

Thomas O'Neill, the founder and director of Northwest Habitat Institute, will speak at Stanford University.

A FOUNDATION FOR
UNDERSTANDING
VALUING NATURE TO
MAKE INFORM
DECISIONS

March 23-25

Natural Capital Symposium

2015

Stanford University

*"All ethics rest upon a single
premise that the individual is a
member of a community of
interdependent parts."
~Aldo Leopold*

O'Neill was among invited
speakers at a conference on
"Valuing Nature" at Trinity
College in Dublin, Ireland, in
2012.

CHAP Seminar
Tuesday, March 24th
11:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

A meeting of likeminded people from around the globe with intent of establishing the true value of nature as the foundation piece for human decision-making.

O'Neill developed a system for assessing habitat value in North America that uses a biological accounting and appraises various habitats for their value using fish and wildlife species, habitat structures and functions. O'Neill received a patent for this approach in 2010.

The Northwest Habitat Institute, which he founded in 1998, has used this innovative approach in environmental impact reports and other ecological-based analyses of major resources like the Los Angeles River and Aliso Creek in Southern California, San Francisco's South Bay,

the Espanola Valley along New Mexico's Rio Grande River, and places throughout Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

It pairs well with a new approach that's emerged in government and development: that of a mitigation banking program that allows developers to build on wetlands in one area in exchange for the restoration of wetlands in another. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers uses in evaluating ecosystem restoration alternatives, and the Southern California Association of Governments uses it as part of a framework for their conservation strategy.

"This system helps ensure that the public is getting a fair deal in those habitat evaluations and land trades and not an arbitrary exchange based on subjective judgments and policies that do not consider what the true value of land is really worth," O'Neill said.

**Combined Habitat
Assessment Protocols
(CHAP)**
**Providing a Consistent
Framework to
Communicate the Value
of Fish & Wildlife
Habitat**

Details for registering to attend:

The symposium is March 23 through March 25 at Stanford's Munger Conference Center. O'Neill will host a lecture and question-and-answer session. Decision-makers and stakeholders

are encouraged to attend. To register, visit:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e9q3j8jya0887357&oseq=&c=&ch>

