



Sustainable & Comprehensive Forest Management

Landowner Forest Carbon Programs

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HERITAGE HABITAT & FORESTRY

Personal Background

WVU alumni, class of 2016

Worked for private forestry consultant company in WV

Worked as Habitat Biologist for Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

- Responsible for forest management on several hundred thousand acres of public land

Founded Heritage Habitat & Forestry in 2020

Focused on sustainable and comprehensive forest management

Forest carbon consulting service



Purpose of Presentation

Provide a general overview of the several forest carbon programs available to private landowners

- Other non-forest carbon programs are available, such as Working Trees silvopasture crediting program
 - Reach out to us for more information if interested

From the perspective of consultant-landowner

Not a technical discussion on forest carbon

- For that, view the Carbon Symposium by the WV Woodland Stewards Group from 6/25/21
 - Can send link if requested



General Overview

3 currently-active private companies purchasing “carbon rights”

What are you agreeing to?

- Grow your trees longer and larger over specified contract length
- Allows firewood removals
- Allows invasive species control
- Allows limited timber harvests in accord with specific program req’s
 - Must meet certain limitations and requirements

Landowner still maintains timber rights

Landowner must legally be allowed to harvest timber, i.e., no preexisting encumbrances limiting or otherwise hampering landowner’s ability to cut trees

Heritage Habitat offers forest carbon consultation at no charge to landowner, including conducting forest inventories for specific programs



Available Forest Carbon Programs

As of date of this presentation for landowners less than 5,000 forested acres (11/2022)

Forest Carbon Works

- Nationwide

Family Forest Carbon Program

- PA, WV, and western MD
- Expected to expand
 - **On track for Appalachian Ohio release by year end**

Natural Capital Exchange

- Nationwide



Forest Carbon Works

25-year crediting period, 100-year monitoring period

- Payments to landowner adjusted every 6 years (forest growth + carbon credit price)

Compliance market of California

Assessment done via forester visit (us)

Minimum 40 wooded acres

Average payments of \$10-20/ac/yr or higher

Recently released a voluntary carbon program

- Mimics California requirements in order to provide high quality credits
- Guarantees a minimum of \$10/ac/yr on qualifying properties

*Full disclosure: Heritage Habitat & Forestry receives monetary bonus for landowner enrollment



Family Forest Carbon Program

20-year term

Assessment done via forester visit (us), free

- **We receive no bonus for landowner enrollment**

Minimum 30 wooded acres

Average payments of \$100-230/ac/term and more

Upcoming expansion to southeastern Ohio anticipated by year end

Familyforestcarbon.org

*Full disclosure: Heritage Habitat & Forestry is a contracted forester for paid property site visits



Natural Capital Exchange (NCX)

1-year term

Assessment done remotely via satellite imagery, free

No acreage minimum

All ownership must be enrolled, regardless if wooded or not

Last cycle's payments mainly \$8/harvest deferral credit (HDC)

- 1 HDC = 2-2,300 BF hardwoods

Recently revised landowner bid process

Verra (carbon credit standard body) has recently decided to not “move forward in incorporating tonne-year accounting into the VCS Program at this time... (<https://verra.org/verra-defers-updates-to-the-vcs-program/>)

- NCX credits are not Verra-certified credits
- NCX response can be viewed here: <https://ncx.com/learning-hub/response-to-verra-tonne-year-accounting-update/>

NCX continues to sell carbon credits and paying landowners for Harvest Deferral Credits

*Full disclosure: Heritage Habitat & Forestry receives monetary bonus for landowner enrollment

Ncx.com



What's the "Catch"?

Catch 1:

- Contract for carbon follows the property
 - May greatly decrease property value if selling while under terms of a carbon project
 - Timber will essentially be "useless" for buyer

Catch 2:

- Enrollment into any program will forever disqualify that property from being eligible for enrollment into any other program, regardless if under contract or not
 - Expected to change, but not counting on it until seen in writing



What to Consider

What is your “ownership strategy”?

- Short-term property
- Legacy property
- Unknown

What is your current forest condition?

- If needing harvest for sustainability and forest health, a harvest will be recommended

What does carbon credit research tell you?

- Relatively new market, should we enter now, or wait?



Next Step

If interested in one or more particular programs, an assessment will need completed

All assessments are free

Heritage Habitat can facilitate these assessments

A quote for your carbon

Landowner(s), parcel data, location, phone number, mailing address



More Information

Visit our website: HeritageHabitatCo.com/forestcarbonconsulting

Visit the carbon programs' websites

Reach out via email or phone:

- HeritageHabitatCo@gmail.com
- 330-419-1769





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