



**CARB Compliance Offset Protocol Workshop - Updates to the Forest
Offset Protocol under the Cap-and-Trade Program**

SMALL LANDOWNER PARTICIPATION, FOREST MANAGEMENT, THE BUFFER POOL, AND INNOVATION

**A Look at Opportunities, Challenges, and Potential Solutions through Protocol
Improvements**



Landowners Working with Landowners®

About Us

- Founded in 2010 by Hunter Parks, Green Assets is Landowners Working with Landowners®.
- With a focus on Avoided Conversion projects, these conservation-driven projects enable long-term goals for landowners.
- Green Assets has a 100% Success Rate on Contracted Projects, with over 300,000 acres placed in conservation easement.
- Our in-house team's proven expertise in the development of forest carbon offset projects and other land management services, coupled with our passion for conservation, enables us to help landowners create a recurring revenue stream while preserving healthy, working forests.

The California Carbon Market & Opportunities for Landowners



- CARB created a space for first-of-its kind projects in the world.
- Provides premier foundational quality and integrity to carbon offsets through rigor and scientific review.
- Forestry protocols generate sustainable revenue for landowners to manage property and reach generational goals.
- Used as a key, initial example across many sectors and jurisdictions for implementing similar programs.
- Created a stable market platform for investment in nature-based climate solutions.

Small Landowner Participation

- "Small landowner" defined:
 - Typically, a 'smaller landowner' would be comprised of landholding of just a few thousand acres or less.
- Opportunities:
 - Creates sustainable carbon finance revenue for sustainable management and land ownership.
- Cost barriers to participation:
 - Inventory
 - MRV
 - Additional Forest Management Criteria
 - Harvest volume limitations
- Potential solutions
 - Aggregation
 - New inventory and MRV technology - remote sensing or regional data application
 - Flexibility in MRV requirements
 - Regionally defined Natural Forest Management Criteria



Small Landowner Participation – How?

- Green Assets took up front risk and didn't market credits at a discount for development costs. The business model was geared towards landowners, including small landowners.
- Avoided Conversion projects enable a sustainable, annual generation of carbon credits.
- Green Assets focused on the key components of project development that allowed for more flexibility in timber management.

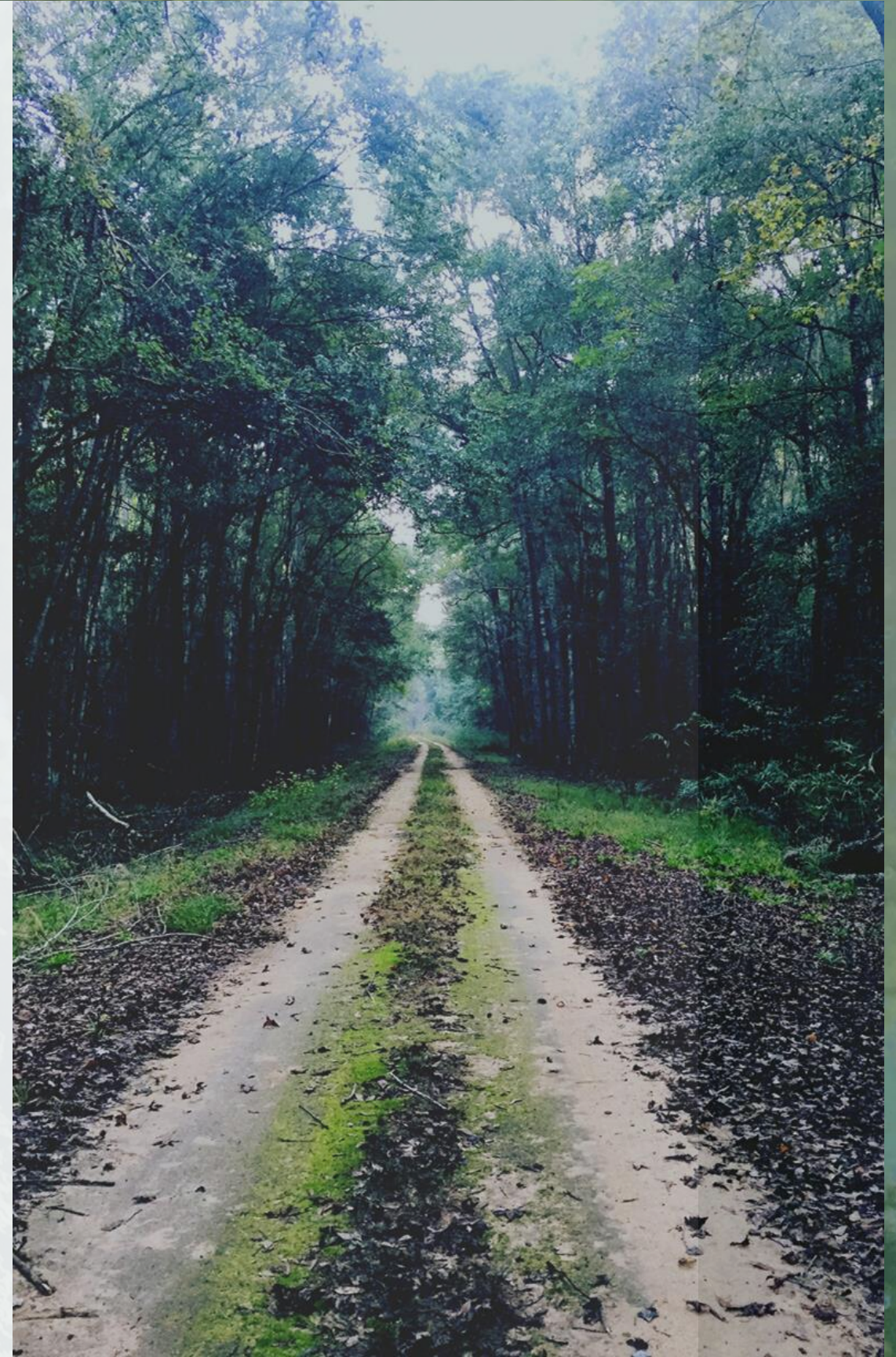
Implementing Forest Management under the COP outside of The Golden State



- Identifying Landowners with a very long-term conservation goal for their property.
- CA Forest Practices Rules based “Natural Forest Management” criteria can:
 - Present financial barriers and limit landowner objectives;
 - Limit the ability apply regionally appropriate silviculture.
- Guidance applicable to a project in one region not necessarily applicable or silviculturally sound in other regions.
- Potential solutions
 - Regionally based Natural Forest Management Criteria
 - Regionally based guidance teams and publication/public posting
 - Standardized exemptions for silvicultural needs
 - Expanded buffer pool uses
 - Approval of additional growth and yield models

THE BUFFER POOL AND AVOIDED CONVERSION PROJECTS

- Public concern with amount the ability of the buffer pool to offset the program-wide risk of reversal due to natural disturbances (specifically pointing to wildfires in the US West).
- Frequency and intensity of climactic events continues to increase.
- Avoided conversion projects can help!
 - Additional contributions over time vs IFM in most cases further solidifies the buffer pool's ability to compensate for reversals.
- Identifying a regional approach to risk rating would also likely help foster a more robust contribution.



BUFFER POOL AND REGIONALITY OF RISKS



- Risk of wildfire is much greater in the West vs. Southeastern US where fuels reduction activities are readily implemented.
- The buffer pool contribution needs tailored to account for this regionally using data driven factors such as:
 - Fuel levels buildup due to non-treatment or management;
 - Distance from:
 - Federal Lands;
 - The WUI;
 - Other ignition sources;
 - Historical fire return intervals.
- Risk analysis could be revised to better reflect project locations yielding higher contributions in areas at greater risk for other natural events.

GREEN ASSETS

THANK YOU!

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