Verification Report
Year 6

Reforesting Austin's Parks and Riparian Zones

City Forest Credits Project Number 002

April 9, 2024

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1 INTRODUCTION

Brian Goodall (a Validation and Verification Body (VVB) acting as a third-party verifier) was engaged to verify the Reforesting Austin's Parks and Riparian Zones (Project) in Austin, Texas, for the issuance of credits at the Year 6 interval based on the applicable protocol. The goal of the Year 6 verification is to ensure that the GHG assertion is materially correct, and that the sampling process and carbon quantification by the project are well documented and appropriate.

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

TreeFolks planted 47 trees at two sites, Davis-White Park (32 trees) and Patterson Park (15 trees) in the City of Austin in March of 2018 using the Single Tree Approach. TreeFolks also planted 1,250 trees in 2018 at a third City of Austin site, Onion Creek, using the Area Reforestation Planting Design.

1.2 CONTACT INFORMATION

Project Operator
TreeFolks
P.O. Box 1395
Del Valle, TX 78617-1395
Contact: Valerie Tamburri,valerie@treefolks.org, 512-443-5323

Verifier
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1.3 OBJECTIVE

The goal of this GHG emission removal verification at Year 6 is to ensure that the GHG assertion made by the Project is materially correct, that the sampling process and data used in the offset calculations are appropriate, that the offset calculations conform to the City Forest Credits (CFC) Protocol, and that the Project is in compliance with all CFC requirements relating to eligibility, accounting, and documentation.

2 VERIFICATION CRITERIA

2.1 GENERAL

The Registry will accredit VVBs to act as third-party verifiers who meet the Registry's qualifications and complete training. Those accredited VVBs can then act to verify compliance with this Tree Planting

Protocol per International Standards Organization 14064-3. Specifically, the Registry adopts and utilizes the following standards from ISO 14064-3:

- Upon receiving a Year 6 Project Design Document Amendment with sampling data, quantification of carbon and co-benefits, and a request for credits, the Registry will conduct a validation. If it validates the project at that stage, the Registry will retain a VVB to act as third-party verifier to verify compliance with this Protocol.
- The Registry requires a reasonable level of assurance in the accuracy of the asserted GHG removals to a reasonable level.
- The verification items identified in Tables 1 and 2 are all material elements, and any asserted GHG removals must be free of errors, misstatements, or omissions regarding those elements.
- The Registry will record, store, and track all quantification and verification data and either display it for public review or make it available for public review upon request.

2.2 PROTOCOL

The verification was conducted to the City Forest Credits Tree Planting Protocol, version 6, August 11, 2018. The protocol here matches the version in the PIA.

2.3 LEVEL OF ASSURANCE

This verification was conducted to a reasonable level of assurance. The Verification Report accurately reflects the documentation contained in the Project Design Document and supporting documents.

3 SCOPE OF VERIFICATION

- The Project is located in Austin, Texas, specifically described in the Project Design Document.
- The verification is for the issuance of credits at the Year 6 interval.
- The verification includes review of documents, data, imagery, and other evidence provided by the Project Operator; independent checking of selected data; checking of calculations for accuracy and conformance with the Protocol.

4 VERIFICATION PROCESS

4.1 VERIFICATION ACTIVITIES

The verification process consisted of the following activities:

- Verifier checked that the dates the dates when trees were sampled (for the Single Tree Quantification method) and the dates when the tree canopy imagery was analyzed (for the Cluster or Area Reforestation/Canopy quantification method) were subsequent to the Request for Credit Issuance date, April 1, 2023.

- Verifier checked all requirements in the Protocol, confirmed that documentation satisfies the requirements of the Protocol, and that values extracted from the documents and conclusions drawn from the document are accurate and appropriate.

- Verifier checked mapping, tree data from sampled trees, imaging, attestations, and other documentation. Verifier reviewed the accuracy of process for sampling and data collection, including: sample size calculations and project area boundary.

- Verifier reviewed the accuracy of the carbon quantification and City Forest Carbon Forward Removal Credit calculations. Verifier reviewed the Project Operator's assertion that the Project results in total GHG emissions mitigation of 106 tons CO2e over the 25-year Project Duration for Single Tree and 297 tons CO2e over the 25-year Project Duration for Area Reforestation. Verifier reviewed the Project Operator's assertion that per Protocol guidelines, 30% of Project GHG emissions mitigation is issued at Year 6, or 32 tons CO2e for Single Tree and 89 tons CO2e for Area Reforestation. However, adjusting for the prior credits issued at Years 0 and 4, the Area Reforestation issuance is reduced to 58 credits issued.

4.2 City Forest Credits Tree Planting Protocol Requirements At Year 6

Verifier reviewed the Project against all CFC Tree Planting Protocol requirements and confirmed the following:

- Project Design Document (Section 3): Verifier reviewed and confirmed Project Design Document is complete and accurate.

- Project Documentation (Section 3 and Appendix A): Verifier confirmed all required project documentation present.

- Quantification (Section 9 and Appendix B):
    - Verifier confirmed Project Operator utilized Single Tree and Area Reforestation CFC quantification methodology described in Appendix B.
    - Verifier reviewed the accuracy of the data collection process and the data integrity for the Year 6 sampling and quantification methodology.
    - Verifier reviewed imaging, canopy assessments from iTree Canopy, maps, and tree data from sampled trees.

- Co-Benefits (Appendix B): Verifier confirmed the calculation of ecosystem co-benefits as set forth in the City Forest Credits quantification tool.

5 VERIFICATION FINDINGS

Verifier reviewed the changes to the carbon quantification or Project Area, including:

- Single Tree: Revision to project's total Single Tree GHG emissions mitigation from 102 credits to 106 credits due to recalculating mortality rate using observed mortality according to tree types.
- Area reforestation: Revision to project's total Area Reforestation GHG emissions mitigation from 390 credits to 297 credits to adjust for pre-existing/baseline canopy (consistent with the latest Afforestation/Reforestation Protocol requirements).

Verifier determined that the updates were accurate and appropriate.

6 VERIFICATION RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

This verification of the Reforesting Austin's Parks and Riparian Zones for the Year 6 credit issuance was completed in a manner consistent with ISO 14064-3 and in conformance with relevant CFC standards and guidelines.

The table below is a summary of the verified GHG emissions removals for the Project for Year 6 credit issuance. These City Forest Carbon Forward Removal Credits are ex-ante credits based on forecasted removals and subject to multiple safeguards, including sampling, and which convert to ex-post at Year 25.

Table 1. Single Tree–Davis-White Park & Patterson Park Project GHG Removals

Project Name	GHG Removals Attributed to the Project ($mtCO_2e$)	GHG Removals After Deductions for Mortality (21%) ($mtCO_2e$)	GHG Removals After Deductions for Reversal Pool Account (5%) ($mtCO_2e$)	City Forest Carbon Forward Removal Credits to be Issued to Project at Year 6 ($mtCO_2e$)
Reforesting Austin's Parks and Riparian Zones – Year 6	134	112	106	32

Table 2. Single Tree–Davis-White Park & Patterson Park Ecosystem Co-Benefits Per Year After 25 Years

Ecosystem Services	*Resource Units*	*Value*
Rainfall Interception (m3/yr)	468.28	$1,224.69
		-$197.30

Air Quality (t/yr)	-0.0126	
Cooling – Electricity (kWh/yr)	3,728.97	$283.03
Heating – Natural Gas (kBtu/yr)	14,455.96	$150.20
Grand Total ($/yr)		**$1,460.62**

Table 3. Area Reforestation–Onion Creek Riparian Canopy Planting GHG Removals

Project Name	GHG Removals Attributed to the Project ($mtCO_2e$)	GHG Removals After Deductions for Mortality (N/A) ($mtCO_2e$)	GHG Removals After Deductions for Reversal Pool Account (5%) ($mtCO_2e$)	City Forest Carbon Forward Removal Credits to be Issued to Project at Year 6 ($mtCO_2e$)
Reforesting Austin's Parks and Riparian Zones – Year 6	313	313	297	58

Table 4. Area Reforestation–Onion Creek Riparian Canopy Planting Ecosystem Co-Benefits Per Year After 25 Years

Ecosystem Services	*Resource Units*	*Value*
Rainfall Interception (m3/yr)	387.49	$1,013.51
Air Quality (t/yr)	0.0865	$209.08
Cooling – Electricity (kWh/yr)	19,712.35	$1,496.17
Heating – Natural Gas (kBtu/yr)	10,339.88	$107.44
Grand Total ($/yr)		**$2,826.19**

Verifier Signature

Brian Goodall

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