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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ENCOURAGE CAPITAL PARTNERS WITH ECOPARTNERS TO HELP BRING
CARBON PAYMENTS TO SMALL FAMILY FORESTS**

*ecoPartners' Forest Carbon Works Pioneering Technology Expands Access to the Carbon Credit
Market for Millions of Small Landowners*

BERKELEY, CA, August 3, 2018: ecoPartners and Encourage Capital are excited to announce a new partnership, continuing their shared goals of promoting forest conservation and improving air quality. Encourage Green Carbon Company has invested in ecoPartners' Forest Carbon Works program, which helps small landowners access the carbon market and get paid for their stewardship.

The investment will expedite Forest Carbon Works' growth, allowing for outreach and trainings to build projects in new geographies.

“We are very excited to have the support of the Encourage Green Carbon Company,” says Kyle Holland, Managing Director of ecoPartners. “Encourage has an incredible track record of creating impact through innovative investments. They are the perfect partner to help us reach our conservation goals with Forest Carbon Works.”

Forest Carbon Works makes it possible for landowners to measure the carbon stored by their forests in as little as 50 acres using a smartphone app, where previous measurement costs made participation too expensive. Forest Carbon Works reduces the cost to a \$75.00 application fee where previously costs exceeded \$250,000.

Landowners submit a simple online application to determine eligibility. If eligible, they receive a specially-modified smartphone to measure the trees on their property. Using the smartphone is intuitive and user-friendly so no prior forestry experience is needed. It can take as little as a few days to measure the forest, depending on property size. Without Forest Carbon Works, taking these necessary forest measurements is an expensive, prohibitive process.

“Forest carbon projects used to be limited to large landowners.” says Otho Kerr, Partner at Encourage Capital, an impact investing firm headquartered in New York that seeks profitable and impactful investments. “We have democratized the space. Now anyone with a piece of forested land and a drive for conservation can join the fight against global warming and get rewarded for it.”

ecoPartners has identified about twenty viable landowners for the first phase of the Forest Carbon Works program. Encourage's investment will help the team support the landowners and execute on these projects. After the initial phase, ecoPartners plans to develop more projects in the Pacific Northwest and in the Northeast. More than four hundred landowners have already signed up.

The Forest Carbon Works smartphone app quickly and simply collects information which is used to measure the amount of carbon sequestered by the forest. Based on this amount, landowners receive annual payments. Forest Carbon Works is currently waiving the membership fee for a limited time, saving landowners \$1,250 who apply in 2018.

About Encourage Capital:

Encourage Capital is a New York-based investment management and advisory firm. The firm's focus areas currently include financing and developing carbon offset projects, investing in companies that bring financial services to the world's poor, financing the development of sustainable wild caught fisheries around the world, and designing solutions for water conservation in the western United States. The firm is managed and staffed by professionals with extensive experience in investment banking, private equity, asset management and environmental conservation. The firm has decades of experience working both with NGOs and conservation organizations, as well as with investment banks on Wall Street.

Since 2011, Encourage Capital through its EKO Green Carbon Fund (GCF) has been investing in forestry-based carbon projects. The GCF rewards landowners for sequestering carbon in their forests, while at the same time providing least-cost abatement solution to carbon-emitting entities covered under California's cap-and-trade regulation. The GCF has been a spectacular financial and environmental success, having invested in forestry projects across the United States covering over 250,000 acres of forests that generated over 10 million offsets.

In its next iteration, Encourage Capital through its Encourage Green Carbon Company is continuing to make project finance investments in forestry projects, as well as strategic investments, which include the Forest Carbon Works program.

<http://www.encouragecapital.com>

About ecoPartners:

ecoPartners is a leader in technical consulting and development services for forest carbon offset projects throughout the United States and around the world. The Forest Carbon Works platform is specifically designed to let US forest owners quantify and sell the carbon sequestration value of their forests. The Carbon Works App is an intuitive, user-friendly tool that makes exploring one's forest and measuring its carbon content a walk through the woods. Measurements are as easy as taking pictures: if you can use a smartphone, then you're ready to apply to Forest Carbon Works.

<https://www.forestcarbonworks.org>

<https://twitter.com/ePcarbon>

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