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Soil Enrichment Version 2.0

Workgroup Meeting 4
July 9, 2024

Housekeeping

- Please keep yourselves muted unless / until you would like to speak
- Please use the raise your hand function when answering a question
- All other attendees/observers are in listen-only mode
- Observers are free to submit questions in the question box
 - **All attendees will be able to see questions submitted to the Q&A section, as well as comment on questions / up-vote questions**
- **For workgroup members submitting comments and questions via chat: Please change your message settings to send comments to Everyone**
- The slides and a recording of the presentation will be posted online



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AGENDA

- **Additionality (1 hour)**
 - Performance Standard Test
 - Ecosystem Services Payment Stacking
- **Permanence (1.5 hours)**
 - Requirements
 - Monitoring
 - Reporting & Verification
- **Technical Task Force (15 mins)**
- **Next steps (15 mins)**



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ADDITIONALITY (SECTION 3.4)

Additionality – Performance Standard Test

- Currently if a practice is not on the negative list, it is automatically eligible
- Is a negative list alone robust enough to determine eligibility? (single practice)
- Practice types
 - Cover crops
 - No-till
 - Reduced tillage
 - Rotation or intensive grazing
 - Water Management?
 - Fertilizer? (Review NMPP Additionality Tool)
 - Fossil Fuel use – may be another discussion for eligibility
- Additionality Tool – update to Version 2.0? Implementation timelines?
- 50% by county – should this be lower/higher? Why? Different approach?

Ecosystems Services Payment Stacking

- Reserve does not prohibit either payment or credit stacking unless such payments or credits are specifically delineated per tCO_{2e}
- Guidance and approval must be sought from the Reserve
- Any type of conservation or ecosystem service payment or credit received for activities on the project area must be disclosed by the Project Owner
- **Need additional guidance and examples of typical ecosystem payments**
- **Especially with current and upcoming USDA funding and programs**
- **Decision Tree style for Reserve Guidance?**
- **What would be the parameters? Timelines, practice type, intended outcome (i.e. water quality), financials (i.e. % of total), etc?**



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PERMANENCE (SECTION 3.5 & SECTIONS 6-8 MRV)

Requirements for Permanence (3.5)

- The Reserve requires that credited reversible GHG reductions and removals be effectively “permanent” in order to serve as valid offset credits.
- A reversible emission reduction is considered “permanent” if the quantity of carbon associated with that reduction is stored for at least 100 years following issuance
- A reversal occurs if stored carbon is actually released through a disturbance of the project area or is deemed to be released through termination of the project or a portion of the project.
- Reversals may impact only a portion of the project area or the entire project area. Regardless of the area of impact had by a reversal, permanence will be assessed at the project level, rather than the individual field level.
- Decreases of SOC on individual fields will not affect permanence, so long as the project as a whole has had a stable or increasing SOC pool over the relevant time period.
- **Question: Does project level assessment of permanence work for SEP projects? Reserve views at project level.**

Monitoring for Permanence (6.2)

- The requirement for all Project Owners to monitor for potential reversals of soil organic carbon, submit regular monitoring reports, and submit to regular third-party verification of those reports for the duration of the crediting period and permanence period, unless an alternative mechanism is approved.
- Question: Is additional guidance needed for how to monitor at a field level? Example below.
- For example:
 - A field goes from tillage in the baseline to a no-till practice change
 - 5 years after the field start date, they leave the project and there is a single tillage event detected
 - Question 1: does this constitute a loss of SOC for project? Or is there a ‘threshold’ of allowed tillage with respect to time implemented?
 - Question 2: Is this 100% reversal? Conservatively we would assume all carbon is lost but is there a way to quantify depending on the severity and length of the practice change? Models? No data?

Reporting & Verification of Permanence (7.6)

- The required periodic monitoring reports shall, at a minimum, contain the following:
 - Evidence to support the conclusion that no reversals have occurred on the project area since the previous reported time period; and,
 - Information related to ongoing activities on the site.
- Sources of Reversal Risk Monitored During the Permanence Period
 - Wholesale change to an incompatible land use
 - Physical disturbance of the soil within the project area
 - Unavoidable reversals
 - Overgrazing
- **Details for reporting & verification for overgrazing not tillage**



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TECHNICAL TASK FORCE UPDATE

Modelling & Soil Sampling Technical Task Force

- First task force meeting is on **Wednesday July 31st from 9am-11am PST**
- Focus on modelling guidance and soil sampling updates
- First meeting - short presentations from modelers, validators, etc
- Welcome to join as observers – we will share details prior to each meeting
- Questions?

Task Force Members

Organization (alphabetical)	Name	Nominating member
CIBO	Margaret Kosmala	Josiah McClellan
Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)	Jocelyn Lavallee / Emily Oldfield	
Grassroots Carbon LLC	Kabindra Adhikari / Sarah Coffman	Henk Mooiweer
HabiTerre	Ben Chen	Jennifer Nelligan
Indigo Ag	Missy Motew	Max DuBuisson
Kateri	Kevin Tu	Robert Parkhurst
Perennial	David Schurman	Sami Osman
Regrow Ag	Beth Ziniti	Lucia von Reusner
Soil Health Institute (SHI)	Jason Ackerson	
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Negar Tafti	
Viresco Solutions	Brian McConkey	



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NEXT STEPS

Next Steps

- Email us with any feedback on topics discussed today
- Reach out any time to discuss protocol topics or process
- *Reserve Staff to identify priorities for discussion at next WG meeting*
- ***Next Workgroup Meeting TBD – August 2024 (Doodle Poll)***

Key contacts

Protocol development lead:

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THANK YOU!