



## WA Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program

The Western Australian Government's \$15 million Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program (CF-LRP) aims to realise agriculture's potential to sequester carbon in the landscape, generate carbon credits, and grow the State's carbon farming industry. Projects will deliver carbon sequestration and contribute to the long-term sustainability of the farming industry.

Recipients will plant endemic tree species in belts and blocks to integrate with ongoing farming activities, undertake new or materially different soil carbon sequestration practices, or a combination of both.

Projects will also deliver one or more of the CF-LRP's priority co-benefits:



Biodiversity  
and  
conservation



Agricultural  
productivity



Soil  
health



Salinity  
mitigation



Aboriginal  
economic and  
cultural  
opportunities

The CF-LRP had two funding streams:

1. **ACCU Plus** (Australian Carbon Credit Units Plus co-benefits) to establish new carbon farming projects, with 3 ACCU Plus rounds held over 4 years.
2. **Future Carbon** for research grants, with 1 round held.

In addition, the CF-LRP offers the **Carbon for Farmer Voucher Program** which supports the development of Carbon Farming Plans which assist landowners make informed business decisions and aims to increase the quality of applications to ACCU Plus.

## Round 1 ACCU Plus Projects

The Rural Business Development Corporation (RBDC) administers the ACCU Plus stream.

In 2022, the RBDC entered Agreements for Financial Assistance with the successful applicants, providing \$1.64 million for 6 new carbon farming projects. Funding will be repaid with an agreed number of carbon credits from the projects over a period of up to 10 years.

The ACCU Plus projects span 5,807 ha and are expected to remove approximately 406,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide over 25-years.

| Recipient  | Project  | Region         | Funding   |
|--|--|----------------|-----------|
| <b>Announced 13 January 2022</b>                       |  |                |           |
| The Trustee for the Weelhamby Unit Trust               | <b>Weelhamby Farm Biodiversity Project</b><br>250ha of biodiverse plantings will create wildlife corridors and stock shelter areas. The project will employ Traditional Owners to support On Country cultural activities.  | Mid West       | \$393,100 |
|  | <b>Weelhamby Farm Carbon Project</b><br>Adopting new practices to address historical land management issues that reduced carbon, biodiversity and soil health. A 3-year pasture to 1 year cropping rotation, with pulse grazing will increase soil microbial and fungal activity, minimise water run-off, reduce loss of topsoil and boost soil carbon levels across 2,500 ha of farmland. |                | \$345,500 |
| Native Carbon 2 Pty Ltd                                | <b>Boorokup Restoration Project</b><br>Direct seeding and hand planting will link remnant vegetation along the Gordon River to establish diverse habitats. The restoration of degraded land will sequester carbon, address salinity and waterlogging issues, and provide training, employment and business opportunities for Traditional Owners.   | Great Southern | \$540,000 |
| Nannup Truffle Farm                                    | <b>Nannup Truffle Farm Carbon Sequestration Project</b><br>Planting 10,500 local plant species. This will increase soil carbon, improve horticultural productivity and addressing eutrophication (excessive nutrients) of on-farm water sources. Water quality analysis will measure the effect of remediation activities.   | South West     | \$50,000  |
| <b>Announced 3 June 2022</b>                           |  |                |           |
| David and Marnie Mackie                                | <b>Undanooka Soil Carbon Project</b><br>Exploring new legume and pasture systems with serradella species, canola and lupins, and a clover sub-story crop to increase nitrogen fixation, root biomass and soil carbon to improve overall soil health and agricultural productivity.   | Wheatbelt      | \$155,000 |
| Stephen Barrett (KJ Barrett & LM Barrett & SJ Barrett) | <b>Wellwood Farm Carbon Project</b><br>Implementing year-round rotational grazing and cropping practices will balance stock numbers and optimum ground cover. The application of trace elements and liquid calcium will optimise soil carbon at depth.   | Great Southern | \$160,000 |

## Round 2 ACCU Plus Projects

In 2023, the RBDC entered Agreements for Financial Assistance with the successful applicants, providing \$1.94 million for 6 new carbon farming projects. Funding will be repaid with an agreed number of carbon credits from the projects over a period of up to 10 years.

These projects span 7,568 ha and will remove approximately 349,610 tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere over a 25-year crediting period.

Five of the recipients developed their carbon farming project plans with support from the Carbon for Farmers Voucher Program.

| Recipient                                 | Project   | Region         | Funding   |
|---|---|----------------|-----------|
| <b>Announced 25 July 2023</b>             |   |                |           |
| Trustee for the Grey Family Farming Trust | <b>GFB Grazing Soil Carbon</b><br>The Grey family will leverage CF-LRP co-investment to sequester carbon at depth, where it will become more secure and stable, and increase soil organic matter by extending grazing rest periods on tagasaste and pastures. The project will install water points to increase stocking rates and grazing intensity of cattle, without risking soil erosion. Sub-tropical perennials will be planted along with multi-species shelter belts and cover crops. | Wheatbelt      | \$166,901 |
| Hacienda De Trigo                         | <b>Hacienda De Trigo Endemic Vegetation and Soil Carbon</b><br>A holistic whole-of-farm approach which combines a soil carbon project and a reforestation by environment plantings project to maximise long term benefits to the farm business.   | Wheatbelt      | \$100,000 |
|   | <b>Reforestation:</b> Using endemic mixed species planting and linking existing tracks of remnant vegetation, the project will revegetate over 200 ha, focusing on land restoration by planting mixed, endemic species with the aim to sequester carbon and increase biodiversity.  |                |           |
|   | <b>Soil:</b> The 1,307ha soil carbon project will improve soil health and increase soil carbon sequestration through deep ripping, application of clay, compost and manure, and introducing mixed legume species fodder crops.  |                | \$40,000  |
| Lemonade Valley Pty Ltd                   | <b>Lemonade Valley Biodiversity Project</b><br>The project aims to restore poor productivity farmland and establish biodiverse plantings over 200ha. This will provide habitat for local fauna and support agricultural productivity and honey production.  | Wheatbelt      | \$397,950 |
| A. L. Ruse                                | <b>Red Gully Farm Soil and Vegetation Carbon Project</b><br>The project will improve ecological outcomes by increasing biodiversity. The use of strategic grazing management will increase soil organic carbon, and vegetation belts will reduce soil erosion.  | Wheatbelt      | \$150,000 |
| Native Carbon 3 Pty Ltd                   | <b>Tambellup Noongar Farm Carbon Restoration Project</b><br>This project will deliver ecological restoration of 130ha of degraded farmland on the Gordon River to mitigate salinity and capture carbon. It aims to demonstrate how carbon   | Great Southern | \$607,750 |



|                              |   |           |           |
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|                              | farming can benefit the Aboriginal community and will complete a Cultural Heritage Survey, employ and train members of the Tambellup Aboriginal Community to undertake restoration and on-going project management.   |           |           |
| Trustee for the Vermac Trust | <b>Wandoo Springs Soil Carbon Project</b><br>A holistic grazing management approach will be implemented to improve soil health and better agricultural productivity. The projective objective is to show that adopting a more intensive grazing system with smaller paddocks, will lead to improved pasture production, enhanced soil health, and reduce farm input costs. The soil carbon project will be implemented over 76ha. | Wheatbelt | \$172,000 |

## Round 3 ACCU Plus Projects

The RBDC has offered Agreements for Financial Assistance to successful applicants to be finalised over coming months. Funding is repaid with an agreed number of carbon credits over a period of up to 10 years.

These proposed projects span 7,329 ha and are expected to remove approximately 395,117 tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere over a 25-year crediting period.

Four of the successful applicants developed their project plan with support from the Carbon for Farmers Voucher Program.

| Recipient                                | Project  | Region                       | Funding   |
|--|--|------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Announced 13 December 2024</b>        |  |                              |           |
| Trustee for the Ivan Rogers Family Trust | <b>Rogers Agri Land Restoration Program</b><br>A large-scale integrated soil and reforestation project with benefits to the local catchment area and the decarbonisation of the broader beef supply chain.   | Wheatbelt                    | \$439,650 |
|  | <b>Reforestation:</b> The 230ha plantings will help lower the local water table and create an environment conducive to landscape regeneration.   |                              |           |
|  | <b>Soil:</b> The 3,080ha soil carbon project will apply on-farm sourced compost to cropping land, supplementing nutrients and increasing soil biological activity to increase resilience and reduce inputs.  |                              | \$456,727 |
| Oakstar Asset Pty Ltd                    | <b>Oakstar Revegetation Project</b><br>This project will increase climate resilience and productivity of the farming property. The 195ha of biodiverse plantings will integrate with a broad acre cropping program. Over 150,000 endemic trees and shrubs will restore areas impacted by declining soil health and provide habitat for native fauna. | Mid West                     | \$448,000 |
| Trustee for Reballagriculture Trust      | <b>Reballagriculture Trust Reforestation Project</b><br>This 150ha reforestation project aims to address degradation caused by historic clearing that has increased recharge levels and dryland salinity. Reducing groundwater levels through tree planting will create significant benefits to the landscape both hydrologically and ecologically.  | Wheatbelt and Great Southern | \$358,000 |

|  |   |                |           |
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|  | Plantings will also reduce wind and soil erosion to benefit production in the cropping and pasture systems.   |                |           |
| Trustee for the WF O'Neill Discretionary Trust | <b>Locherbie Carbon Project</b><br>Reforestation of 55ha will be undertaken to increase habitat and add to established land care plantings. The project will connect remnant vegetation areas and waterways.  | Peel           | \$129,528 |
| Trustee for the Murray Family Trust            | <b>Kunmallup Tree Project</b><br>A 232ha reforestation to provide cover and restore fragile saline areas, and to expand the farm's ongoing re-vegetation program. These areas will benefit the business through the generation of ACCUs, and increases in productivity, biodiversity, and land value. | Great Southern | \$134,354 |
| Trustee for the Kendall Family Trust           | <b>Contango Carbon and Biodiversity Project</b><br>This project will revegetate of areas constrained by shallow, limestone capped soil. 95ha will be planted using endemic species with the highest likelihood of survival. The project will provide valuable learnings and demonstration potential.  | Wheatbelt      | \$351,536 |

## Future Carbon Projects

Future Carbon supports on-ground research projects examining methods to enhance the understanding of activities that capture carbon and lead to widespread adoption of novel carbon sequestration practices in Western Australia.

In 2022, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) entered Financial Assistance Agreements for grants totalling \$1.64 million.

The 'Green waste to net zero' project was successfully completed in 2023.

| Recipient                                 | Project  | Region         | Funding   |
|---|--|----------------|-----------|
| <b>Announced 13 January 2022</b>          |  |                |           |
| Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Inc | <b>Assessing the potential of Saltbush to Sequester Carbon in the South West</b><br>Assessing the viability of saltbush to sequester carbon and provide data to support the development of a new carbon farming methodology.   | Wheatbelt      | \$616,264 |
| Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee Inc      | <b>Green waste to net zero</b><br>This feasibility study aims to determine the viability of converting the Shire of Denmark's green waste and compostable municipal solid waste to biochar that will benefit agricultural production and soil carbon levels.   | Great Southern | \$52,914  |
| CRC for High Performance Soils            | <b>Using living plant systems and modern farming methods to sequester soil organic carbon, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve soil fertility</b><br>Measuring and demonstrating crop sequencing and new technologies that sequester organic carbon, mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, and improve soil fertility in crop production systems that have traditionally struggled to accumulate soil organic carbon. | Wheatbelt      | \$600,000 |

|                                     |  |           |           |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|
| The University of Western Australia | <b>Grazing into the future for soil carbon sequestration and building soil health with pasture biodiversity management</b><br><br>Investigating and documenting the potential to combine perennial and annual pastures in the medium to low rainfall zone to increase soil carbon sequestration, with co-benefits of improved soil health, increased soil biodiversity, and climate resilience. Practices are being augmented using soil biological amendments and cell grazing. | Wheatbelt | \$371,634 |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|

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