcon. The property has one of the highest concentrations of species and natural communities in the Great Lakes region. Six miles of hiking trails provide hikers with spectacular views of the Lake Superior shoreline.

Mounting development pressure put the natural habitat of the Big Trout Bay property at risk, as this land was one of the last privately owned, undeveloped stretches of shoreline between Duluth, Minnesota, and Thunder Bay, Ontario. In 2016, the property became available to purchase by the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC). NCC assembled the grants and donations needed to fund the project but some of the donations were pledges of support payable over multiple years. NCC turned to the Conservation Fund (TCF) and its Conservation Loan program to provide bridge financing, which enabled the purchase of this ecologically important area before it was lost forever. TCF’s loan capital came from the Great Lakes Revolving Loan Fund that was established in 2002 with a generous grant from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. Since its creation, this revolving fund of loan capital has provided millions of dollars in financing to public agencies and nonprofit organizations for the conservation of thousands of acres in the Great Lakes region.

ESG Outcomes:

- Environmental certification of land
- Nutrient reduction
- Carbon sequestration

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Alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals:

