

Carbon Market Opportunities and Project Development Tools for Landowners

CLIMATE ACTION RESERVE John Nickerson Climate Action Reserve October 30, 2018

Agenda

- Climate Action Reserve
- Defining an offset
 - Carbon market types
 - Some protocol details
 - Forest carbon projects and long-term stewardship
 - Protocol improvements

Climate Action Reserve: a nonprofit dedicated to market-based solutions to climate change



Carbon Offsets Registry

- Voluntary Program: primary GHG accounting standard used for voluntary carbon market
 - Issued 78 million credits
 - 18 project types, plus user-friendly accounting tools and guidance documents
- Compliance Program: helped develop and currently support California's pioneering cap-and-trade program
 - Approved by CA Air Resources Board to issue carbon credits eligible for compliance use
 - Issued 45% of credits in the compliance market

Beyond GHG Offsets

- GHG policy consulting: Mexico, Ontario, Quebec, World Bank, USDA, USAID, other California agencies, and more
- Climate finance impact assessments
- GHG Mitigation Registry

How are offsets generated?



Offset Protocols Address GHG Quantification

ADDITIONAL	VERIFIABLE	REAL	PERMANENT	OWNED UNAMBIGUOUSLY
• GHG reductions would not have occurred in the absence of the carbon market incentive	• <i>Ex-post</i> third-party verification prior to credit issuance	GHG accounting is conservative, comprehensive, and scientifically credible	GHG reductions or removals persist for at least 100 years, accounting for any reversals	No other parties may reasonably claim ownership of GHG reductions resulting from project
Project development	Public listing	Third-party verification	Registry review	CRT issuance & trading



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CLIMATE A C T I O N RESERVE

- Forest
- Grassland
- Landfill
- Livestock
- Mine Methane
- **()** Nitric Acid Production
- **0** Organic Waste Composting
- **0** Organic Waste Digestion
- **0** Ozone Depleting Substances
- F Forest ARB
- Livestock ARB
- Mine Methane ARB
- Ozone Depleting Substances ARB
- Listed, Registered & Completed Projects as of March 1, 2018

Sal Projects 15M Credits Issued

> Forest Projects 19 Voluntary 75 Compliance

Carbon market types



Compliance Market

End Buyer	Large businesses and utilities required to reduce emissions by law (California, Quebec, Ontario)	
Standard	CA Air Resources Board approved protocols	
Project Types	6 project types, only Forest, MMC, ODS, Livestock used to date	
Credit Price	\$10-\$12, depends on allowance prices	
Cost	Variable by project type; includes: project feasibility study, installation, on-going monitoring & reporting, verification, business development for credit sales	
Risks	 Policy uncertainty re: Cap and Trade Program implementation ROC to ARBOCs conversion risk Invalidation 	









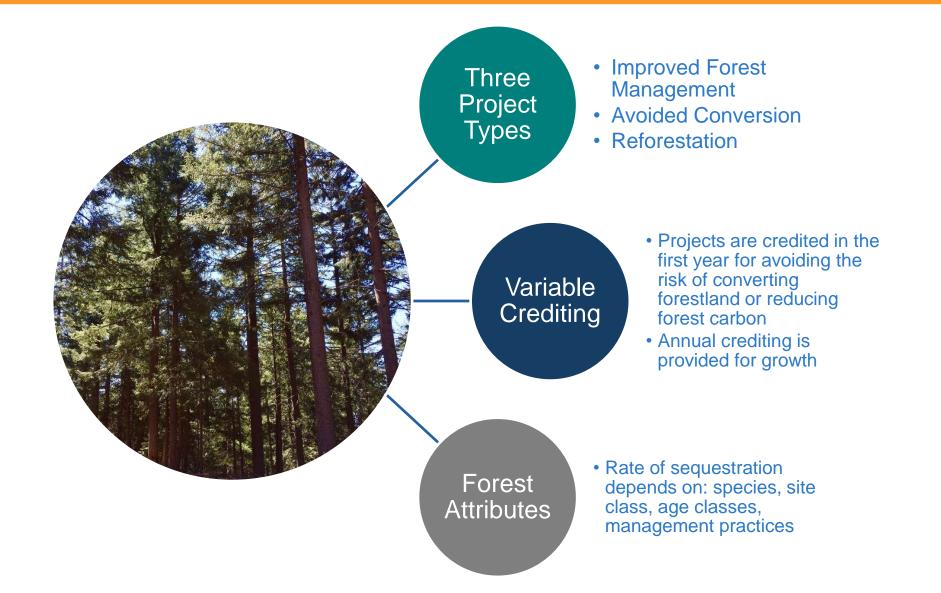
Voluntary Market

End Buyer	Any individual, business, nonprofit, municipality, utility voluntarily reducing emissions	
Standard	Climate Action Reserve protocols, other carbon registries	
Project Types	18 projects types	
Credit Price	\$1-\$45+, depends on project type, location, buyer needs, co-benefits	
Cost	Generally lower than compliance Variable; includes: project feasibility study, installation, on-going monitoring & reporting, verification, business development for credit sales	
Risks	Finding buyersPrice uncertainty overtime	



Forest Carbon Basics





What Does a Forest Project Consider?

ACTIVITIES

• Varies by project type; focus on sustainable forest management to increase carbon storage in trees, compared with common (baseline) practices.

CARBON POOLS

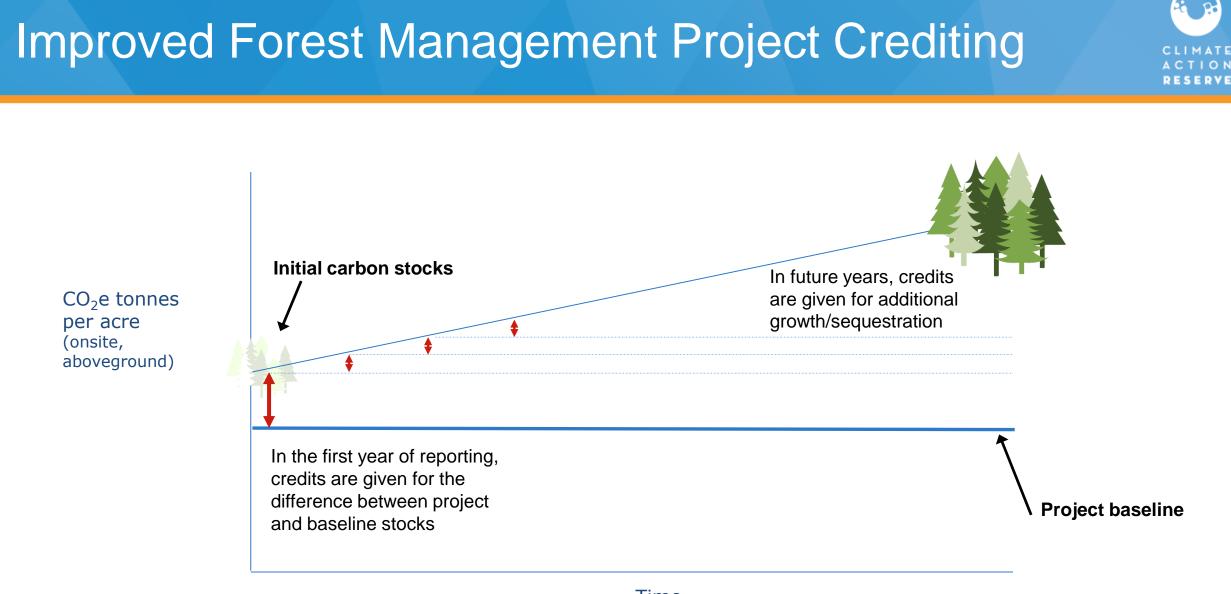
 Must account for carbon in above and below-ground live and dead trees, as well as harvested wood products.

Timber Inventories

- Timber = \$
- Focus on merchantable trees
- Estimating DBH, height
- Estimates are trued up at the mill

Carbon Inventories

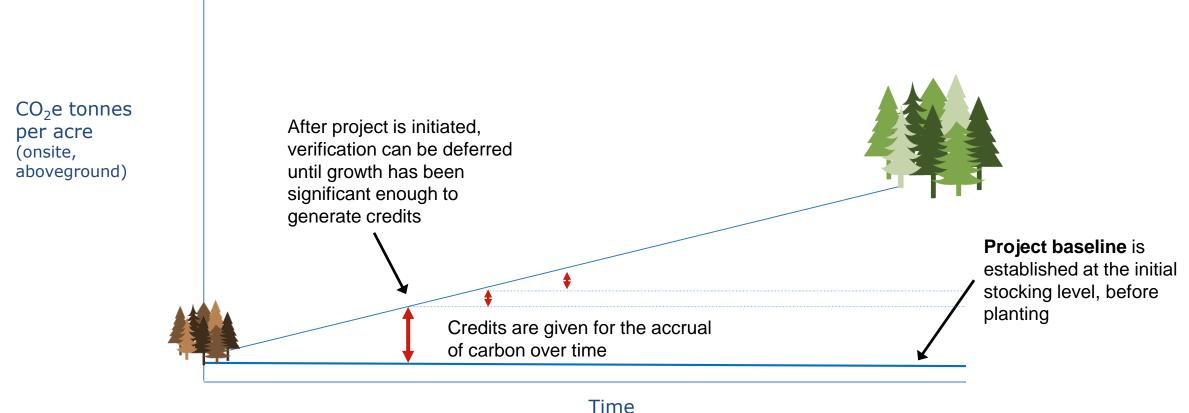
- Carbon = \$
- Focus on ALL trees
- Closer measurements of DBH, height
- Estimates are confirmed by the verifiers



Time (100 years)

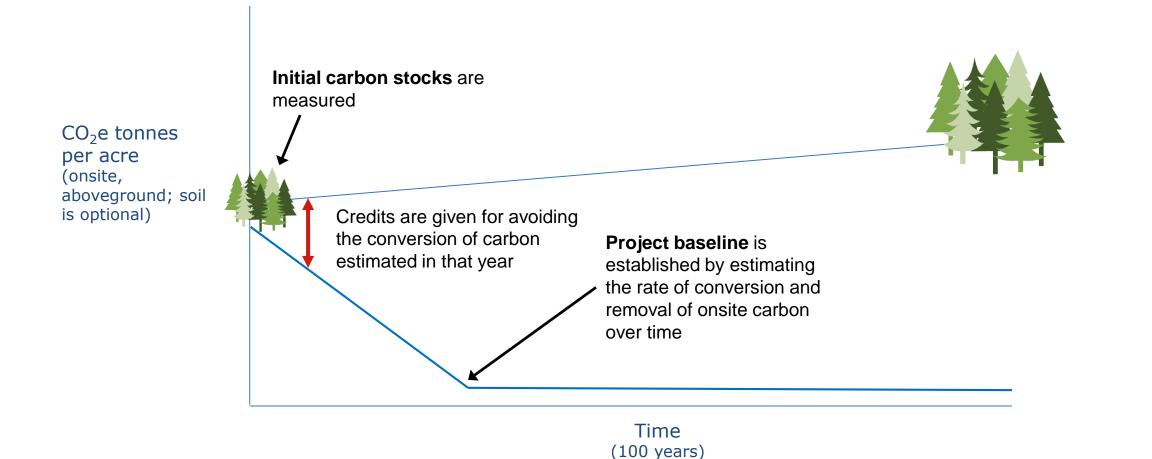
Reforestation Project Crediting





Time (100 years)

Avoided Conversion Project Crediting



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What Happens if the Carbon Stocks Aren't Maintained?



PERMANENCE

All credited carbon must be maintained for 100 years from the credit issuance



Unavoidable Reversals

Natural disturbances (wildfire, insects, disease, wind) Compensated for with the Buffer Pool



Avoidable Reversals

Intentional disturbances (overharvesting) Compensated for by the Forest Owner

Forest Carbon and Long-term Stewardship



A forest carbon project encourages maintenance activities that will maintain and/or increase growth, thereby increasing overall stocking levels.

- Extending rotation ages where forest growth remains strong
- Retaining the best growing trees at harvest
- Stocking control
- Managing for resilience

These activities are compatible with increased long term production of sustainable wood products.



Protocol Revisions to Improve Cost-Effectiveness



Project Types	Strategies			
	Verification intensity adjustments based on risk			
	Computer application (standardized) for inventory analysis and annual reporting			
	Modifying approach to sequential sampling (verification approach)			
All Project	Standardized inventory methodologies			
Types	Increased downward adjustments to risk buffer contributions based on management for forest resiliency			
	Verification guidance to allow for exceptions to 'in/out' tree determination			
	Allowance to exclude recently disturbed plots from verification oversight			
	Increased facilitation of aggregated projects			
Improved	Standardized baseline calculations			
Forest Management	Modifications to leakage calculations based on anticipated project harvest levels			
Deferentation	Conservative ex ante crediting to finance tree planting, shifting to ex post crediting once there is ample carbon			
Reforestation	Exclude dead wood carbon pool from project accounting (from pre-existing trees)			
Urban Forestry	Use of default values to replace need for field sampling			
	Simplified estimation of canopy area			

Free Tools Available for Forest Projects



Feasibility Workbook Assess whether your land may be feasible for an IFM project

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Standardized Inventory Methodology (SIM) Our pre-verified inventory methodology is written to be compatible with the protocol – save money by skipping development of a custom methodology



Climate Action Reserve Inventory Tool (CARIT) Manage your project inventory and grow data through FVS



Harvested wood product and credit calculation worksheets Complete the equations required by the protocol

Reserve's Forest Team





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Thank you!