

Forest Carbon Offset Protocol

Information Webinar – September 20, 2010



Image from Forestry Innovation Investment

Webinar Presenters

Carolyn Kamper

- Director, Business Partnerships
Climate Action Secretariat

Tim Lesiuk

- Executive Director, Business Development
Climate Action Secretariat

Moderator:

Ken Baker

- Project Manager, Forest Carbon Offset
Protocol (FCOP)

Webinar Objectives

- Provide an overview of the upcoming Forest Carbon Offset Protocol (FCOP) consultation
- Opportunities for stakeholder and First Nations engagement

Agenda

Time	Topic	Presenter
9:00 am	Introduction of Presenters	Ken Baker
9:05 am	Webinar Objectives and Agenda Review	Ken Baker
9:10 am	Climate Action in BC and Forest Carbon Offsets	Tim Lesiuk
9:30 am	Purpose of a Forest Carbon Offset Protocol	Tim Lesiuk
9:45 am	FCOP Project Overview	Carolyn Kamper
9:55 am	Engagement Opportunities	Carolyn Kamper
10:00 am	Questions from Participants	Presenters
10:55 am	Webinar Closure	Ken Baker

Climate Action in BC

Action to date

- 8 significant pieces of legislation
- Over \$1 billion investment
- Extensive public engagement and outreach
- Low carbon economic development across all sectors
- Collaboration through key international partnerships



Climate Action in BC

BC's Approach to Regulating GHG's

- Carbon pricing
 - Carbon Tax
 - Emissions Trading and Offsets
- Carbon Neutral Government
 - Pacific Carbon Trust
- Harmonized approach with federal government and US EPA

The Role of BC Forests in Climate Action

- BC's forests play important role for sequestration of carbon
 - Approx 2/3 of BC is forest and range lands
 - 59 million hectares of forests in BC
 - carbon is sequestered in the trees, roots and soils
 - Harvested wood products produced from BC's forests also represent a significant sequestered carbon pool
 - Land use choices and forest management choices influence the amount of carbon removed from the atmosphere and stored in the forest and harvested wood products
- Government initiatives to increase the carbon sequestered by BC forests include:
 - Zero-net Deforestation
 - Wood First Initiative
 - Forests for Tomorrow

There are two types of Carbon Offset Projects

- Carbon Offset Projects are designed as either **REDUCTION** of GHG emissions or **REMOVAL** of GHG emissions from the atmosphere
 - Examples include:
 1. Fuel switching from the use of diesel fuel to natural gas results in a net **REDUCTION** of emissions
 2. The growth of trees is a **REMOVAL** of carbon from the atmosphere as atmospheric CO₂ is converted to sequestered carbon (biomass) through photosynthesis

Key offset recognition criteria

Key Offset Recognition Criteria

1: Real

- An identifiable project
- Sound methods available to quantify GHG emissions

2: Additional

- Reduction from business as usual and regulatory req.
- Allows project to overcome economic/tech. barriers

3: Permanent

- Offset has an impact that is lasting measured relative to a 100 year time scale

4: Verifiable

- Can be quantified, monitored and audited
- Minimize measurement uncertainty

5: Clear Ownership

- Clear ownership of the offset attributes

Purpose of a BC Forest Offset Protocol

What is a Protocol?

- Establishes an appropriate and consistent approach to defining, measuring, quantifying and reporting an emission reduction or removal

Why is a Forest Protocol important for BC?

- Unlock new streams of revenue for Province, First Nations, forest companies and private land owners
- Ensure BC offsets are high quality and credible
- 2008 Throne Speech to partner with First Nations to confront challenges of climate change through, among other actions, development of emission offset projects that benefit BC First Nations

Initial Scope for a BC Forest Carbon Protocol

- Afforestation - *establishment of additional forested land base*
- Reforestation - *beyond the requirements of existing BC regulation*
- Improved Forest Management - *enhanced forest management practices in addition to those required by law*
- Conservation - *permanent removal of land from harvest cycle*

Main Protocol Sections

- Applicability / Eligibility
- Project and Baseline Sources and Sinks
- Quantification of Emission Reductions/Removals
- Managing Risk of Reversal (Permanence)
- Data Quality Management

What exists now?

Completed and Draft Forest Carbon Protocols

- Climate Action Reserve version 3.1
- Voluntary Carbon Standard (multiple finalized and draft protocols – extended rotation, conservation)
- Other limited scope protocols (CDM, etc)

Other work

- Det Norske Veritas protocol review for Western Climate Initiative
- BC Ministry of Forest and Range Forest Carbon Offset Guidance
- ANSI North American Forest Carbon Standard
- Canadian Council of Forest Ministers Framework for Forest Management Offset Protocols
- IPCC Guidelines Chapter 12 HWP
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act; Emission Offsets Regulation
- Greenhouse Gas (Cap and Trade) Act

FCOP Objective

- Create a forest carbon offset protocol by December 2010 that meets provincial regulatory requirements and guides the design, development, quantification and verification of forest carbon offset projects in BC
- Eligible for use under the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act*
- Eligible for use under the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Cap and Trade) Act*

FCOP Overview

Who is involved?



Climate Action Secretariat – project sponsor

- Responsible for climate action policy and protocol approval



Project Steering Committee – project direction and decision

Tim Lesiuk (Climate Action Secretariat), Scott McDonald (Pacific Carbon Trust), Kathy Chopik (Ministry of Forests and Range), Rob Draeseke (Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation)



Project Team – project implementation

Agency representatives – Carolyn Kamper (CAS), David Muter (PCT), Julie Williams (MFR), Lindsay Wood (MARR)

Project Support – Ken Baker (Project Manager), Stephan Wehr (Technical Writer)



Technical Working Group – expert advice

Experts in forest management and forest carbon

FCOP Overview

Project Plan

Project Stages	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan-Mar
Design – project plan	■							
Direct – project oversight	■							
Draft – protocol content		■						
Engage – expert advice			■					
Refine – revise protocol				■				
Consult – stakeholder input					■			
Finalize – protocol document						■		
Formalize – approve protocol								■

FCOP Overview

Engagement Approach

Activity	Objective
Technical Working Group	Obtain advice from knowledge-based group of experts on forest management and forest carbon
Public Info Sessions	Inform interested and affected stakeholders, First Nations and public about project and engagement opportunities
Sector Info Sessions	Share information on protocol content and progress during project
Public Consultation	Provide opportunity for individuals and organizations to comment on draft protocol http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/cas/mitigation/fcop.html

QUESTIONS?

- Press *1 to join the question queue
- If you are using speakerphone, please lift the handset prior to making your selection
- Press # to remove yourself from the question queue
- Press *0 at any time for operator assistance