

CLIMATE, COMMUNITY AND BIODIVERSITY ALLIANCE

Program Overview and Relevance to
State Lands Management

What is the CCBA?

- ▣ The CCBA is a unique partnership among research institutions, corporations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- ▣ Members include businesses such as BP, Intel, SC Johnson, Sustainable Forestry Management, and Weyerhaeuser
- ▣ Conservation organizations include The Nature Conservancy and Wildlife Conservation International
- ▣ <http://www.climate-standards.org/>

CCBA Goals

- ▣ Develop standards that evaluate climate, community, and biodiversity impacts of land-based climate change mitigation projects
- ▣ Promote CCB Standards as a credible means for identifying projects that simultaneously counter multiple global problems
- ▣ Note: The CCBA does not issue quantified emissions reductions certificates and encourages the use of a carbon accounting standard – such as CDM or VCS – in combination with CCBA Standards

CCBA History

- ▣ Relatively new organization; Version 1 of the standards issued in June 2004 and Version 2 just issued in December 2008
- ▣ About 30 projects listed on CCBA website, with the first certificate issued in January 2007
- ▣ At least 100 projects are in the pipeline, including REDD projects (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation or Forest Degradation), reforestation, native forest restoration, agroforestry, and sustainable forest management

CCBA in the United States

- ▣ Eco Products Fund and Ducks Unlimited *Avoided Grassland Conversion in the Prairie Pothole Region*
- ▣ The Conservation Fund *Restoration of Floodplain Forests on USFWS National Wildlife Refuges in Louisiana and Kansas*
- ▣ Carbonfund.org *Forest Restoration on a USFWS National Wildlife Refuge in Louisiana*

Prairie Pothole Region



Red River NWR Re-Planting

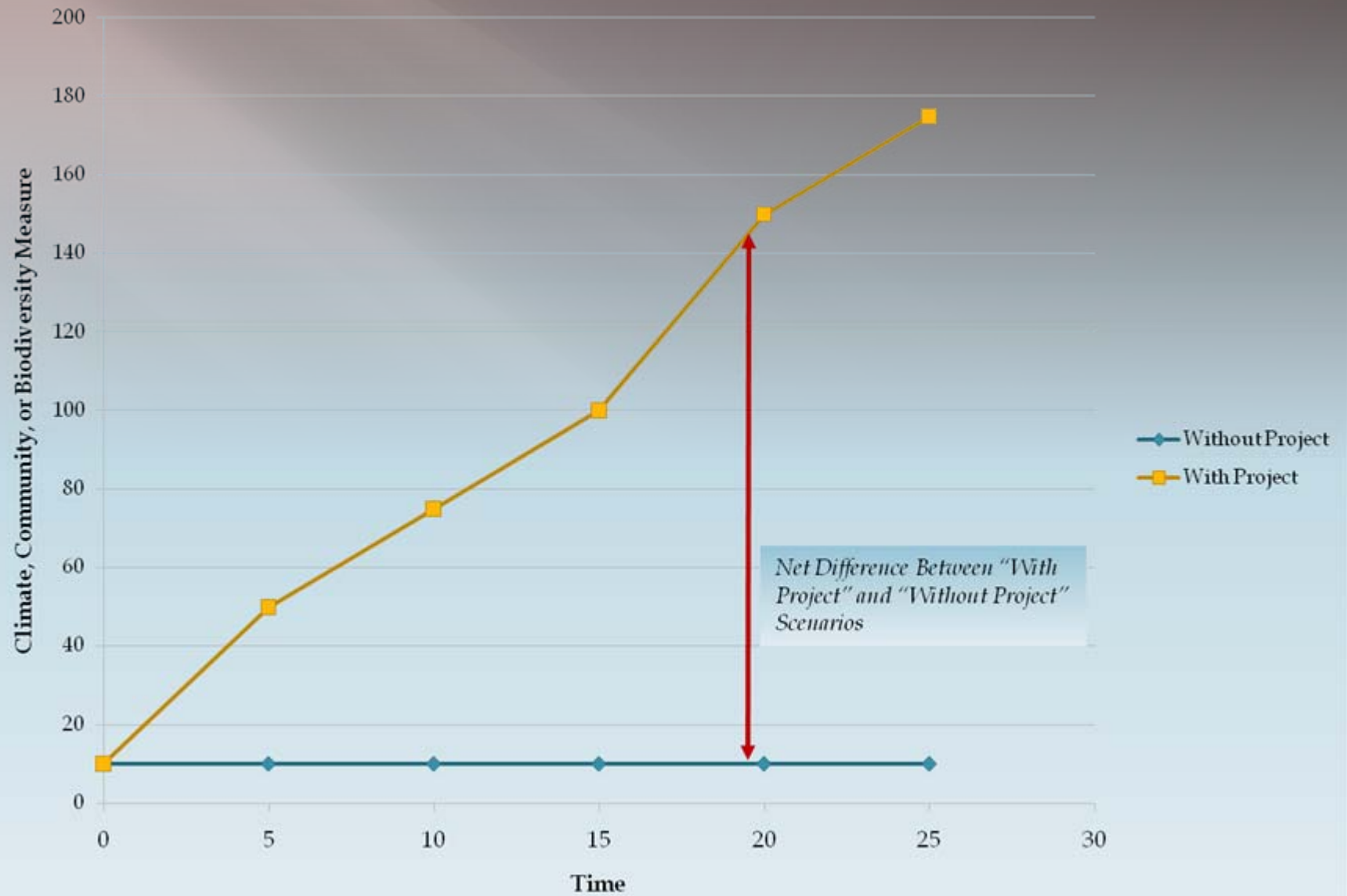


CCBA Project Design Overview

- ▣ Projects have to result in net positive benefits for climate, community, and biodiversity measures
- ▣ Climate benefits are primarily measured by the amount of carbon that is sequestered
- ▣ Community benefits can be measured by a wide variety of socio-economic indicators
- ▣ Biodiversity benefits can also be measured by a variety of indicators

Project Development Process

- ▣ Design a project according to CCBA Project Design Standards, resulting in a Project Design Document (PDD)
- ▣ Engage an auditor to conduct a validation evaluation designed to validate that the PDD conforms to the standards
- ▣ PDD is open to public comment for about 30 days (see CCBA website)
- ▣ Auditor conducts site visit and evaluation
- ▣ Within 5 years a verification audit is conducted



CCBA Auditing

- ▣ CCBA criteria are somewhat aligned with the *Forest Stewardship Council's (FSC) Principles and Criteria for Well-Managed Forests*
- ▣ Auditing companies accredited by the FSC were automatically approved to conduct audits to the CCBA Standards
 - Scientific Certification Systems
 - Rainforest Alliance (Smartwood)

Relevance to Forestry

- ▣ Typical projects include:
 - Forest restoration through planting areas previously converted to other uses
 - Easements to conserve more forest structure than current regulations require
 - ▣ i.e., the difference in stored carbon in a forest harvested at the highest level allowed by regulation vs. a forest that is harvested more lightly or not at all
- ▣ Data used to calculate stored carbon is similar to typical forest inventory data

Potential Relevance to State Lands

- ▣ All CCBA projects in the US have taken place on public lands or lands where a public agency holds an easement
- ▣ Several public land forests are certified under the FSC or SFI systems and the standards for these programs are similar to the CCBA standards
- ▣ Most public lands are not harvested at the maximum rate
- ▣ Private tax-incentive program lands may be well-suited to CCBA goals and objectives

Auditor's Perspective

- ▣ The CCBA Standards are relatively clear and are not prescriptive (i.e., they are easier to address than the FSC or SFI standards)
- ▣ They relate very well to sustainable forest management and forest restoration in the United States
- ▣ Auditing to the CCBA Standards could be done in conjunction with FSC, SFI, or Tree Farm auditing
- ▣ Seems to be a potential source of revenue for landowners