

Verification Report

Travis County Floodplain Reforestation Project

City Forest Credits Project Number 014

January 18, 2022

Dr. Qingfu Xiao

4216 Vistosa St

Davis, CA 95618

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1 INTRODUCTION

Dr. Qingfu Xiao (Verifier) was engaged to verify the Travis County Floodplain Reforestation Program - 2021 (Project) Travis County, TX, for the period January 26, 2021 to February 22, 2021. The goal of the verification is to ensure that the GHG assertion is materially correct, and that the assertions made by the project are well documented.

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

TreeFolks and Austin Office of Sustainability are in the second year of the Travis County Floodplain Reforestation Program - 2021 to restore healthy forest buffers of local rivers and streams in eastern Travis County. During last year's program pilot, TreeFolks partnered with the City of Austin Watershed Department and Travis County parks, but due to new city protocols and county land availability, we are unable to partner again this season. TreeFolks plans to resume these partnerships next year and continue to plant on public land. Carbon+ credits generated from this project will be sold to the City of Austin to help meet the city's 2020 carbon neutrality goal. Using funds allocated for carbon offsets to purchase local credits from these riparian plantings keeps the City of Austin's investments localized while addressing global climate change.

The program, operated by TreeFolks, will reforest floodplains on private lands. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, TreeFolks will not host any volunteer planting events this season, but will continue working with contractor crews and youth service organizations to plant native saplings, and provide the reforestation services to landowners free of charge. These services include, for those applicants who choose to participate and are selected, free trees, free planting services, and free consultations.

The tree planting projects will increase canopy cover and diversity in an ecosystem that has become degraded by farming and overgrazing for more than a century. The City of Austin Watershed Protection Department recently concluded that diverse wooded corridors along creeks and riparian zones here are rare.

The reforestation project also serves to engage local community members with the environment, complementing Austin's participation in the Biophilic Cities Network and the Children and Nature collaborative, and aligning with citywide green infrastructure efforts. Reforesting Austin's local stream corridors will create lasting change, both within the city limits and across eastern Travis County floodplains.

The project will encompass privately owned parcels totaling 35.91 acres. We planted over 23,000 saplings at densities ranging from 5' x 8' spacing to 7' x 10' spacing, in order to provide canopy style coverage in these riparian zones.

1.2 CONTACT INFORMATION

Project Operator

TreeFolks

PO Box 1395

Del Valle, TX 78617-1395

Contact: Valerie Tamburri, valerie@treefolks.org, 512-443-5323

Verification Body

Dr. Qingfu Xiao

4216 Vistosa St

Davis, CA 95618

1.3 OBJECTIVE

The goal of this GHG emission reduction verification is to ensure that the GHG assertion made by the Project is materially correct, that the assertions and assumptions 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 third-party verifiers who will 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 Project Report with updated data on eligibility, quantification of carbon and co-benefits, and a request for credits, the Registry or the Project Operator will retain a third-party verifier to verify compliance with this Protocol.
- The Registry requires a reasonable level of assurance in the accuracy the asserted GHG removals to a reasonable level.
- The verification items identified in Tables C.1 and C.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 9, February 7, 2021.

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 encompasses land in Travis County, TX, specifically described in the Project Design Document.
- Period is January 26, 2021 to February 22, 2021.
- 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:

- CFC and Verifier jointly responded to questions from the Project Operator, regarding how to interpret the Protocol
- Verifier reviewed and commented on draft versions of the credit calculations
- 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 independently checked mapping and at least selected data or calculated values in each stage of calculations
- Verifier submitted to the Project Operator requests for clarifications and corrections, as issues came to light, and reviewed revised and corrected documents and calculations

4.2 CFC TREE PLANTING PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS

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

- Project Operator Identify (Section 1.1): Verifier confirmed identity by reviewing Project Operator website or state/local records.

- Project Design Document (Section 8): Verifier reviewed and confirmed Project Design Document is complete and accurate.
- Project Implementation Agreement (Section 1.2): Verifier confirmed fully executed Project Implementation Agreement on file.
- Location (Section 1.3 and Appendix C): Verifier reviewed mapping and location data.
- Right to Receive Credits (Section 2 and Appendix C): Verifier confirmed either a signed Declaration of Land Ownership or Agreement to Transfer Credits.
- Commencement (Section 5 and Appendix C): Verifier reviewed Approval of Application Letter.
- Project Documentation (Section 6 and Appendix C): Verifier confirmed all required project documentation present.
- Additionality (Section 4 and Appendix C): Verifier reviewed for additionality as follows:
 - Legal requirements test – no law or ordinance for Project Operator to plant trees.
 - Performance Standards Baseline (Appendix D) – per the program wide performance standard baseline showing net tree loss, these trees are additional.
- Permanence (Appendix D): Verifier confirmed Project Implementation Agreement imposes a legal obligation to Project Operator to conduct this project for 25 years, including a reversal obligation.
- Quantification (Appendix B):
 - Verifier confirmed Project Operator utilized the CFC quantification methodology described in Appendix B.
 - Verifier reviewed the accuracy of the data integrity in the quantification methodology.
 - Verifier reviewed geocoded photos and imaging.
 - Verifier reviewed the Declaration of Planting and Declaration of Planting Affirmation.
- Co-Benefits (Appendix B): Verifier also confirmed the calculation of ecosystem co-benefits as set forth in the CFC-developed quantification tool listed below in Section 6.

5 VERIFICATION FINDINGS

All issues raised by Verifier were clarified or corrected by the Project Operator and all issues were closed by appropriate responses by TreeFolks.

6 VERIFICATION RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

This verification of the Travis County Floodplain Reforestation Program - 2021 Project for the period January 26, 2021 to February 22, 2021 was completed in a manner consistent with ISO 14064-3 and in

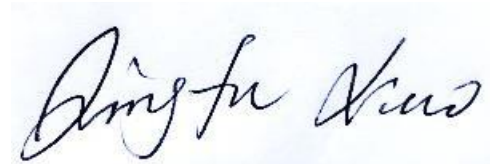
conformance with relevant CFC standards and guidelines. The table below is a summary of the emission reduction or removals.

Site(s)	GHG Removals (tCO ₂ e)	GHG Removals After Deduction for Risk Buffer (5%) (tCO ₂ e)	CFC Carbon+ Credits to be Issued to Project (tCO ₂ e)
TCFRP -2021	3,831.60	3,640.02	364.00
Cumulative	3,831.60	3,640.02	364.00

Co-Benefits per year with current tree canopy cover.

Ecosystem Services	Resource Units Totals	Res Unit/Acre Tree Canopy	Total \$	\$/Acre Tree Canopy
Rain Interception (m ³ /yr)	3,978.7	110.8	\$10,406.73	\$ 289.80
CO ₂ Avoided (t, \$20/t/yr)	18.1	0.5	\$362.53	\$ 10.10
Air Quality (t/yr)				
O ₃	0.5190	0.0145	\$1,542.07	\$ 42.94
NO _x	0.1278	0.0036	\$379.74	\$ 10.57
PM ₁₀	0.2753	0.0077	\$310.95	\$ 8.66
Net VOCs	0.0054	0.0002	\$15.34	\$ 0.43
Air Quality Total	0.9276	0.0258	\$2,248.10	\$62.60
Energy (kWh/yr & kBtu/yr)				
Cooling - Elec.	42,529	1,184	\$3,227.98	\$ 89.89
Heating - Nat. Gas	22,557	628	\$234.38	\$ 6.53
Energy Total (\$/yr)			\$3,462.36	\$96.42
Grand Total (\$/yr)			\$16,479.72	\$458.92

Lead Verifier Signature



Dr. Qingfu Xiao