



Carbon Farming Initiative

What records do I need to keep for an environmental plantings project?

You must keep records of your environmental plantings project to support your application for Australian carbon credit units. When keeping records, consider: Are you collecting data efficiently? Will you be able to maintain your data in the event of an emergency? Are you collating data in a way that will assist an auditor's review of your project?

Records required for an environmental plantings of native species using the Carbon Farming Initiative reforestation modeling tool methodology determination

Forest management

Prior land use

- evidence that the dominant land uses in the project area for the five years prior to tree planting or seeding were grazing, pasture maintenance, cropping, settlements, nature conservation or no use

Fuel use

- evidence of amounts of fuel used for each month of the project (including invoices and receipts)

Plants and plantings

For each carbon estimation area, evidence of:

- the planting or seeding date/period (or start and finish dates)
- the planting or seeding method

- the species planted (mix and proportion of each species)
- the density planted (stems per hectare), if planted rather than seeded
- the anticipated crown cover

Crown cover and reach

- evidence that the trees within the project area: attain, or have the potential to attain, a crown cover of at least 20 per cent across the area of land; and reach, or have the potential to reach, a height of at least two metres

Reforestation modelling tool (RMT)

For each carbon estimation area, information required as inputs to the Reforestation Modelling Tool:

- type and timing of management events (eg planting, thinning, weed control, any fertiliser application)
- type, timing and extent of disturbance events
- date-stamped Reforestation Modelling Tool output files (.rmd files)

Disturbance events

- a description of any management actions or disturbance events that affected a carbon estimation area during the reporting period, including, if applicable, actions proposed and undertaken to ensure that carbon stocks are restored

Project area information

Carbon estimation areas

- a description of how carbon estimation areas were identified and evidence to support stratification, such as satellite imagery, soil, vegetation and landform maps

Geospatial maps

Maps used to identify the following areas:

- project area
- carbon estimation areas and exclusion areas
- carbon estimation area model points

Names

- list of names used for the project area and associated carbon estimation areas if the information is not clearly visible on the maps

Calculations

All input data for, and the result of, each of the equations that follow (as set out in Part 3 of the methodology determination)

- initial carbon stock of the project area
- carbon stock of the project area at the end of a reporting period
- carbon stock change for the project area
- carbon stock change conversion to carbon dioxide equivalent
- methane and nitrous oxide emissions from biomass burning
- emissions from fuel use
- carbon dioxide equivalent net abatement amount

Other records required

- correspondence between the proponent and the Clean Energy Regulator in relation to your eligible offsets project
- information about your legal right to carry out a project
- information in relation to any decision made by the proponent in relation to the proponent's obligations under the Act or these Regulations, including the reasons for the decision
- information about any variations to the project
- information about regulatory approvals required and/or obtained in relation to the project
- offset reports and Carbon Farming Initiative audit reports (if any)
- information about any event that is reasonably likely to significantly increase or decrease abatement

If the proponent is not an individual, information about the following:

- the proponent's organisational structure, and any changes it undergoes
- the individuals with decision-making authority within the organisation, and any change of those individuals

You will need to ensure that the project has secure storage for all data and records, and a means of retaining records for at least seven years from the date the related offsets report was provided to the Clean Energy Regulator.

Further information

If you have any further questions about the Carbon Farming Initiative, please contact us.

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