



Project verification statement

Woodland creation project details

Project name	Bridge End Farm 2017		
Project ID	104000000012690	Woodland type	Broadleaved (>80%)
Location	Cumbria, England	Management regime	No thinning or clearfell
Grid reference	NY 708 459	Area (ha)	10.53
Project developer name	Carl Williams.	Project developer email	i.stirling@highfield-forestry.com

Carbon Sequestration in this vintage (see monitoring report for further details)

Vintage Start Date:	01-03-2017	Vintage End Date:	28-02-2022
	Total Units (tCO₂)	Units to Buffer (tCO₂)	Units to Project (tCO₂)
Projected carbon sequestration (Pending Issuance Units) in vintage	0	0	0
Actual verified Woodland Carbon Units in vintage	0	0	0
Pending Issuance Units to be cancelled	0	0	0
Extra Woodland Carbon Units to be issued	0	0	0

Site survey and verification site visit

Site survey undertaken:	The site survey was undertaken by Highfield Forestry Ltd following the WCC Year 5 Survey Protocol on 06/12/2022
Verification site visit undertaken?	Yes – Soil Association Ltd Auditor visited the site on 17/04/2023 to verify survey results.

Verification – Scope

The project developer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of a statement of the carbon sequestration in the project. The verifier is responsible for expressing an opinion on that statement based on the verification undertaken. The survey was undertaken following the WCC Survey Protocol. The purpose of the verification is to confirm tree stocking density and the sequestration that has occurred in the current vintage of the project, to a limited level of assurance; this allows the conversion of Pending Issuance Units to Woodland Carbon Units. Total Units are divided into those which can be claimed/sold by the project (Units to Project) and those that contribute to the shared UK Woodland Carbon Code Buffer account, in case of any future losses of carbon from the scheme as a whole (Units to Buffer).

Verification opinion

Soil Association Certification Ltd has carried out a year 5 verification of the above-named woodland creation project undertaken by the above-named project developer (the responsible party) to Woodland Carbon Code Version 2.2 in accordance with ISO14064-3 2019, which sets out guidelines for the verification and validation of greenhouse gas statements.

The new woodland will maintain and enhance the biodiversity and recreational value of the land through planting of suitable species, including Scots pine and mixed broadleaves. This aims to link up nodes within the woodland habitat network, increase riparian woodland, whilst increasing the potential habitat for red squirrels. Compartments will be managed as minimal intervention, and the UK Forestry Standard has been strictly adhered to during the design process (species selection, densities, proportion of open ground, protection of valuable species and habitats etc).

The verification is based on a site visit and sample survey in line with the WCC survey protocol and projected carbon sequestration based on the WCC carbon calculator.

Red: This project failed to deliver all carbon units within the current vintage and/or there are concerns about this project's ability to deliver sufficient units in future vintages.

The conclusion of the verification is that the project was found to be compliant with the Woodland Carbon Code, however while woodland establishment has been partially successful, it is not fully consistent with the project carbon sequestration targets in the current vintage as set out in validation. There is evidence that the GHG data (GHG assertion) is not fairly stated or materially correct, with a limited level of assurance. Therefore, no verified units will be issued for this vintage and any Pending Issuance Units in this vintage shall be cancelled. Note that carbon sequestration validated is a forecast of future greenhouse gas removals, and the actual sequestration may differ from this forecast.

Project rating/opinion type	Red
-----------------------------	-----

Annex

Conduct of the verification		Version, date
1	ISO 17029:2019 Conformity assessment – General principles and requirements for validation and verification bodies	1st Edition 2019
2	ISO 14064-3:2019 Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of GHG assertions	2nd Edition, 2019
3	ISO 14065:2020 General principles and requirements for bodies validating and verifying environmental information.	3rd Edition, 2020

Requirements of the Woodland Carbon Code & UK GHG Reporting		Version, date
A	Woodland Carbon Code	V2.2 April 2022
B	UK Greenhouse Gas Reporting Guidelines, Defra	March 2019
C	Woodland Carbon Code Carbon Calculator (if re-calculated)	V2.4.1 April 2024
E	Survey Protocol for WCC Projects at year 5	V2.1 March 2021/V2.1.1 April 2024
F	Project Progress Report	V2.2 April 2022
G	WCC Year 5 Monitoring Report	V2.1 March 2021

Verifying organisation

Signed	
--------	---

Name of signatory	Andy Grundy	Position	Head of Climate and Landscape
Verifying organisation	Soil Association Certification Ltd	Address of verifying organisation	Spear House, 51 Victoria Street, Bristol, BS1 6AD
Date of verification opinion:	01/07/2024	Opinion valid until:	28/02/2027