

Who and What is NCOC?

In 1996, a consortium of conservation, and economic development organizations became interested in the potential environmental and economic opportunities presented by addressing global climate change through a market based carbon sequestration initiative. The group ultimately organized an incorporated coalition known as the National Carbon Offset Coalition (www.ncoc.us).

The NCOC is designed to assist landowners in planning carbon sequestration activities and documenting the resulting Carbon Sequestration Unit (CSU) in a manner that adheres to national standards and protocols, and meets the needs of potential buyers. The term "Carbon Sequestration Unit" is used to represent an amount of organic carbon sequestered in the wood or soil that is equivalent to the removal of one metric ton of CO_2 from the atmosphere.

In order for the widespread application of terrestrial carbon offsets from forests lands in a voluntary market all components of the trading infrastructure need to be developed and tested. These components include: planning protocols and procedures, contracting considerations for emitters and landowners, securing offsets against loss, monitoring, measuring, and verification of the offsets, and strategies to aggregate carbon credits from discontinuous land areas to lower transaction costs and spread risk while meeting the national criteria for measurement in the 1605 (b) National Greenhouse Gas Registry.

NCOC Partnerships

The NCOC is working in conjunction with the National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC) and the Intertribal Timber Council (ITC) to create a national tribal carbon offset portfolio. The portfolio will be designed to allow tribes to enter projects into a portfolio which will be marketed to carbon emitters and emerging markets nationally. Brian Kummet, Nez Perce Tribal Forester will be the lead technical advisor for the tribal portfolios.

The Big Sky Department of Energy (DOE) Regional Partnership (www.bigskyco2.org) is organizing to field-test a proposed trading system developed during the last two years by partnership members. In addition to the National Carbon Offset Coalition (NCOC), the partnership includes five universities, two Department of Energy (DOE) research laboratories, the states of Idaho, Montana, South Dakota, and Wyoming, three tribal organizations, and numerous private sectors for profit and nonprofit corporations.

What Needs to be Accomplished?

The NCOC will independently solicit project proposals and market listing agreements with tribal governments. The projects will be actively marketed on the Chicago Climate Exchange, and other emerging markets by Natsource, New York, an international brokerage firm and exclusive broker for the NCOC.

Types of Land Use Categories Needed

The following projects types will be solicited on tribal lands.

- Reforestation: Lands previously forested but not recent natural land and/or artificial reforestation efforts have failed.
- Afforestation: Establishing trees on sites that are not currently forested but are capable of supporting forest stands
- Agroforestry: Field and Farmstead windbreaks, Riparian Forest Buffers, Hybrid Polar Plantations.
- Fire Rehabilitation: Forested lands destroyed by wildfire.

Interested in Participating?

NCOC's website (www.ncoc.us) contains a Carbon Sequestration Project Planning Handbook designed to assist project planners in understanding offset project requirements.

In addition to the handbook, NCOC has Initial Proposal (IP) forms for submission of the project to the portfolio. The IP's include forms for Agroforestry, Afforestation, and Reforestation.

Email links for direct project planning assistance from NCOC technical advisors is also available.

In order to obtain the necessary documents, you will need to register your name, affiliation and other pertinent information.

Need More Information?

For more information about participating in the NCOC's pilot tribal carbon sequestration portfolios development contact:

Please visit our website: www.ncoc.us

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NCOC's Benefits to Landowners

- Landowners gain the practical experience in producing carbon credits for future markets.
- Flexible contractual agreements ranging from five (5) years to long-term 80+ years.
- Carbon sequestration credits offer landowners a new potential source of revenue.
- Enhances the health and sustainability of the ecosystem.



NCOC's Benefits to Emitters

- Industry may find that purchasing CSU's as an offset for their emissions is an economical way to meet their emission reduction needs.
- Enhances the health and sustainability of the ecosystem.
- Offers participating corporations a costeffective way to produce enough CSU's to achieve their carbon dioxide emission reduction goals.
- NCOC provides the buyer with a Certificate of Assurance containing final measurements, conditions, commitments, etc., meeting buyer demands.
- Companies can take voluntary steps now to establish their own emissions credit programs for greenhouse gases, in anticipation of "some type" of GHG market-based initiative, which seems likely, at some point, either on a national or international scale. By doing so, they can demonstrate their commitment to reducing carbon dioxide emissions and best position themselves to have their reductions recognized whenever a formalized program is introduced.
- Creates positive public relations.