

Verification Report Year 4

Advancing Tree Equity in Providence, Rhode Island

City Forest Credits Project Number 22

September 23, 2025

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1 INTRODUCTION

Dan Hintz (a Validation and Verification Body (VVB) acting as a third-party verifier) was engaged to verify the Advancing Tree Equity in Providence, Rhode Island (Project) Providence, RI, for the issuance of credits at the Year 4 interval based on the applicable protocol. The goal of the Year 4 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

Between April 2020 and November 2021, the Providence Neighborhood Planting Program (PNPP) planted 1,120 trees across the city of Providence, Rhode Island. Trees were planted using the single tree planting design and quantification method including: 1,039 trees planted along the city right-of-way (sidewalks, lawn strips, medians, etc.) and 81 trees planted on other city owned and managed properties (schools, fire stations, parks, etc.).

American Forests and local implementing partner Providence Neighborhood Planting Program staff collected data on the 89 tree random sample spanning the “Advancing Tree Equity in Providence, Rhode Island” project area, as provided by City Forest Credits. The status of each tree was documented, along with a geotagged photo. After sampling was completed, the project has a current mortality status of 6 vacant/dead trees (6.7%).

Significant mortality (>20%) did not occur and no significant changes were made to the Project Area since the initial planting.

1.2 CONTACT INFORMATION

Project Operator

American Forests

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Washington, DC 20005, USA

Contact: Tanner Haid, Senior Director of Urban Forestry Field Delivery, 202-601-1976,

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Verifier

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1.3 OBJECTIVE

The goal of this GHG emission removal verification at Year 4 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 4 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 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 is located in Providence, Rhode Island, specifically described in the Project Design Document.
- The verification is for the issuance of credits at the Year 4 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 when trees were sampled were subsequent to the Request for Credit Issuance date, November 11, 2024.
- 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 and imaging for sampled trees. Verifier reviewed the accuracy of process for sampling and data collection, including: sample size calculations, randomization of sample, and geotagged photos showing all sampled trees as dead, vacant, or alive.
- 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 777 tons CO₂e over the 26-year Project Duration. Verifier reviewed the Project Operator's assertion that per Protocol guidelines, 40% of Project GHG emissions mitigation is issued at Year 4, or 311 tons CO₂e.
- Verifier submitted to the Project Operator no requests for clarification. The photos of the 89 randomly sampled trees were very well organized and easy to review and verify the mortality rate.

4.2 CITY FOREST CREDITS TREE PLANTING PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS AT YEAR 4

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 10 and Appendix A):
 - o Verifier confirmed Project Operator single tree quantification methodology described in Appendix A.
 - o Verifier reviewed the accuracy of the data collection process and the data integrity for the Year 4 sampling and quantification methodology.
 - o Verifier reviewed spreadsheets with data from sampled trees for carbon quantification and geocoded photos.
- Co-Benefits (Appendix A): Verifier confirmed the calculation of ecosystem co-benefits as set forth in the City Forest Credits quantification tool.

5 VERIFICATION FINDINGS

Verifier confirmed that the Project at Year 4 is below the estimated mortality rate of 20%. Therefore, the Verifier confirmed that no changes are required to the credit issuance schedule.

All issues raised by Verifier were clarified or corrected by the Project Operator.

6 VERIFICATION RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

This verification of the Advancing Tree Equity in Providence, Rhode Island for the Year 4 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 4 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 26.

Table 1. Project GHG Removals

Project Name	GHG Removals Attributed to the Project (mtCO ₂ e)	GHG Removals After Deductions for Mortality (20%) (mtCO ₂ e)	GHG Removals After Deductions for Reversal Pool Account (5%) (mtCO ₂ e)	City Forest Carbon Forward Removal Credits to be Issued to Project at Year 4 (mtCO ₂ e)
Advancing Tree Equity in Providence, Rhode Island – Year 4	1,022	818	777	311

Table 2. Ecosystem Co-Benefits Per Year After 25 Years

<i>Ecosystem Services</i>	<i>Resource Units</i>	<i>Value</i>
Rainfall Interception (m3/yr)	7,142.36	\$15,094.51
Air Quality (t/yr)	0.4764	\$5,715.86
Cooling – Electricity (kWh/yr)	93,201.26	\$13,057.50
Heating – Natural Gas (kBtu/yr)	3,467,234.39	\$48,493.53
Grand Total (\$/yr)		\$82,361.39

Verifier Signature



Daniel J Hintz