

CLIMATE ACTION NEWS

March 2020

A note from our President

Greetings,

Reforestation offers a unique opportunity to mitigate climate change through the forest sector's capacity to sequester and store carbon. As trees grow, they absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and store it in their parts above and below ground. World leaders have recognized the importance of reforestation, and the World Economic Forum launched the <u>One Trillion Trees Initiative</u> to grow, restore, and conserve one trillion trees around the world in a bid to restore biodiversity and help fight climate change.

The Reserve's <u>Climate Forward Reforestation Forecast Methodology</u> facilitates the positive role that reforestation activities can play to combat climate change and provides guidance to account for forecasted greenhouse gas emission removals associated with reforestation activities. Ex ante credits are issued based on default growth projections to a future point prior to the trees being considered for regeneration harvest. The credit issuance for the ex ante approach is based on the value the sequestered carbon has provided in terms of mitigating climate warming effects according to the time-value of maintaining CO_2 out of the atmosphere (tonne-year accounting). This accounting approach maintains assurances that the GHG benefits are real while providing an incentive to reforest trees by aligning some of the costs of reforestation with conservative crediting.

As reforestation and other natural climate solutions become key policy drivers on the world economic stage, it is critical for landowners, farmers, carbon market participants, scientists, technology experts, policymakers, and business leaders to connect, collaborate, and forge a strong path forward. Please join us at <u>NACW 2020</u>, which will take place March 30 – April 1 in San Francisco, California, for information, analysis, and networking around the climate policies, carbon markets, transportation policies, and natural climate solutions that are key to solving the climate crisis. And join us March 12 for an <u>introductory</u> <u>webinar to the Climate Forward Reforestation Forecast Methodology</u>.

Best regards,

Craig Ebert

President

NACW 2020: Join us March 30 - April 1 for North America's largest event on climate policy and carbon markets to learn, collaborate and network



NAVIGATING IMPACTFUL CLIMATE ACTION AND POLICY

This new decade must be one of bold, innovative climate action on all fronts – from policy to voluntary action to new solutions. The urgency and magnitude of

the climate challenge requires all hands on deck working quickly and collaboratively. Join us at North America's largest event for climate policy and carbon markets to learn, collaborate and network. NACW 2020 will take place March 31 – April 1 in San Francisco.

Check out the conference breakout sessions!

PATH 1: CARBON MARKETS

- Update and Outlook for WCI and RGGI
- A Look at Mexico's ETS
- Canadian Carbon Pricing Update
- Compliance and Voluntary Offsets: Where to from Here
- The Emerging Role of SDGs for High Quality Credits
- Supporting Local Action: the California Climate Investment Program

PATH 2: POLICIES AND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

- From Madrid to Glasgow: Status of the Paris Agreement
- Deep Decarbonization and the Role of Gaseous and Liquid Fuels
- Unlocking Potential with Forward Carbon Crediting
- Canadian Federal and Provincial Update
- Climate Leadership in the Golden State: California Policy Update
- States vs. Federal Government on Key Climate Policy Issues

PATH 3: NATURAL WORKING LANDS

- Taking Full Stock: Opportunities and Challenges around Reforestation
- Where Technology Meets Nature: Making Natural Working Lands
 Solutions Possible
- Charismatic Carbon: What Is It and What Is Driving Its Popularity?
- Growing in Popularity and Potential: Regenerative Agriculture
- A Complex Path: an Update on Tropical Forestry
- New Horizons: Potential with New Working Lands Solutions

PATH 4: TRANSPORTATION/LCFS

- Not Such a Heavy Lift? Heavy Transport and Clean Transportation
- Coming Down the Road: Developing Transportation Programs and Solutions
- CORSIA: International Aviation Joins the Climate Fight
- Putting the Car in Carbon Solutions: LCFS Programs Update
- Building a Sustainable Transportation Future
- Transportation Innovation

PROGRAM

Register by Sunday, March 22 to benefit from the discounted advance purchase rates!

Save \$100 off the full rates to the conference!

NGO, government, academic	\$795
Account holder	\$1,095
Corporate	\$1,395

REGISTER NOW

Stick around after the conference for NACW tours to local climate innovation sites!

A Close Look at Climate Leadership in the Academic and Private Sectors This tour will give participants an inside look at climate leadership happening at Stanford and Google. At Stanford, participants will visit the university's Central Energy Facility, university labs, and hear from faculty members about leading climate research. After Stanford, the tour will head to Google for a look at

sustainable planning on the company's 1212 Bordeaux building, which is Google's first completed ground-up building: an adaptable high-performance "living lab" workplace, which achieved LEED Platinum certification.

Cap-and-Trade Dollars at Work: Funding Projects for Healthy, Sustainable Communities

California Climate Investments is a statewide initiative that puts billions of Capand-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy and improving public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities. This tour will showcase some of the diverse projects that have been given funding through the California Climate Investments programs and demonstrate how these funds are supporting local and State efforts to build healthy and sustainable communities. The diverse projects represent transit-oriented, transportation and waste investments.

PROGRAM

Updated Grassland Protocol Version 2.1 now available



The Reserve's <u>Grassland Protocol Version 2.1</u> is now available for use. Major revisions to the protocol include an option for expanding an existing project area, and added flexibility around ecosystem health requirements and mechanisms to prevent overgrazing. The protocol and complete summary of changes are available on the <u>Grassland Protocol webpage</u>.

Sign up for the Grassland Protocol Verification Training Course

Wednesday, April 8 9:00 am - 5:30 pm PT <u>Register here</u>

On Wednesday, April 8, the Reserve will conduct the Grassland Protocol Verification Training Course, a mandatory course for Lead Verifiers wishing to perform verification of grassland projects. This training will review eligibility rules, methods to calculate reductions, performance-monitoring, and reporting on projects that offset greenhouse gas emissions associated with the avoided conversion of grassland to cropland. It will also cover the activities and procedures for completing verification of these projects under the Reserve program. In order to receive Lead Verifier certification for this project type, you must pass the course examination.

Climate Forward Reforestation Forecast Methodology and updated Program Manual now available



Climate Forward Reforestation Forecast Methodology available for project submission

The Climate Action Reserve is pleased to announce that the <u>Reforestation</u> <u>Forecast Methodology v1.0</u> is now available for project submission under the Climate Forward program. The methodology addresses carbon enhancements (sequestration) associated with reforestation activities that encourage restoration of forest cover. Forecast methodologies provide eligibility rules and quantification, reporting, and confirmation requirements for mitigation projects to account for ex ante greenhouse gas reductions in order to generate Forecasted Mitigation Units (FMUs).

Join us for an upcoming webinar on the Climate Forward Reforestation Methodology: a New Approach That Shifts Carbon Project Economics Thursday, March 12 11:00 am - 12:30 pm PT <u>Register here</u>

The Climate Forward Reforestation Forecast Methodology is designed to incentivize reforestation activities in an efficient manner, helping to defray some of the up-front costs associated with previous approaches to crediting reforestation activities within carbon markets. Crediting is based on projected increases in carbon stocks for different forest types up until the point in time when the risk of regenerative timber harvest is heightened. Projects registering under this methodology are issued FMUs which may be used by companies to mitigate forecasted (i.e. future) operational and/or project related GHG emissions. This webinar will provide an overview of the methodology, including the Reserve's innovative tonne-year accounting approach, eligibility requirements, and incentives for ongoing monitoring and reporting.

Updated Climate Forward Program Manual now available

The Reserve completed an update of the <u>Climate Forward Program Manual</u>, which summarizes the program's overarching principles, general project accounting guidelines, and rules and procedures for registering projects and creating FMUs). Participants in Climate Forward, including project proponents and confirmation bodies, are subject to the requirements and guidance specified in the Climate Forward Program Manual. The Climate Forward Program Manual update includes recommendations for best practices for the use of FMUs, for voluntary mitigation by companies, and for meeting mitigation obligations under CEQA, among other changes, and goes into effect immediately.

Soil Enrichment Protocol in development



The Climate Action Reserve is working to develop a <u>Soil Enrichment Protocol</u> (<u>SEP</u>), which will incentivize agricultural practices that enhance carbon storage in soils and create many other co-benefits. The primary greenhouse gas (GHG) benefit targeted will be accrual of additional carbon in agricultural soils. The protocol may also address GHG emission reductions from other sources, such as N₂ O from fertilizer use. Please visit <u>our website</u> to review materials from the public kickoff meeting and first workgroup meeting, and find information about participating as an observer to future workgroup meetings .

Read more

We're hiring! Join our team!

The Climate Action Reserve is hiring for the following positions:

- Vice President of Policy
- Policy Associate

The positions will remain open until filled. For more information, please visit: http://www.climateactionreserve.org/about-us/employment/

Newly registered projects in the Reserve

Projects in the Climate Action Reserve achieve registered status upon successfully completing verification by an independent, accredited verification body.

Rochelle Municipal Landfill Location: Rochelle, Illinois CRTs issued: 62,442

Save the Redwoods League 2018

Location: Mendocino and Sonoma Counties, California ROCs issued: 440,956

ClimeCo ODS Destruction 32

Location: East Liverpool, Ohio ROCs issued: 96,280

<u>Humboldt Mixed Forest Improvement Project</u> Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, California ROCs issued: 2,895,502

Heartland Ranch Phase 3

Bent County, Colorado CRTs issued: 240

<u>View public reports</u>

Calendar of events

<u>CARB Compliance Offsets Protocol Task Force</u> March 2 | CARB | Sacramento and via webcast

<u>Reforestation Methodology: a New Approach That Shifts Carbon Project</u> <u>Economics</u> March 12 | Climate Action Reserve | webinar

<u>CARB Public Workshop on Developing the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Funding Plan</u> <u>for Clean Transportation Incentives</u> March 12 | CARB | Sacramento and via webcast

<u>CARB Board Meeting</u> March 16 | CARB | Los Angeles and via webcast

<u>2020 California Land Conservation Summit</u> March 22 – 24 | California Council of Land Trusts | Yosemite Connect with Cindy Chiang, Business Development Manager, at <u>cchiang@climateactionreserve.org</u> <u>2020 Los Angeles Business Council (LABC) Sustainability Summit</u> March 27 | LABC | Los Angeles

<u>North American Carbon World (NACW) 2020</u> March 30 - April 1 | Climate Action Reserve | San Francisco

<u>Grassland Protocol Verification Training and Exam</u> April 8 | Climate Action Reserve | webinar

Reserve calendar of events

Blog post: Finance must be green as it earns green

According to the UNFCCC, the world needs an estimated US\$90 trillion in sustainable infrastructure investments to reduce climate risk and achieve the global greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals set in the Paris Agreement. In order to attract and grow the financing we need to meaningfully address the climate crisis, the market must have transparent and credible information about investments' impacts.

At the Climate Action Reserve, we believe that there are three climate lenses through which any investment should be assessed: 1) climate risk, 2) organizational footprint, and 3) climate impact.

Read more

MARCH TRIVIA CORNER

NACW 2020 will be taking place in San Francisco, California! Answer a San Francisco-related question to win a prize!

At what iconic San Francisco landmark did Sean Connery meet his estranged daughter in the movie *The Rock* ?

Please send responses to: <u>newsletter@climateactionreserve.org</u>. One response will be randomly selected to win an NACW prize!

WEBINAR



ABOUT THE CLIMATE ACTION RESERVE

The Climate Action Reserve is the most experienced, trusted and efficient offset registry to serve the carbon markets. With deep roots in California and a reach across North America, the Reserve encourages actions to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and works to ensure environmental benefit, integrity and transparency in market-based solutions to address global climate change. The Reserve program promotes immediate environmental and health benefits to local communities and brings credibility and value to the carbon market. The Climate Action Reserve is a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles, California.

www.climateactionreserve.org

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SUPPORT OUR WORK

