

Verification Report

Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Project 21-22

City Forest Credits Project Number 025

November 15, 2022

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1 INTRODUCTION

Dr. Qingfu Xiao (a Validation and Verification Body (VVB) acting as a third-party verifier) was engaged to verify the Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Project 21-22 (Project) Travis, Bastrop, Williamson, Caldwell, Hays, and Burnet TX for the period November 1, 2021 – February 12, 2022. 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' Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Program is an expansion of the Travis County Floodplain Reforestation Program pilot, now serving the six counties of Travis, Bastrop, Williamson, Caldwell, Hays, and Burnet. TreeFolks planted a total of 59,907 trees on 40.15 acres at 16 public and privately owned properties within the Project Area. Additional to these 59,907 deciduous trees, 6,390 smaller trees and shrubs were also planted on these properties but were not included in the carbon project. Once these trees reach 25 years of age, average crown diameter will be 6 feet and it is expected the trees will provide full canopy cover over the Project Area.

1.2 CONTACT INFORMATION

Project Operator

TreeFolks, Inc.

P.O. Box 1395

Del Valle, Texas 78617

Contact: Valerie Tamburri, Andrew Smiley

512-443-5323

valerie@treefolks.org, andrew@treefolks.org

Verification Body

Dr. Qingfu Xiao

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1.3 OBJECTIVE

The goal of this GHG emission removal 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 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 Project Design Document with data on eligibility, 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 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 10, dated February 7, 2022.

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 central Texas, within six counties of Bastrop, Burnet, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson, specifically described in the Project Design Document.
- Project period is November 1, 2021 to February 12, 2022.
- 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 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 included following elements: Project Operator (PO) Identity, Project Implementation Agreement (PIA), location, right to receive credits, Project Commencement, Project Duration, legal requirements test, imaging and geo-coded photos, tree data, attestations, social impacts, reversals and Reversal Pool Account contributions.
- 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 4,070 tons CO₂e over the 26-year Project Duration. Verifier reviewed the Project Operator's assertion that the Project results in GHG emissions mitigation of 407 tons CO₂e after initial tree planting.
- Verifier submitted to the Project Operator a request to correct a typographical error in the agreement terms of the Project Implementation Agreement between City Forest Credits and TreeFolks.

4.2 CITY FOREST CREDITS TREE PLANTING PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS

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

- Project Operator Identity (Section 1.1): Verifier reviewed and confirmed Project Application Document. This project is operated by the TreeFolks, Inc (<https://www.treefolks.org/>).
- Project Design Document (Section 3): Verifier reviewed and confirmed Project Design Document is complete and accurate.
- Project Implementation Agreement (Section 1.3, 3, and 4): Verifier confirmed fully executed Project Implementation Agreement on file.
- Location (Section 1.4): Verifier reviewed mapping and location data. The project is located within a planning area for a metropolitan planning agency or entity, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). CAMPO was formed under the State of Texas law and its geographic boundaries are coextensive with State Planning Region 12, which comprises the counties of Bastrop, Burnet, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson.

The project includes a total of 16 sites (15 private and 1 public) in these Central Texas counties. Detailed planting site geographic location were provided to the verifier in maps and shape files.

- Land Ownership or Right to Receive Credits (Section 1.7): There are 16 landowners in this Project. Verifier confirmed signed Agreement to Transfer Credits from each landowner, including 1 public site, 14 private sites, and 1 partner site. Verifier confirmed the project maps (i.e., regional location map (2 CTFRP 21-22 Regional Location Map.pdf) and project area map of each planting site (1 CTFRP 21-22 Project Area Map.pdf)).

- Commencement (Section 3): Verifier reviewed Approval of Application Letter.

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

- Additionality (Section 4): 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. The performance standard baseline is attached to the Project Design Document.
 - The Project did not plant trees on sites that were forested and then cleared of healthy trees within the prior ten years (Section 4.2)
 - Project Operator signed a Project Implementation Agreement with City Forest Credits for 26 years.
 - The 26-year Project Duration commitment is additional to and longer than any commitment the Project Operator makes to non-carbon project tree plantings.
 - Project Operator completed and signed the Attestation of Additionality.

- Permanence (Section 1.3, 2.2, and 8): Verifier confirmed Project Implementation Agreement imposes a legal obligation to Project Operator to conduct this project for 26 years, including a reversal obligation.

- Quantification (Section 12 and Appendix A):
 - Verifier confirmed Project Operator utilized the City Forest Credits Tree Planting Protocol Area Reforestation Quantification Methodology described in Appendix A. Specifically, the Project Operator used the Area Reforestation Quantification and Monitoring Standards and Requirements in the South Central Climate Zone.
 - Verifier reviewed the accuracy of the data integrity in the quantification methodology.
 - Verifier reviewed planting design and quantification method, spreadsheets with tree data for carbon quantification, geocoded photos, and imaging.
 - Verifier reviewed the completed and signed Attestation of Planting and three Attestations of Planting Affirmation from participating entities.

- Co-Benefits (Appendix A): Verifier confirmed the calculation of ecosystem co-benefits as set forth in the City Forest Credits quantification tool.
- Attestation of No Double Counting of Credits and No Net Harm
 - Verifier reviewed the completed and signed Attestation of No Double Counting of Credits and No Net Harm.

5 VERIFICATION FINDINGS

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

In this Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Project, a full canopy cover after 25 years was assumed. A full canopy cover is achievable, but requires regular tree care and maintenance/replanting to minimized canopy cover decrease due to tree mortality.

6 VERIFICATION RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

This verification of the Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Project 21-22 for the period November 1, 2021 to February 12, 2022 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 initial 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.

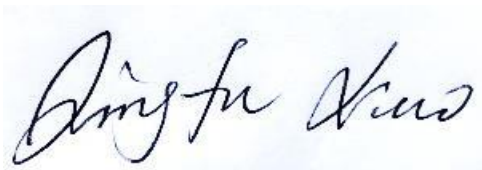
Table 1. Project GHG Removals

Project Name	GHG Removals Attributed to the Project (mtCO₂e)	GHG Removals After Deductions for Mortality (mtCO₂e)	GHG Removals After Deductions for Reversal Pool Account (5%) (mtCO₂e)	City Forest Carbon Forward Removal Credits to be Issued to Project (mtCO₂e)
Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Project 21-22	4,284	N/A	4,070	407
Cumulative	4,284		4,070	407

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

<i>Ecosystem Services</i>	<i>Resource Units</i>	<i>Value</i>
Rainfall Interception (m ³ /yr)	4,448.5	\$11,635.48
Air Quality (t/yr)	1.0371	\$2,513.54
Energy: Cooling – Electricity (kWh/yr)	47,551	\$3,609.12
Energy: Heating – Natural Gas (kBtu/yr)	25,220	\$262.05
Grand Total (\$/yr)		\$18,020.20

Verifier Signature



Qingfu Xiao