

FOOD INFRASTRUCTURE CONSULTING



Ecotrust

WHO WE ARE

Ecotrust's mission is to inspire fresh thinking that creates economic opportunity, social equity, and environmental well-being. Our goal is to foster a natural model of development that creates more resilient communities, economies, and ecosystems.

Our team has expertise in business planning, economic development and analysis, operations, facilities and real estate management, and project finance.

OUR APPROACH

We are located in Portland, Oregon with operating experience in the Pacific Northwest region of the US. We take on projects outside of this region with partners that have an existing network and/or existing food hub operations. We tailor our approach to your context, geography, and culture and prioritize projects that center community needs while integrating climate-smart operations.

WHAT WE OFFER

In partnership with communities, we envision and support food infrastructure projects that contribute to positive social and environmental outcomes (e.g., commissary kitchens, warehouse and aggregation space, office, multi-use spaces, and event venues).

Our team can meet and provide value to your project no matter what phase you are in. Below are some of the services we offer:

☀ **Pre-development**

- Feasibility studies
- Engagement and outreach to align partners
- Community needs assessment, including relationship-building and interviews
- Provide connections to a broad network, partners and relationships with technical assistance experts in the field at the appropriate time

☀ **Design & Planning**

- Co-creation of a Purpose, Outcome, and Process (POP) tool to organize team thinking
- Landscape analysis
- Business planning
- Financial modeling to inform fundraising strategy and project investment returns, where applicable
- Co-creation of design scenarios

☀ **Construction & Implementation**

- Support tenanting
- Design development, plan reviews, process and space flow planning, and align space plans with key performance indicators
- Values-aligned leasing processes

☀ **Operations**

- Drafting standard operating procedures (SOP) and food safety measures
- Developing and implementing operating models

☀ **Post-development**

- Collecting, analyzing and reporting data for community impact reporting

PROJECT EXAMPLES AND REFERENCES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

OUR TEAM



Emma Sharer (she/her)
esharer@ecotrust.org

Emma is a food systems, supply chain, and operations enthusiast. Emma joined Ecotrust in 2017 and directs operations for the Ecotrust Investments team with a focus on business initiatives including asset management and community development projects that align with Ecotrust's mission to center racial equity, ecological resilience, and economic development. Emma is bilingual in Spanish and English, with a background in anthropology, agri-tourism, and managing international supply chains for organic consumer packaged goods. She helped operationalize the Redd on Salmon Street food campus, an Ecotrust development located in the heart of Portland and designed to support regional food system growth.



Kaitlyn Rich (she/her)
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Kaitlyn is the Director of Community Asset Development at Ecotrust. She uses her experiences as a multiracial, Korean-American woman, Virgo-sun, writer, designer, strategist, and analyst to develop programming that increases access to resources and capital for BIPOC-led, community-driven projects. She's interested in the ways we can collectively practice abundance, equitably redistribute wealth, and create a just economy. Prior to joining Ecotrust, Kaitlyn worked for a decade as a designer and creative director, practicing systems and design thinking for client projects.



Nathan Kadish (he/him)
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Nathan is the Managing Director at Ecotrust Investments. He joined Ecotrust to conduct financial and operational diligence for potential investments, as well as to grow mission-aligned businesses created or discovered by Ecotrust's program teams. He brings a breadth of experience to his business incubation and investment analysis approach, from conducting market studies to test political viability of public funding strategies in rural Oregon communities, to developing go-to-market sector plans for the world's largest professional services firm.



Maia Larson (she/her)
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In her role as Director of Community Capital, Maia develops and supports initiatives that focus on deploying capital to build intergenerational wealth in our region's communities. She has spent the last decade working at the intersection of community and economic development, agriculture and finance. She spent several years running a farming business focused on ecological resilience, biodiversity, and the integration of livestock into perennial cropping/ tree systems. Her knowledge in the areas of finance, capital access, food systems and agriculture support project partners as they endeavor to build assets and infrastructure in their communities. She serves on the Board of Governors for Organically Grown Company, the Nation's first Perpetual Purpose Trust; and currently lives and works on the land of the Kalapuya people (Eugene, OR) with her husband, little one, and their furry friends.