

BIODIVERSE REFORESTATION CARBON OFFSETS

In the *Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor*



Biodiverse Reforestation Carbon Offsets are not only removing CO₂ from the atmosphere every day. It is helping to restore an environment. It enhances our shared natural capital with habitat restoration and land conservation and brings social and economic benefits.

The *Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor* plantings are located in the Southwestern Australia. It is one of 25 original 'global biodiversity hotspots' for wildlife and plants, and the first one identified in Australia. This is a region with an exceptionally high number of plant and animal species found nowhere else in the world and is under threat of destruction.

The *Yarra Yarra Corridor* was once an area of vibrant woodlands. But since the arrival of Europeans just over 100 years ago, approximately 97% of the vegetation has been cleared for traditional farming practices.

Now, parts of the landscape are not suitable for traditional agriculture. This is due to problem soils and a drying climate.

The planting of trees and shrubs is part of a much larger vision to link small patches of remaining vegetation and 12 nature reserves to create a green corridor to help restore ecosystems and preserve threatened and unique flora and fauna.

Carbon Neutral assists organisations to measure, reduce and offset carbon emissions.

We are Australia's leading biodiverse reforestation 'carbon sink' developer. To date, over 30 million mixed native species trees and shrubs have been planted in the Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor.

It is in the process of restoring 13,000 hectares of rural landscapes.





Carbon Neutral's "Australian Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Project" is the 1st in Australia to be certified by the internationally recognised Gold Standard Foundation.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Take urgent action to combat climate change and all its impacts

Mitigating climate change by removing CO₂ from the atmosphere.

15 LIFE ON LAND



Protect, restore and promote sustainably managed forests and woodlands to combat desertification, halt and reverse biodiversity loss and land degradation:

Mitigating salinity, and soil erosion, while improving water quality.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Promote sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all:

Creating new employment opportunities for local indigenous people and farm families and supporting over 140 businesses in the region.

Forests are key allies to combating climate change, as they absorb carbon, clean and cool the air, act as natural water pumps to sustain river flows, stabilise soils, recycle nutrients for agriculture and support habitats for wildlife.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

AUDIT & MEASUREMENT

Carbon measurements and projections are independently verified by a qualified third party. This ensures that 1 carbon credit = 1 tonne carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂-e).

The Biodiverse Reforestation Carbon Offset planting sites will, conservatively, sequester 120-180 tonnes of CO₂-e per hectare over 50 years.

To project how much CO₂ the trees will sequester (both above and below ground) at a given location over 50 years, scientifically developed allometrics have been applied. This methodology is in line with Gold Standard Foundations' Land Use and Forests (LUF) framework.

The Biodiverse Reforestation Carbon Offset projects are not registered under a formal certification framework.

CLAIMING CARBON NEUTRALITY

Carbon Neutral sells Biodiverse Reforestation Carbon Offsets before full sequestration is realised. As it may be some years before actual carbon is sequestered, Carbon Neutral independently retires an equivalent number of verified carbon credits from an international project. This ensures that buyers can claim carbon offsetting and carbon neutrality.

Reforestation activities require significant upfront investment to cover land acquisition and planting costs. By purchasing Biodiverse Reforestation Carbon Offsets, you are helping to finance this ongoing planting program. Buyers can proudly promote their support of an Australian ecosystem restoration project.

CARBON CREDIT REGISTRY

Unique serial numbers for Biodiverse Reforestation Carbon Offsets are issued to each buyer. All carbon credits sold are assigned on an internal register to ensure there is no double-counting or double-selling. This internal register is independently audited at least every five years.

LAND TENURE AND 'PERMANENCE'

All projects in the *Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor* have a Carbon Right and Carbon Covenant registered on the land title. The Carbon Covenant details land and tree management obligations.

For example, trees may not be cut down for 50 or 100 years. The carbon stored for the Biodiverse Reforestation Carbon Offset projects is 'locked up' for a period of 50 or 100 years as detailed in the Carbon Right and Carbon Covenant. Sequestration is regarded as permanent if it is maintained on a net basis for 100 years.

Livestock are excluded from planting sites for three years after planting, and thereafter only lightly grazed to avoid damage to trees and shrubs and allow natural generation in the inter-rows. This is as per the Carbon Covenant.

MITIGATING FIRE RISK

Fire control measures include fire breaks, geographic separation of planting sites, insurance and light grazing of sheep to reduce fuel load.

Native tree plantings are self-regenerating. If a fire or other disturbance occurs, causing a decline in the amount of carbon stored, re-growth will be managed to allow the carbon stock to return to previously reported values.

MONITORING & REPORTING

Each planting site is independently monitored and reported for health, survival and carbon pools at least twice in the first 5 years.

Planting Reports and Monitoring Reports are available on the Carbon Neutral website.

CARBON NEUTRAL

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