

Fred C. Danforth -Bio

Fred Danforth is the founding Partner of **Ecosystem Investment Partners (EIP)**, a private equity fund manager that acquires and manages high priority conservation properties across the United States. EIP delivers competitive returns to its investors through the use of new, market-based mechanisms that reward landowners for the restoration and protection of their natural resources (such as wetlands, streams and endangered species), as well as the sustainable use of more traditional resources (such as forestry and agriculture). Prior to creating EIP, he enjoyed a long and successful career in banking and private equity investing.

A native of northern Maine, he is a 1973 graduate of **Yale University** and began his banking career by spending eight years with **Citibank** in New York City. In his last commercial banking assignment, Fred served as president of a large Tulsa, Oklahoma based bank. In 1986, he was co-founder of **Capital Resource Partners (CRP)**, a private equity investment firm located in Boston. Fred served as managing partner and oversaw the raising and investment of four institutional funds totaling nearly \$1 billion in capital under management. Institutional limited partners in CRP's funds included leading public and private pension funds, major college endowments and foundations.

Fred retired from CRP in 2002 and immediately shifted his time and energies to several business partnerships and related activities in Montana. While remaining a resident of Massachusetts, Fred has seen many of his passions evolve into active pursuits in the worlds of fly-fishing and conservation land management. In particular, he is the lead partner for **Nevada Spring Creek Partners** in Montana's renowned Blackfoot Valley, where he is overseeing comprehensive habitat and stream restoration projects on Nevada Spring Creek and the former Potts Ranch. This has led to the creation of the Upper Clark Fork Mitigation Bank, the first wetland and stream mitigation bank in Montana.

Additionally, Fred's experience in finance, and currently in the evolving arena of conservation finance, has led him to form **Oxbow Land Management**. Oxbow's mission is to work with private landowners on large, ecologically significant tracts of land to restore and protect critical natural resources while using market-based programs to generate economic returns.