

## Mature Forest Management

Version 1.0 Forecast Methodology Summary

### Forecast Methodology Overview

Projects increase forest carbon sequestration, decrease forest carbon emissions, or both, based on committing project area to management that fosters the prevalence of older, bigger trees compared to baseline management practices.

- Management is secured by a perpetual conservation easement, which includes minimum terms as outlined by the methodology
- The methodology provides standardized methods to account for net changes in onsite and offsite forest carbon pools, as well as CO<sub>2</sub> emissions associated with site preparation in certain cases
- Permanent storage of additional carbon is ensured by the conservation easement
- Projects must demonstrate clear ownership of forest carbon

### Project Requirements

**Location:** Project must be on privately-owned lands in the areas identified within the MFM Assessment Area Data File (currently limited to the U.S.).

**Project Initiation and Duration:** The start date of a project is the date of recordation of the requisite conservation easement. Projects receive credit for increased sequestration or decreased emissions based on a modeling exercise covering a period of 100 years.

#### Additionality:

- Performance standard test: Projects must achieve greenhouse gas reductions or removals above and beyond “business as usual” activities. This is determined through a standardized baseline assessment using a project-specific model, against which a conservative projection of increases in carbon stocks under project activities, as guided by the conservation easement, is compared
- Legal requirement test: No federal, state or local laws, statutes, rules, regulations or ordinances, court orders or other legally binding mandates require the project activity

**Permanence of Carbon Storage:** Carbon projected to be sequestered will remain stored in the forest or in wood products through the crediting period and beyond, as secured by the perpetual conservation easement. In the event a “reversal” occurs in the future when forest carbon is re-emitted to the atmosphere, the conservation easement ensures restoration of the site and eventual recapture of reversed carbon.

#### Environmental Safeguards:

- Increase/maintenance of tree carbon: Conservation easement ensures projects increase and/or maintain carbon in live trees according to sustainable long-term harvesting practices
- Native species: Projects are required to manage native forest species, with any future timber harvests maintaining or improving the diversity of native species on the project area

**Regulatory Compliance:** Projects must be in compliance with all applicable laws directly related to forest project activities and project proponents must assess risks for future non-compliance, indicating how such risks will be mitigated.

**Project Implementation:** A Project Implementation Report must be completed prior to project confirmation and issuance of FMUs. Tools available for free to facilitate project reporting:

- **Standardized Inventory Methodology (SIM):** A free, pre-verified inventory methodology, providing best practices for setting up a project inventory
- **Climate Action Reserve Inventory Tool (CARIT):** A free, pre-validated Access database tool, which helps landowners manage their inventory. One easy tool to input tree/plot/strata data and calculate carbon automatically using approved volume and biomass equations
- **MFM Calculation Worksheet:** Automatically calculates amount of credits to be issued according to equations in the methodology, based on modeling results and other requisite input data

**Confirmation Schedule:** Confirmation with a site visit occurs once, at least one year after the project start date. Projects have no ongoing monitoring, reporting and confirmation obligations under Climate Forward.

*Important Note: This is a summary of the forecast methodology. Please read the full forecast methodology for a complete description of project requirements.*