

Carbon Credits Regional Operator

May 15, 2024

Carbon Credits Regional Operator

Project Goal: to leverage carbon credits to add capacity for local restoration project implementers and fill a funding gap for ongoing, long-term stewardship.

Scope: In partnership with City Forest Credits, a carbon registry, BEF will provide technical assistance to 6 local partners poised to implement restoration projects in the next 2 - 3 years and enter those projects into carbon credit protocols to leverage state and local investments with the sale of carbon credits created by these projects.



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Implementation Partners:

- Skagit Conservation District - 10 acre project with private landowners (SCC funded)
- City of Sumner - 200 acre project on city owned property (PSAR funded)
- South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group - 45 acres (PSAR and DNR funded)
- Whatcom County - 50 acres, preservation project
- Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust - 7.5 acres, city owned property (King County Flood Control District funded)
- Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership - 200 acres (SRFB funded/FbD/NOAA funded)



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Advisory Partners:

- Puget Sound Partnership
- Tulalip Tribe
- Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8)

Outcomes: Upon completion of this project, over 512 acres of habitat will be restored or conserved with potential to be leveraged with up to \$3 million in carbon credit sales for 26-years of stewardship.



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Background: a brief history -
[Pierce Conservation District](#)
[Example](#)

Example Policy: [WA RCO Carbon Policy Approved 20210127](#), [RCO Fact Sheet](#)

Policy Tasks:

- Grant guidelines policy updates:
 - Ecology, State Conservation Commission, WDFW, DNR, etc.



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Potential Co-benefits:

- **Heal Act tie-ins** - City Forest Credits is a niche carbon registry that focuses on urban credits because they also quantify the health and ecosystem benefits trees bring to urban communities, e.g. air quality, rain interception, heating and cooling reductions
- **Climate Commitment Act Reporting** - Draft rulemaking has similar provisions for indicating benefits to overburdened communities.



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Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead

Overview:

- \$30 million/6-year EPA funding
- Ecology is lead (Colin Hume) with the State Conservation Commission and BEF as main partners and support from Puget Sound Institute

Project Goal: Program is designed to foster the identification of multi-benefit opportunities to promote riparian area management, including nature-based solutions to climate resiliency and adaptation.



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