CLIMATE FORWARD

A program of the CLIMATE ACTION RESERVE

Reforestation

Version 1.1 Forecast Methodology Summary

Forecast Methodology Overview

Accounts for carbon sequestration associated with the restoration of forest cover on sites where trees are not regenerating on their own, either through direct planting of native trees or conducting site preparation activities that promote the natural regeneration of tree seedlings.

- The methodology provides a simple, standardized tool to forecast the net changes in tree carbon stocking based on pre-approved forest growth projections, as well as CO2 emissions associated with site preparation in certain cases
- Crediting is based on a combination of the acreage, forest type, and landowner type involved, as well as any conditions present that provide assurances as to the long-term maintenance of forecasted stock increases

Project Requirements

Location: Projects must be in a location for which projections of changes in carbon stocking are pre-approved by the Reserve for use under the methodology.

Project Initiation and Duration: The start date of a project is the first date that trees have been planted or site preparation activities have been initiated for the natural regeneration of trees. Credits are issued in recognition of the amount of time sequestered carbon is reasonably expected to be maintained.

Additionality:

- Performance standard test: The project area must not have been in forest landcover for at least 10 years prior to the start date or must have experienced a natural disturbance within the past 10 years resulting in forest canopy cover of less than 25% as of the project start date
- 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: The permanence of carbon sequestered by a project is considered on a 100-year timeframe. Credits are issued with respect to the length of time for which there are assurances that sequestered carbon will be maintained out of the atmosphere:

- If a tonne is expected to be maintained for less than 100 years, credit will be issued at a rate of 1% per tonne per year forecasted to remain sequestered
- If conditions are present assuring the long-term maintenance of sequestered carbon (e.g., perpetual conservation easement), one credit will be issued for each tonne forecasted to be sequestered

Environmental and Social Safeguards:

- Native ecosystems: Projects are required to initiate forests comprising diverse native tree species, as described by a professional forester or professional ecologist in the Reforestation Project Goals Form
- Co-benefits: Project proponents must describe positive and negative effects of project activity on environmental and social issues, such as air quality, water supply, recreation, employment, and environmental justice

Regulatory Compliance: Projects must be in compliance with all applicable laws directly related to 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. A free and easy-to-use tool—the Reforestation Communities Data File—is provided by the Reserve to facilitate project quantification.

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.