Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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WA Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program

Round 1 Funding Announcements

Congratulations to all successful proponents in Round 1 of the State Government's $15 million **Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program** which aims to realise agriculture's potential to sequester carbon in the landscape and contribute to growing the WA carbon market.

The selected projects will deliver environmental, social and economic co-benefits, and contribute to the long-term sustainability of the farming industry.

An initial **six ACCU Plus** and **four Future Carbon** projects were announced in January 2022 with the successful recipients sharing in $3.3 million in Round 1 funding, alongside an offer of $10,000 vouchers which were accepted by an additional four projects to develop Land Management Strategies.

Following completion of the Land Management Strategies, the Rural Business Development Corporation, which administers the ACCU Plus funding stream, approved a further **three ACCU Plus** soil projects which were announced in June 2022, bringing the **total committed funding for Round 1 of the WA Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program to over $3.7 million**.

The successful ACCU Plus projects will remove approximately 260,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent from the atmosphere over the next decade, in exchange for Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs).

The Program's Future Carbon initiative supports on-ground pilot research projects examining carbon sequestration methods to enhance the understanding of activities that capture carbon and lead to the wide-scale adoption of carbon farming practices in Western Australia.

ACCU Plus Round 1 Projects (announced 13 January 2022):

Recipient	Project	Region	Funding
The Trustee for the Weelhamby Unit Trust	Adoption of new management practices, including a three-year pasture to one-year cropping rotation, with pulse grazing of pastures by sheep. These practices will increase soil microbial and fungal activity, minimise water run-off and reduce loss of topsoil to boost carbon in the soil.	Mid West	$393,100
The Trustee for the Weelhamby Unit Trust	To demonstrate that carbon farming can complement traditional agricultural activities. The project will engage with Traditional Owners to revegetate the 250ha property with biodiverse plantings to create extensive wildlife corridors and stock shelter areas alongside carbon sequestration.	Mid West	$345,500
Mitsui E&P Australia Pty Ltd	Implementing year-round rotational grazing and cropping practices to balance stock numbers against optimum ground cover, alongside the application of trace elements and liquid calcium to optimise soil carbon.	Wheatbelt	$200,000
Native Carbon 2 Pty Ltd	Direct seeding and hand planting to link remnant vegetation along the Gordon River. The restoration of degraded farming land will sequester carbon, while tackling salinity, addressing waterlogging and providing business opportunities for Traditional Owners.	Great Southern	$540,000
Cullen Wines (Australia) Pty Ltd	Introducing mid-autumn and late spring sowing of multi-species cover crops to maximise soil biological activity and encourage plant competition for later use in high density, short duration grazing methods to build soil organic carbon.	South West	$36,000
Nannup Truffle Farm	Planting 10,500 local native species and boosting soil carbon by improving historical land management practices, addressing eutrophication (excessive nutrients) of on-farm water sources and conducting water-quality analysis to quantify the positive benefit of revegetation activities on horticultural productivity.	South West	$50,000

ACCU Plus Round 1 Projects (announced 3 June 2022):

Recipient	Project	Region	Funding
David and Marnie Mackie	Exploring new legume and pasture systems by introducing a serradella legume species, a mix of 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
Andrew and Claire Jenkins	Re-establishing or rejuvenating a pasture by seeding or pasture cropping and building soil structure by encouraging deeper-rooted plants (legumes), minimising or eliminating tillage and redistributing clay from on-farm sources to lighter soils along with annual application of compost blends.	Great Southern	$102,000
Stephen Barrett (KJ Barrett & LM Barrett & SJ Barrett)	Implementing year-round rotational grazing and cropping practices to balance stock numbers against optimum ground cover, alongside the application of trace elements and liquid calcium to optimise soil carbon.	Great Southern	$160,000

Future Carbon Round 1 Projects (announced 13 January 2022):

Recipient	Project	Region	Funding
Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Incorporated	**Assessing the potential of Saltbush to Sequester Carbon in the South West** – scope the viability of saltbush to sequester carbon and provide data to make the case for the development of a new Emissions Reduction Fund methodology.	Wheatbelt	$616,264
Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee Inc	**Green waste to net zero** – determine the viability of converting the Shire of Denmark's green waste and compostable municipal solid waste to biochar to benefit agricultural production in the region.	Great Southern	$52,914
CRC for High Performance Soils	**Using living plant systems and modern farming methods to sequester soil organic carbon, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve soil fertility** – trial, measure and demonstrate 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 organic carbon.	Multiple sites across the South West Land Division	$600,000
The University of Western Australia	**Grazing into the future for soil carbon sequestration and building soil health with pasture biodiversity management** – investigate and document 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 biodiversity and resilience. Practices will be augmented using soil biological amendments and cell grazing.	Wheatbelt	$371,634