

TEMPLATE

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION & PROJECT DESIGN DOCUMENT (PDD)

PUBLICATION DATE **15.11.2020**

VERSION **v. 1.2**

RELATED SUPPORT

- TEMPLATE GUIDE Key Project Information & Project Design Document v.1.2

This document contains the following Sections

Key Project Information

0 – Description of project

0 – Application of approved Gold Standard Methodology (ies) and/or demonstration of SDG Contributions

0 – Duration and crediting period

0 – Summary of Safeguarding Principles and Gender Sensitive Assessment

0 – Outcome of Stakeholder Consultations

Appendix 1 – Safeguarding Principles Assessment (mandatory)

0 – Contact information of Project participants (mandatory)

0 – LUF Additional Information (project specific)

Appendix 4 – Summary of Approved Design Changes (project specific)

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

GS ID of Project	GS 3039
Title of Project	Australian Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Project
Time of First Submission Date	Intentionally left blank
Date of Design Certification	11/06/2015
Version number of the PDD	1.0
Completion date of version	15/11/2021
Project Developer	Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd The original Project Developer of GS3039 was Auscarbon Pty Ltd. During 2020/21 the assets and business of Auscarbon Pty Ltd relating to GS3039 was purchased by Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd. This change of ownership was reported to Gold Standard in November 2020 and confirmed as accepted and processed by Gold Standard in August 2021. The Gold Standard Impact Registry now confirms Carbon Neutral as the Project Developer.
Project Representative	Nevin Wittber – Chief Operating Officer Ray Wilson – Chief Executive Officer
Project Participants and any communities involved	Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd – wholly-owned private company owns all land, trees and manages the properties.
Host Country (ies)	Australia / Western Australia / Midwest Region & Wheatbelt Region
Activity Requirements applied	☐ Community Services Activities ☐ Renewable Energy Activities ☒ Land Use and Forestry Activities/Risks & Capacities ☐ N/A
Scale of the project activity	☐ Micro scale ☐ Small Scale ☒ Large Scale
Other Requirements applied	Intentionally left blank

Methodology (ies) applied and version number	Systematic Random Sampling of Biomass Resource with Direct Measurement of Vegetation Parameters with CO2-e conversion through researched allometric relationships.
Product Requirements applied	☒ GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration ☐ Renewable Energy Label ☐ N/A
Project Cycle:	GS 3039 ☒ Regular ☐ Retroactive

Land-use & Forest Key Project Information¹

Scope:	☒ Forestry ☐ Agriculture
Silvicultural system:	☒ Conservation (no use of timber) ☐ Selective Harvesting ☐ Rotation Forestry
Project Area (ha):	16,128.03
Eligible Area (ha):	8,684.29
10% Set Aside Conservation area (ha):	All remnant vegetation areas on properties are kept aside for conservation. This currently totals approx 5,597.76ha or ~35% of the gross Project Area.
Evidence that Project Area Boundary is clearly distinguishable in the field:	All properties have a perimeter boundary track/road – this is mandatory for at least fire protection purposes although those tracks/roads may have other uses – e.g. farm access, fencelines, water point access or other access.

¹ Please refer to 0 for detailed information on LUF projects

Planting Area	10,530.27
How many Modelling Units (MUs) are included in the eligible area:	14
Summary of New Areas added (copy and insert as needed):	
Size (ha):	None on this occasion
Date Added	Intentionally left blank

Table 1 – Estimated Sustainable Development Contributions

Sustainable Development Goals Targeted	SDG Impact (defined in B.6.)	Estimated Annual Average	Units or Products
SDG 13 Climate Action (mandatory)	Emissions Reductions	19,701	VER's and PER's
SDG 6 Clean Water	6.6.1 – Change in the extent of water related ecosystems over time	Surface water EC from reforested land will be less than 2mS/cm over 50 years	Electrical Conductance (mS/cm)
SDG 15 Life on Land	15.3.1 - Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area	Approx 1,000ha with >60% reforested	Hectares of reforestation

SECTION A. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

A.1 Purpose and general description of project

The Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor is a native reforestation project located in Southwest Australia - a global biodiversity hotspot. The project involves reforestation over private properties in the Midwest and Wheatbelt Regions of Western Australia. The land selected is low in rainfall and agricultural productivity. Project plantings are of native vegetation types including provenance seed collected in the project property area. Seed and seedlings are planted with the design objective of restoring the project landscape to its natural condition of vegetation.

The baseline scenario is zero benefit against the identified SDG's.

A.1.1. Eligibility of the project under Gold Standard

The project has been approved by Gold Standard previously under the ID of GS 3039.

The project meets the General Eligibility criteria as follows:

- a) **Types of Project** – GS 3039’s fundamental approach is physical restoration of the natural landscape through ground revegetation activities.
- b) **Location of Project** – see Section A.2.
- c) **Project Area, Boundary and Scale** – the project area is well defined, mapped and of significant scale (see section B.3). There is no overlap with any other GS project, or registration with any other scheme.
- d) **Host Country Requirements** – GS 3039 operates under all applicable legislation and complies with local planning requirements and processes. Australia, as the Host country does not have an emission reduction cap and this project is not available to any other party for trading emissions credits (in Australia this would require the project to be registered under the “Clean Energy Regulator” framework – which it is not).
- e) **Contact Details** – See Appendix 2 for specific details.
- f) **Legal Ownership** – See section A.1.2.
- g) **Other Rights** – No other resources are required for the project.
- h) **Official Development Assistance (ODA) Declaration** – the project is not located in an ODA recipient country.

A.1.2. Legal ownership of products generated by the project and legal rights to alter use of resources required to service the project

Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd (CN), is the PD for GS 3039. As a wholly owned private company, CN owns all land (land title documents for individual properties are available upon request), trees and infrastructure associated with the project. CN manages all activities on the project area and owns all outputs from the project activities. Additionally, legally lodged covenants are placed over the land, in perpetuity, to further protect the project outputs.

A.2 Location of project

The project is located across privately owned properties in the Midwest Region and Wheatbelt Region of Western Australia. The project area is in proximity of Latitude / Longitude -29.213430° / 116.00790°. Details of the specific properties forming the project area are listed in the table below.

Table A.2.1

Property Name	Modelling Unit	Total Eligible Area (ha)	Eligible Areas (ha)	Location
Bowgada Hills	BH 2009	1,298.63	402.34	Solomon Road, Bowgada, Western Australia
	BH 2010		810.65	
	BH 2011		61.38	
	BH 2015		24.26	
Hillview	HV 2010	616.89	566.8	Muthingootha Road, Gutha, Western Australia
	HV 2014		50.09	
Hughes Block	HB 2016	473.04	473.04	Solomon Road, Bowgada, Western Australia
Pine Ridge	PR 2009	2,698.47	2,245.65	Hibbles Road, Bowgada, Western Australia
	PR2010		452.82	
Preston Waters	PW 2012	400.78	400.78	Toohey Road, Canna, Western Australia
Terra Grata	TG 2010	929.73	770.15	Robinson Road, Gutha, Western Australia
	TG 2011		125.95	
	TG 2015		33.63	
Tomora (Canna)	CA 2008	2,266.75	2,266.75	Fabbling Road, Canna, Western Australia

Consistent with the "Final comments" (with Date 08.08.2018) of the GS4GG *Final Report – Performance Certification and Transition Review Report – Pathway 1*, the MU's of CG 2016, CG 2017 and ML 2017 are no longer included in the Project area. HB 2016 has been included in the above table as this property was not sold. HB 2017 has not been brought into the project.

Additionally, the MU's of TG 2015 and BH 2015, previously not measured, have now been included in the inventory program.

All project documentation has been updated to reflect these changes, particularly in areas statements.

A.3 Technologies and/or measures

Once land has been designated for re-establishment with native vegetation the following activities are undertaken:

1. Land suitable for vegetation establishment is determined. The key areas eliminated from establishment include riparian zones, severely saline-affected land, upper-profile very shallow (rock) sites.
2. The establishment comprises 2 levels:
 - a. Direct seeding at time of site preparation, and
 - b. Seedling establishment later in the site preparation line.
3. Seed from regional native species is collected in advance – certain species are stored for use in direct seeding whilst other (particularly Eucalypt species) are allocated for seedlings. The seedlings are established in nursery approximately 6-months before field establishment.
4. Vermin control is undertaken in advance (and after establishment) where necessary – principally for rabbits).
5. Site establishment is undertaken (furrow and ripping on a contour-basis). This physical furrowing acts as a weed control measure.
6. Direct seeding and hand planting is undertaken with suitable seasonal conditions .
7. Established areas are precisely mapped (GPS).
8. External and internal fire protection access routes are established around and within the properties (as required by law).
9. Vegetation survival and growth is monitored after 6 months and then annually.
10. Where applicable, some supplemental establishment takes place in 2nd year.
11. Growth monitoring continues periodically and commonly in association with inventory activities.
12. No specific tending is carried out on vegetation – trees and shrubs are permitted to naturally grow and compete.
13. Fire protection measures are maintained over all properties.

A.4 Scale of the project

GS 3039 exceeds the threshold of “small” scale projects and therefore is classified as “large”. The project area covers almost 16,000 hectares of land with an eligible area of over 8,900 hectares.

A.5 Funding sources of project

All project activities are funded by the PD. No public funding is provided to support the project.

SECTION B. APPLICATION OF APPROVED GOLD STANDARD METHODOLOGY (IES) AND/OR DEMONSTRATION OF SDG CONTRIBUTIONS

B.1. Reference of approved methodology (ies)

GS 3039 is managed under:

- Gold Standard Afforestation/Reforestation (A/R) GHG Emissions Reduction and Sequestration Methodology, Version 1 July 2017.

The first submission of GS 3039 to Gold Standard used the latest version of Gold Standard documents and templates available at the time.

B.2. Applicability of methodology (ies)

GS 3039 meets all the Applicability requirements for the Gold Standard Afforestation/Reforestation (A/R) GHG Emissions Reduction and Sequestration Methodology:

1. GS4GG "Principles and Requirements" are applied to the project.
2. Planting areas of GS 3039 are on ex-agricultural land and do not fall into the definition of existing 'forest'.
3. No project area is on 'wetlands' as defined by the methodology.
4. No project area is irrigated or had drainage systems established on the sites.
5. No soil disturbance activities (as defined by the methodology) occur in the project area.
6. The Baseline Scenario of the project will not have a 'significant' (as defined by the methodology) increase, as the project occurs on ex-agricultural land which cannot improve its carbon sequestration benefit without active management.
7. GS 3039 applies the "Gold Standard Land Use Activity Requirements" to its activities.

B.3. Project boundary

There is not a single boundary due to the grouped nature of the Project. Project activities occur within separated, privately owned land titles, and are recorded accurately in shapefiles. The specific properties and project areas are listed in [Table A2.1](#)

Shapefiles showing the precise project boundaries are provided separately.

Additionally:

- all properties have perimeter tracks which are maintained as firebreaks;
- only previously cleared land was established;
- all established areas originally had perimeter access tracks separating those areas from remnant vegetation or non-established areas. While an extensive network of firebreaks is annually maintained within each property, not all established area perimeter tracks are maintained annually;
- in most cases the planting perimeter can be safely driven with a 4x2 vehicle;
- there is a clear distinction between non-established and established land – the established land all has well-defined twin mounds and furrows with established vegetation in the lines.

Source	GHGs	Included?	Justification/Explanation
Baseline scenario	Source 1	CO ₂	Intentionally left blank
		CH ₄	
		N ₂ O	
		...	
	Source 2	CO ₂	
		CH ₄	
		N ₂ O	
		...	
	...	...	
Project scenario	Source 1	CO ₂	
		CH ₄	
		N ₂ O	
		...	
	Source 2	CO ₂	
		CH ₄	
		N ₂ O	
		...	

B.4. Establishment and description of baseline scenario

The project seeks to revegetate existing agricultural land that had been cleared before 1990. The primary target of the project is land with poorer agricultural productivity, often associated with an absence of active management.

If the project did not exist, these lands face a high risk of remaining in their current state, with minimal vegetative cover comprising mostly cereal crop remnants and weeds. The project seeks to restore the landscape to its condition prior to clearing, including vegetation cover and species mix.

Therefore, the baseline scenario without the project can be considered to be zero benefit against the identified SDG's.

B.5. Demonstration of additionality

Use this table for Automatic Additionality Only – delete if N/A

Specify the methodology, activity requirement or product requirement that establishes deemed additionality for the proposed project (including the version number and the specific paragraph, if applicable).	CDM Additionality GS 3039 2021 Certification v 011021
Describe how the proposed project meets the criteria for deemed additionality.	There is no legal requirement to carry out forestation on any of the Project properties. Whilst some farmers have planted small portions of their farms to trees, there has been little evidence of a sustained program of establishment – especially on large scales. Periodically some farmers have established small, one-off re-afforestation areas for some particular environmental reason. During the early-mid 2000's examples of commercial tree-farming (for Eucalyptus oil) was attempted, particularly in the higher rainfall regions (i.e. above 500 mm pa). The fundamental commerciality behind those plantings has since dropped away and there has been little further activity since. Traditional commercial tree-farming for timber products is not practiced in the Mid-west Region (rainfall is too low at 300-350 mm pa).

B.5.1 Prior Consideration

N/A

B.5.2 Ongoing Financial Need

Financial barriers exist for individual farmers/landowners to fund the sustained establishment of natural vegetation for either environmental or semi-commercial reasons.

Farmers are generally very reluctant to convert extensive areas of (cleared) productive (arable) agricultural land back into long-term natural vegetation as they see that as a loss of productive land and ultimately a loss in income.

Revenue from Gold Standard is critical to ensuring the ongoing reforestation of agricultural land as very few options exist to sustain such large scale outcomes.

B.6. Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) outcomes

Relevant Target/Indicator for each of the three SDGs

Sustainable Development Goals Targeted	Most relevant SDG Target	SDG Impact
		Indicator (Proposed or SDG Indicator)
13 Climate Action (mandatory)	N/A	Emissions Removals (sequestration)
6 Clean Water	6.6 – By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes	6.6.1 – Change in the extent of water related ecosystems over time
15 Life on Land	15.3 - By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world	15.3.1 - Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area

B.6.1 Explanation of methodological choices/approaches for estimating the SDG Impact

SDG 13 Climate Action

Methodology/Approach used:

1. Cleared land, formerly used for broadscale farming is selected for native species re-vegetation.
2. Establishment takes place of native species – shrubs, mid-sized trees and large tree species are randomly established on a broadscale basis.
3. Survival and growth is periodically monitored.
4. Inventories are periodically undertaken (systemic random plot sampling using tree/plant measurement parameters). These are commonly done in association with Carbon Certification Audits.
5. Significant research involving vegetation destructive sampling has resulted in the development of above-ground dry biomass allometrics. Additional research also developed below-ground allometrics.
6. Inventory measurements involve the collection of stem diameters (Eucalypts and tree species) and for shrubs and small trees a crown volume index (CVI) involving plant height and crown width measurements. The inventory results in the calculation of above-ground dry biomass on a stratified site basis using the established allometrics.
7. A calculation of project CO₂-e sequestered ex-ante is done as follows (results in CO₂-e/ha):
 - a. Plots are established using a random systematic grid over the project area.
 - b. Sample sites are delineated by site quality strata.
 - c. Plot (tree/shrub) measurements converted to dry weight biomass through allometrics
 - d. Plot data amalgamated by MU.
 - e. Above-ground dry weight converted to CO₂-e as follows:
 - i. Dry weight to Carbon = multiply by 50%
 - ii. Carbon to CO₂-e = multiply by 3.6667 (=44/12)
 - f. Above-ground biomass converted to above- and below-ground CO₂-e = multiply by 1.33 (i.e. use 33% and the below-ground factor for the project area).
 - g. Multiply CO₂-e/ha by area (ha) for each MU.
 - h. Calculations incorporate reductions due to Baseline and Other Emissions or special reductions due to area variations.
 - i. Net result is the current CO₂-e Fixation over the project area.

SDG 6 Clean Water

A significant water quality issue in the region and surrounding regions of the project landscape is water salinity.

Methodology/Approach used:

1. Identify drainage lines that show salinity in the water course or riparian zones.

2. Identify land that fringes these zones and determine if additional establishment is possible using salt-tolerant species.
3. Carry out site establishment of these zones using contour establishment lines and the long-term growth of more salt-tolerant but deep rooted species.
4. Progressively monitor survival in these areas.
5. The objective is to establish deep-rooted trees and shrubs over these sites to progressively reduce the sub-soil salt-table and increase freshwater infiltration into the landscape.
6. Identify and record permanent water sampling sites across the project area and monitor stream salinity by measuring runoff from reforested areas multiple times during the rainfall season, when streams are flowing. The objective is achieved where salinity declines over the life of the project.
7. After approximately 10 years if the plants are surviving and growing, the objective is being achieved.
8. After 25 years there is likely to be a noticeable effect on the amount of vegetation growing in the riparian zone.

SDG 15 Life on Land

Reforestation activities occur on previously cleared agricultural properties. Each property may have a combination of remnant vegetation, degraded land, agricultural land and reforested land (for Gold Standard project and other projects).

Methodology/Approach used:

1. Following establishment activities, shapefiles are prepared to show the separate areas of establishment, remnant vegetation, agricultural land, salt-affected land, and land not planted for other reasons (e.g. rock).
2. The gross property area is noted from Certificates of Title relating to the property.
3. The following formula is applied to calculate the percentage of reforested land:

$$\frac{(\text{Established Area} + \text{Remnant Vegetation Area})}{\text{Gross Property Area}}$$

B.6.2 Data and parameters fixed ex ante

Copy the table for each piece of data and parameter; use headings to group parameter tables by SDG

SDG13

Data/parameter	Emissions removed (sequestration) through:
	- Uptake of CO₂-e Above- and below-ground components - Species wood moisture contents - Species wood carbon contents

Unit	• Tonnes of CO2-e/hectare • % wood moisture content • % carbon in wood
Description	These components contribute to the amount of on-site CO2-e
Source of data	• Company-based research - significant destructive sampling of a range of species of various ages was undertaken over various sites for below-ground biomass – this has enabled the development of a strong allometric relationships between above- and below-ground biomass. • Standard wood moisture and carbon content default values used.
Value(s) applied	• Below-ground biomass component determined at average of 33% of the assessed above-ground biomass component. This was accepted by GS TAC in 2017. • Default woody moisture content applied at 50%. • Default woody carbon content value of 50% used.
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	Direct measurement of trees (stem diameter) and shrubs (crown volume index) within permanent sample plots across Project Area. Calculation process for CO2-e from vegetation: • Above-ground Green weight x 50% Moisture Content = Dry Weight • Above-ground Dry Weight x 50% Carbon Content in Wood = Wood Carbon • Above-ground Wood Carbon x 3.6667 = Weight CO2-e • Above-ground CO2-e x 1.33 = above and below ground Weight CO2-e • These values applied to MU areas.
Purpose of data	These are the key components applied to determine the overall Carbon sequestration of each MU and the project as a whole.
Additional comment	Above components converted with the universal 3.6667 (i.e. 44/12) Carbon to CO2-e to determine project CO2-e values.

SDG 6

Data/parameter	Salinity of surface water from re-afforested land and land principally used for agricultural farming.
Unit	Surface water salinity – mS/cm (electrical conductivity = EC)
Description	Streams from re-afforestation areas will generate better quality surface water as compared to water from broad-area agriculture which is commonly affected by salinity due to long-term cropping and grazing.
Source of data	Recordings of water salinity coming from re-afforestation areas and farmland. Some data sourced from Water Department – stream water records.
Value(s) applied	Water Department data indicates general ex-farmland surface water EC of approx. 8.0 mS/cm. Surface water coming from re-afforestation areas should be less than 2 mS/cm.
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	Dept. of Water surface water quality records for Mid-west region stations. Direct measurement of surface water salinity using electronic probe.
Purpose of data	To confirm that the revegetation of Project areas contributes to improved surface water quality.
Additional comment	These parameters can only be assessed over a long period – at least 10 years.

SDG 15

Data/parameter	Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area
Unit	% of hectares of each project property containing reforestation or remnant vegetation combined.

Description	Each property allocated to the project may have a combination of remnant vegetation, degraded land, agricultural land and reforested land (for Gold Standard project and other projects). This parameter seeks to ensure the majority of the property is restored to, or protected as native vegetation. and secured at least for the life of the Gold Standard project.
Source of data	• Certificates of Title to calculate gross property area. • Shapefiles to calculate areas of remnant vegetation and reforestation.
Value(s) applied	The average of reforested and protected native vegetation across all project properties must exceed 60% of the gross property area.
Choice of data or Measurement methods and procedures	Satellite imagery may be used to calculate areas and proportion of reforestation, however this will be less accurate.
Purpose of data	To confirm the extent of reforestation activity and remnant vegetation protected on secured land.
Additional comment	Nil

B.6.3 Ex ante estimation of SDG Impact

The CO₂ fixation is calculated as follows:

- 114.48 tonnes CO₂e/ha (for above and below ground) (50 year production from Growth Model V2)
- 1.4667 tonnes CO₂/ha (Baseline comprising degraded cropland/pasture)
- 0.00413 tonnes CO₂/ha (Other Emissions from fertiliser used in establishment)
- Net sequestration 113.01 tonnes CO₂e/ha after deduction of baseline and Other Emissions)

B.6.4 Summary of ex ante estimates of each SDG Impact

Year	Baseline estimate	Project estimate	Net benefit
Year 1.	3,325	3,391	66
Year 2.	3,884	4,626	742
Year 3.	3,814	6,698	2,884

Year 4.	275	6,465	6,190
Year 5.	588	9,596	9,008
Year 6.		11,408	11,408
Year 7.	73	12,996	12,923
Year 8.	85	15,384	15,299
Year 9.	694	34,021	33,327
Year 10.		40,446	40,446
Year 11.		45,314	45,314
Year 12.		32,983	32,983
Year 13.		36,616	36,616
Year 14.		34,520	34,520
Year 15.		35,193	35,193
Year 16.		33,951	33,951
Year 17.		35,278	35,278
Year 18.		30,610	30,610
Year 19.		30,808	30,808
Year 20.		30,530	30,530
Year 21.		30,530	30,530
Year 22.		30,495	30,495
Year 23.		30,455	30,455
Year 24.		30,127	30,127
Year 25.		30,127	30,127
Year 26.		30,127	30,127
Year 27.		28,554	28,554
Year 28.		26,717	26,717
Year 29.		24,913	24,913
Year 30.		24,783	24,783
Year 31.		22,932	22,932
Year 32.		21,095	21,095
Year 33.		17,683	17,683
Year 34.		15,676	15,676

Year 35.		13,265	13,265
Year 36.		13,135	13,135
Year 37.		12,822	12,822
Year 38.		11,209	11,209
Year 39.		9,009	9,009
Year 40.		7,165	7,165
Year 41.		6,707	6,707
Year 42.		6,429	6,429
Year 43.		6,429	6,429
Year 44.		6,394	6,394
Year 45.		6,354	6,354
Year 46.		6,025	6,025
Year 47.		6,025	6,025
Year 48.		6,025	6,025
Year 49.		6,025	6,025
Year 50.		6,025	6,025
Total	12,737	984,092	971,354
Total number of crediting years	50		
Annual average over the crediting period	254.74	19,682	19,427

B.7. Monitoring plan

B.7.1 Data and parameters to be monitored

(Copy the table for each piece of data and parameter; use headings to group parameter tables by SDG)

SDG 13

Data / Parameter	Emissions removed (sequestration) through:
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	• Uptake of CO2-e Above- and below-ground components • Species wood moisture contents • Species wood carbon contents
Unit	• Tonnes of CO2-e/hectare • % wood moisture content • % carbon in wood
Description	These components contribute to the amount of on-site CO2-e
Source of data	• Company-based research - significant destructive sampling of a range of species of various ages was undertaken over various sites for below-ground biomass – this has enabled the development of a strong allometric relationships between above- and below-ground biomass. . • Standard wood moisture and carbon content default values used.
Value(s) applied	• Below-ground biomass component determined at average of 33% of the assessed above-ground biomass component. This was accepted by GS TAC in 2017. • Default woody moisture content applied at 50%. • Default woody carbon content value of 50% used.
Measurement methods and procedures	Direct measurement of trees (stem diameter) and shrubs (crown volume index) within permanent sample plots across Project Area. Calculation process for CO2-e from vegetation: • Above-ground Green weight x 50% Moisture Content = Dry Weight • Above-ground Dry Weight x 50% Carbon Content in Wood = Wood Carbon • Above-ground Wood Carbon x 3.6667 = Weight CO2-e • Above-ground CO2-e x 1.33 = above and below ground Weight CO2-e • These values applied to MU areas.
Monitoring frequency	Occurs with each GS Performance Certification, each 1-3years as per GS requirements.
QA/QC procedures	Cross checking of a proportion of plot measurements and complete review by Project Manager of every plot's data.
Purpose of data	These are the key components applied to determine the overall Carbon sequestration of each MU and the project as a whole.

Additional comment	
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(SDG 6)

Data / Parameter	Change in the extent of water related ecosystems over time. By measuring salinity of surface water from re-afforested land and land principally used for agricultural farming.
Unit	Surface water salinity – mS/cm (electrical conductivity = EC)
Description	Streams from re-afforestation areas will generate better quality surface water as compared to water from broad-area agriculture which is commonly affected by salinity due to long-term cropping and grazing.
Source of data	Recordings of water salinity coming from re-afforestation areas and farmland. Some data sourced from Water Department – stream water records.
Value(s) applied	Water Department data indicates general ex-farmland surface water EC of approx. 8.0 mS/cm. Surface water coming from re-afforestation areas should be less than 2 mS/cm.
Measurement methods and procedures	Dept. of Water surface water quality records for Mid-west region stations. Direct measurement of surface water salinity using electronic probe.
Monitoring frequency	Opportunistic coinciding with rainfall events resulting in overland flow at least once per year.
QA/QC procedures	Ensure calibration of salinity meters.
Purpose of data	To confirm that the revegetation of Project areas contributes to improved surface water quality.
Additional comment	These parameters can only be assessed over a long period – at least 10 years.

(SDG 15)

Data / Parameter	Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area
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Unit	% of hectares of each project property containing reforestation or remnant vegetation combined.
Description	Each property allocated to the project may have a combination of remnant vegetation, degraded land, agricultural land and reforested land (for Gold Standard project and other projects). This parameter seeks to ensure the majority of the property is restored to, or protected as native vegetation. and secured at least for the life of the Gold Standard project.
Source of data	• Certificates of Title to calculate gross property area. • Shapefiles to calculate areas of remnant vegetation and reforestation.
Value(s) applied	• The average of reforested and protected native vegetation across all project properties must exceed 60% of the gross property area.
Measurement methods and procedures	1. Following establishment activities, shapefiles are prepared to show the separate areas of establishment, remnant vegetation, agricultural land, salt-affected land, and land not planted for other reasons (e.g. rock). 2. The gross property area is noted from Certificates of Title relating to the property. 3. The following formula is applied to calculate the percentage of reforested land: $\frac{(\text{Established Area} + \text{Remnant Vegetation Area})}{\text{Gross Property Area}}$
Monitoring frequency	The calculation is made for each new property once establishment activities are completed. The calculation is revisited each year to ensure any changes in areas are mapped and captured accurately.
QA/QC procedures	Cross check of document calculations with latest information recorded in shapefiles.
Purpose of data	To confirm the extent of reforestation activity and remnant vegetation protected on secured land.
Additional comment	Nil

B.7.2 Sampling plan

Climate Action

For each inventory, the vegetation within the permanent sample plots are measured. The measurements are of the tree stem diameters (at 10 cm above ground) and for the shrubs a crown volume index (CVI) is recorded (height and 2 crown widths). These measurements are converted to biomass per plot then converted to CO₂-e per

hectare for each establishment year. These values are extended across the established area for each year, resulting in the combined total/gross tonnes CO₂-e across the Project. The number of permanent plots have been selected to meet the GS statistical criteria of no more than a 20% sampling error with a 90% confidence limit.

Clean Water

During 2018 there were 14 sites identified for sampling surface water salinity. NOTE: There are very few permanent streams in the Project Area. Most drainage lines have running water for short periods after rainfall events. The only River in the Project area is sampled (Lockier River or Terra Grata property).

- 11 sample sites were water flow channels from re-forestation areas
- 2 sites sampled water from agricultural land
- 1 site was a down-stream major river site from a large agricultural catchment.

Sampling is done following rainfall events – mostly in winter when majority of rainfall occurs.

Life on Land

No ongoing sampling is undertaken for this parameter. The calculation is made for each new property once establishment activities are completed. The calculation is revisited each year to ensure any changes in areas are mapped and captured accurately.

B.7.3 Other elements of monitoring plan

Measurement and monitoring of the carbon sequestration benefit occurs for each Performance Certification using suitably skilled contractors to undertake the field work.

Water salinity monitoring occurs annually during the winter season using Carbon Neutral staff.

All data is retained and stored in digital format on Carbon Neutral storage systems (currently Microsoft SharePoint) by the Carbon Neutral Chief Operating Officer.

The Uncertainty Assessment of the project is managed by targeting the GS required precision of 20% of the mean at a 90% confidence level.

Where this is not able to be achieved, appropriate discounting of the benefit is applied according to the LUF Activity Requirements.

SECTION C. DURATION AND CREDITING PERIOD

C.1. Duration of project

C.1.1 Start date of project

11/06/2015 (as previously accepted by GS)

The project is “regular” as the start date is after the initial public consultation (14/01/2015).

C.1.2 Expected operational lifetime of project
100 years (in perpetuity)

C.2. Crediting period of project

C.2.1 Start date of crediting period
01/07/2008

C.2.2 Total length of crediting period
50 years

SECTION D. SUMMARY OF SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES AND GENDER SENSITIVE ASSESSMENT

D.1 Safeguarding Principles that will be monitored

A completed Safeguarding Principles Assessment is in [Appendix 1](#), ongoing monitoring is summarised below.

Principles	Mitigation Measures added to the Monitoring Plan
Principle x.y	None required

D.2. Assessment that project complies with GS4GG Gender Sensitive requirements

Question 1 - Explain how the project reflects the key issues and requirements of Gender Sensitive design and implementation as outlined in the Gender Policy?	The project has been developed without restraint of input, and with invited input from all genders. Operationally, women and men are employed based on skilled required for jobs. There are no gender restrictions on any job.
Question 2 - Explain how the project aligns with existing country policies, strategies and best practices	Australia, under the Australian Human Rights Commission seeks to meet its international human rights obligations.

	The primary objectives under gender equality include addressing pay differences, representation of women in leadership and management roles, seeking a balance in unpaid care work at home and no tolerance violence towards women. The PD maintains policies as described in the below Appendix 1 that support these principles.
Question 3 - Is an Expert required for the Gender Safeguarding Principles & Requirements?	No
Question 4 - Is an Expert required to assist with Gender issues at the Stakeholder Consultation?	No

SECTION E. SUMMARY OF LOCAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The below is a summary of the 2 step GS4GG Consultation for monitoring purposes. Please refer to the separate Stakeholder Consultation Report for a complete report on the initial consultation and stakeholder feedback round.

E.1 Summary of stakeholder mitigation measures

No significant feedback was received, however it was noted the PD may seek greater communication with regional schools/colleges to assist in understanding of environmental management and the Carbon sector.

E.2 Final continuous input / grievance mechanism

Method	Include all details of Chosen Method (s) so that they may be understood and, where relevant, used by readers.
Continuous Input / Grievance Expression Process Book (mandatory)	Records available from Policy and Records – Perth Office.

Input/Grievances can be received via landline, mobile, email, social media platforms or direct personal contact.

GS Contact (mandatory)	help@goldstandard.org
Other	Intentionally left blank

APPENDIX 1 - SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES ASSESSMENT

Complete the Assessment below and copy all Mitigation Measures for each Principle into [SECTION D](#) above. Please refer to the instructions in the [Guide to Completing](#) this Form.

Assessment Questions/ Requirements	Justification of Relevance (Yes/potentially/no)	How Project will achieve Requirements through design, management or risk mitigation.	Mitigation Measures added to the Monitoring Plan (if required)
Principle 1. Human Rights			
1. The Project Developer and the Project shall respect internationally proclaimed human rights and shall not be complicit in violence or human rights abuses of any kind as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 2. The Project shall not discriminate with regards to participation and inclusion	1 Yes 2. Yes	1. PD is totally compliant to the Declaration of Human Rights – which Australia upholds. The PD does not condone any kind of violence or abuse within its workplace environments. 2. The PD has a no- discrimination approach to all aspects of work – employment, work allocation, contacting and services, consultation.	None required
Principle 2. Gender Equality			

1. The Project shall not directly or indirectly lead to/contribute to adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women 2. Projects shall apply the principles of nondiscrimination, equal treatment, and equal pay for equal work 3. The Project shall refer to the country's national gender strategy or equivalent national commitment to aid in assessing gender risks 4. (where required) Summary of opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s)	1. Yes 2. Yes 3. Yes 4. Yes	(a) No restrictions on women's access to resources, entitlements and benefits, (b) No burdens or isolation created for men or women as a result of employment. (c) All employees have the opportunity to contribute to the planning and management of work. (d) Employees are spread across all company activities. (e) The company has a working environment that permits time flexibility to ensure that critical personal activities can be undertaken. (f) There is no discrimination and all personnel have access to opportunities and benefits. (g) There is no differentiation in accessing good and services. (h) All personnel provided same level of training and provision of protection equipment. (i) Sexual Harassment, violence is not permitted and no claims of such received. (j) No discrimination on marital basis or any other basis.	None required
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		(k) All personnel are paid for services and contributions. (l) Working conditions are flexible either in time or location to take into account capability required and personnel experience and suitability for the work. (m) Men and women have access to benefits. (n) Australia has a Gender Equity Blueprint (2010) https://www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/sex-discrimination/publications/gender-equality-blueprint-2010 (o) Both women and men are employed based on skilled required for jobs. There are no gender restrictions on any job. (p) No different time or care burdens apply to women on jobs. (q) All job assessment is based only on capability to do the job satisfactorily – no specific gender impact assessment is necessary. (r) Job requirements change over time – and employment numbers accordingly change – workers	
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		retained are based on capability to carry out required works. (s) Employees carry out work based on individual capability and competence which reinforces confidence and empowerment of individuals.	
Principle 3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions			
1. The Project shall avoid community exposure to increased health risks and shall not adversely affect the health of the workers and the community	Yes	Employees working on farms can be exposed to hazards such as chemical use and operation of machinery. PD will ensure Safe Operating Procedures exist for hazardous work and inductions are completed for new employees.	Not required
Principle 4.1 Sites of Cultural and Historical Heritage			
Does the Project Area include sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture?	Yes	Three sites of significance exist over the properties: 1. Bowgada Hills – “Cave Hill” is a registered indigenous heritage site. PD consulted with the Aboriginal Affairs Department (AAD) before establishment. No establishment is on the site and	Not required
(a) Promotes and supports the protection and			

preservation of cultural heritage and the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of cultural heritage. (b) Advocates the avoidance of alteration, damage or removal of artifacts and objects of cultural value. (c) Recognises and respects the prohibition of forced evictions and the use of violence generally. (d) Recognises and fosters full respect for indigenous peoples' human rights as recognised under Applicable Law, including but not limited to their rights to self-determination, their lands, resources and territories, traditional livelihoods and cultures. (e) Ensures that Projects that may impact indigenous		PD's activities are respectful of the heritage status. 2. Terra Grata – a broad “Mythological Zone” exists over portion of the property. PD consulted with the AAD before establishment. Establishment was permitted on portion of the area as it is not in conflict with the heritage status. 3. Hillview – an area within remnant vegetation exists – PD's establishment activities do not extend into this area. There are two other areas that are known for “indigenous interest” but are either not registered or within remnant vegetation areas. No impact on PD's establishment.	
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peoples and local farmers are designed in a spirit of partnership with them, with their full and effective participation, with the objective of securing their free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) ⁷ where their rights, lands, resources, territories, traditional livelihoods may be affected.			
Principle 4.2 Forced Eviction and Displacement			
Does the Project require or cause the physical or economic relocation of peoples (temporary or permanent, full or partial)?	No		
>>			
Principle 4.3 Land Tenure and Other Rights			
a.Does the Project require any change, or have any uncertainties related to land tenure arrangements and/or access rights, usage rights or land ownership?	No		

b.For Projects involving land use tenure, are there any uncertainties with regards to land tenure, access rights, usage rights or land ownership?			
>>			
Principle 4.4 - Indigenous people			
Are indigenous peoples present in or within the area of influence of the Project and/or is the Project located on land/territory claimed by indigenous peoples?	Potentially	Indigenous communities are now largely integrated into current towns. There is no indigenous community on PD land – none are known to exist there within the last century. There is one indigenous community that is approximately 50km from PD's northern properties. There are no communities that have special rights to carry out activities on any PD land. Whilst 3 cultural sites are within PD's properties (see above), there are no known specific cultural activities that area carried out on those sites or any other sites on PD land. Indigenous peoples are free to visit these sites if necessary (although permission to enter PD properties is necessary).	Not required
3.4.12 The Project Developer shall identify all communities of Indigenous Peoples within the Project area of influence who may be affected directly or indirectly by the Project. 3.4.13 The Project Developer shall recognise and respect the indigenous people's collective rights to own, use, and develop and control the lands, resources and territories that they			

have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired, including lands and territories for which they do not yet possess title.			
Principle 5. Corruption			
1. The Project shall not involve, be complicit in or inadvertently contribute to or reinforce corruption or corrupt Projects	No		
Principle 6.1 Labour Rights			
1. The Project Developer shall ensure that all employment is in compliance with national labour occupational health and safety laws and with the principles and standards embodied in the ILO fundamental conventions	Yes	PD employees will be engaged under the national Award system with all employees having a contract confirming the employment conditions meet those standards. PD will ensure Safe Operating Procedures exist for hazardous work and inductions are completed for new employees.	

2. Workers shall be able to establish and join labour organisations 3. Working agreements with all individual workers shall be documented and implemented and include: a) Working hours (must not exceed 48 hours per week on a regular basis), AND b) Duties and tasks, AND c) Remuneration (must include provision for payment of overtime), AND d) Modalities on health insurance, AND e) Modalities on termination of the contract with provision for voluntary resignation by employee, AND f) Provision for annual leave of not less than			
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10 days per year, not including sick and casual leave. 4. No child labour is allowed (Exceptions for children working on their families' property requires an Expert Stakeholder opinion) 5. The Project Developer shall ensure the use of appropriate equipment, training of workers, documentation and reporting of accidents and incidents, and emergency preparedness and response measures			
Principle 6.2 Negative Economic Consequences			
1. Does the project cause negative economic consequences during and after project implementation?	No		
>>			

Principle 7.1 Emissions			
Will the Project increase greenhouse gas emissions over the Baseline Scenario?	No		
>>			
Principle 7.2 Energy Supply			
Will the Project use energy from a local grid or power supply (i.e., not connected to a national or regional grid) or fuel resource (such as wood, biomass) that provides for other local users?	No		
>>			
Principle 8.1 Impact on Natural Water Patterns/Flows			
Will the Project affect the natural or pre-existing pattern of watercourses, ground-water and/or the watershed(s) such as high seasonal flow variability, flooding potential, lack of aquatic connectivity or water scarcity?	No		

>>			
Principle 8.2 Erosion and/or Water Body Instability			
a. Could the Project directly or indirectly cause additional erosion and/or water body instability or disrupt the natural pattern of erosion? b. Is the Project's area of influence susceptible to excessive erosion and/or water body instability?	No		
>>			
Principle 9.1 Landscape Modification and Soil			
Does the Project involve the use of land and soil for production of crops or other products?	No		
>>			
Principle 9.2 Vulnerability to Natural Disaster			
Will the Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to wind, earthquakes, subsidence, landslides,	No		

erosion, flooding, drought or other extreme climatic conditions?			
>>			
Principle 9.3 Genetic Resources			
Could the Project be negatively impacted by or involve genetically modified organisms or GMOs (e.g., contamination, collection and/or harvesting, commercial development, or take place in facilities or farms that include GMOs in their processes and production)?	No		
>>			
Principle 9.4 Release of pollutants			
Could the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment?	No		
>>			
Principle 9.5 Hazardous and Non-hazardous Waste			

Will the Project involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/ or use of hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals and/or materials?	No		
>>			
Principle 9.6 Pesticides & Fertilisers			
Will the Project involve the application of pesticides and/or fertilisers?	Yes	PD will only use chemicals registered for the intended use as shown on labels or as noted on PubCRIS database. Only staff or contractors with suitable qualifications will be engaged in the application of chemicals. A "Hazardous Chemicals Checklist" to assist with annual internal audits, and a Hazardous Chemicals Register" is maintained by the PD to assist with management of chemicals. Fertilisers are used sparingly to assist establishment success but are not used in an ongoing manner and not applied by air.	
3.9.18 Projects involving pest management, the integrated pest management (IPM) and /or integrated vector management (IVM) approaches shall be adopted and aim to reduce reliance on chemical pesticides. 3.9.20 When Projects include pest management or the use of pesticides, pesticides that are low in human toxicity, known to be effective against the target species and have minimal effects on non-target			

species and the environment shall be selected. 3.9.21 There shall be a 'Chemical Pesticides Policy' that is documented, implemented and regularly updated. This policy shall include at a minimum: (a) Provisions for safe transport, storage, handling and application, AND (b) Provisions for emergency situations. 3.9.23 Fertilisers shall be avoided, or their use shall be minimised and justified. If the aerial application of fertiliser is used, then measures shall be put in place to prevent drift.			
Principle 9.7 Harvesting of Forests			
Will the Project involve the harvesting of forests?	No		
>>			
Principle 9.8 Food			

Does the Project modify the quantity or nutritional quality of food available such as through crop regime alteration or export or economic incentives?	No		
>>			
Principle 9.9 Animal husbandry			
Will the Project involve animal husbandry?	Yes	Sheep grazing is used in low intensity on some project areas to manage fire risk from grasses and other non-native vegetation. Where grazing occurs, adequate infrastructure is in place (fences, water supplies) and maintained to ensure stock welfare.	
3.9.26 The welfare of animals shall be ensured by: (a) Provision of sufficient drinking water, AND (b) Access to daylight, AND (c) The prohibition of cattle trainers, AND (d) No hindrance in their sensory perception and performing their basic needs, AND (e) Management policies and staff training to prevent mistreatment (evidence of animal mistreatment shall			

be treated as an immediate Non-conformity). 3.9.27 Excessive or inadequate use of veterinary medicines shall be avoided. Thus, all medications shall be: (a) Administered strictly according to label and package instructions, OR (b) According to a trained veterinarian. 3.9.28 Injured or sick animals shall be treated and isolated, if necessary, for recovery. 3.9.29 Synthetic growth promoters including hormones shall not be administered. 3.9.30 Animals shall be exposed to the least stress possible during transportation and slaughtering. 3.9.31 Appropriate space per animal and stocking rates per land unit			
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Principle 9.10 High Conservation Value Areas and Critical Habitats			
Does the Project physically affect or alter largely intact or High Conservation Value (HCV) ecosystems, critical habitats, landscapes, key biodiversity areas or sites identified?	No		
>>			
Principle 9.11 Endangered Species			
a. Are there any endangered species identified as potentially being present within the Project boundary (including those that may route through the area)? b. Does the Project potentially impact other areas where endangered species may be present through transboundary affects?	No		
>>			

APPENDIX 2- CONTACT INFORMATION OF PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

Organization name	Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd
Registration number with relevant authority	ACN: 164 635 769
Street/P.O. Box	Suite G.01, 525 Stirling Highway
Building	
City	Cottesloe
State/Region	Western Australia
Postcode	6011
Country	Australia
Telephone	+61 8 9200 4424
E-mail	info@carbonneutral.com.au
Website	www.carbonneutral.com.au
Contact person	Nevin Wittber
Title	Chief Operating Officer
Salutation	Mr
Last name	Wittber
Middle name	Intentionally left blank
First name	Nevin
Department	Intentionally left blank
Mobile	+61 407 773 584
Direct tel.	Intentionally left blank
Personal e-mail	nevin.wittber@carbonneutral.com.au

APPENDIX 3- LUF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Risk of change to the Project Area during Project Certification Period:	1. Legal Carbon Covenants lodged over all land (current in perpetuity) – very low risk; land use cannot be changed. 2. Project has continued to expand with establishment in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016. 3. Carbon Neutral has the capability (through internal and external specialist resources) to manage and maintain the land and the vegetation resource. 4. Carbon Neutral maintains a fire control preparedness with attack resources and maintains protection firebreaks within and around all properties (as is required by law). 5. Losses of area could result following a severe fire (partial or total losses possible). No damaging fires have occurred on the properties since the Project commenced. 6. Carbon Neutral insures the resource which would cover the cost of re-establishment after fire damage. 7. Overall, the risk of losses of Project area are low.
Risk of change to the Project activities during Project Certification Period:	1. Carbon Neutral has been managing these Carbon resources since 2008 and is fully aware of the annual, periodic and protection requirements necessary. 2. Carbon Neutral has professional and technical persons available to provide advice and carry out the necessary work associated with a long-term vegetation project. 3. All areas are established on the expectation of a long-term (i.e. 50+ years) project. 4. Once properties are established all monitoring, maintenance, management and land administration are undertaken on an annual basis.
Land-use history and current status of Project Area:	Broadly all land had the following general history:

	1. Properties cleared during period 1900's to 1950's and converted to farmland. 2. Arable areas were rotationally farmed for cropping and grazing. 3. Carbon Neutral purchased large-scale properties (i.e. 1,000+ ha) progressively from 2008. Project area only considered land that had been cleared prior to 1990. 4. After land purchase Carbon Neutral commenced vegetation establishment only on previously-cleared land. 5. After establishment Carbon Neutral manages Carbon vegetation resource.
Socio-Economic history:	On a regional basis the following is generally applicable: 1. Initial land ownership commenced in 1890's. 2. Agri-business dominated region – progressively increased through 1900's and peaked around 1970's. 3. Several towns developed in the region once the agricultural sector grew. Towns increasingly became broad community and regional service centres offering a range of employment. 4. Small Iron Ore open-cut mining commenced in the region during the 1960's. At various times mines closed, opened or re-opened depending on ore quality and commodity prices. Four medium-sized ventures currently remain in the region and add significant economic activity to the region. 5. Agriculture currently is the dominant land-use and economic activity for the region – grain crops predominantly (wheat, oats, barley, canola) together with grazing (sheep and cattle).
Forest management applied (past and future)	Once land has been designated for re-establishment with native vegetation the following activities are undertaken: 1. Land suitable for vegetation establishment is determined. The

	key areas eliminated from establishment include riparian zones, saline-affected land, upper-profile very shallow (rock) sites. 2. The establishment comprises 2 levels: a. Direct seeding at time of site preparation, and b. Seedling establishment later in the site preparation line. 3. Seed from regional native species is collected in advance – certain species are stored for use in direct seeding whilst other (particularly Eucalypt species) are allocated for seedlings. The seedlings are established in nursery approximately 6-months before field establishment. 4. Vermin control is undertaken in advance (and after establishment) where necessary – principally for rabbits). 5. Site establishment is undertaken (furrow and ripping on a contour-basis). This physical furrowing acts as a weed control measure. 6. Direct seeding and hand planting is undertaken with suitable seasonal conditions . 7. Established areas are precisely mapped (GPS). 8. External and internal fire protection access routes are established around and within the properties (as required by law). 9. Vegetation survival and growth is monitored after 6 months and then annually. 10. Where applicable, some supplemental establishment takes place in 2nd year. 11. Growth monitoring continues periodically and commonly in association with inventory activities. 12. No specific tending is carried out on vegetation – trees and shrubs are permitted to naturally grow and compete. 13. Fire protection measures are maintained over all properties.
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Forest characteristics (including main tree species planted)	1. Establishment configuration comprises twin establishment lines (furrowed and ripped) at 3 metre spacing and then with a 10 metre inter-row gap. Establishment is done on the contour. 2. All species established for Carbon are regionally endemic native species. Seed is collected from the region. 3. Direct seeding comprises up to 30 species – Acacia (A. acuminata, A. Murrayana, A. saligna, A. tetragonophylla, A. hemiteles, A. neurophylla), Hakea spp., Melaleuca spp.. 4. Planted species include Eucalypts (E. loxophleba, E. Horisties, E. Ewartiana, E. ebbonensis, E. leptopoda), Saltbush (Atriplex sp.), Rhagodia spp. and Melaleucas (M. thyiodes, M. atroviridis, M. brevifolia) – up to 10 species.
Main social impacts (risks and benefits)	Risks: • Re-vegetation is seen by some members of community as antagonistic to the principal agricultural activity of the region (i.e. takes agricultural land out of the sector). In general, most land acquired by Carbon Neutral has been put up for sale as the original owners considered these areas as low agricultural producing-land. • Local employment is sometimes not optimal as the establishment process is specialised and there is limited local expertise available. For a range of other general landuse activities, local labour and contractors are commonly employed. Benefits: • Carbon Neutral offers to purchase land – this is an option that farmers periodically consider (i.e. leaving the agricultural sector). • Local employment (individuals and contractors) • Indigenous employment – some full-time and casual.

	- Local equipment and service suppliers – financial benefits. - Carbon Neutral’s fire protection resources are made available for local/regional fire protection use. - Carbon Neutral’s establishment is on a large-scale scale and is seen as a regional environmental enhancement, particularly linking nature reserves and remnant vegetation areas on private land (including on Carbon Neutral’s land.
Main environmental impacts (risks and benefits)	Risks: - Poor establishment (Carbon Neutral does carry out some remedial establishment). - Vermin can attack young seedlings (rabbits, mice) – Carbon Neutral carries out vermin control before and after establishment. - Once established, it is possible that the established areas could permit a build-up of either vermin (i.e. rabbits) or native herbivores (e.g. kangaroo’s which are antagonistic to many farmers with crops). Carbon Neutral does carry out rabbit control when populations expand. Kangaroo control is only considered at establishment time. Benefits: - Restoration of large scale areas to native vegetation - Connection of established areas (native species) with Nature Reserves – dramatically improving the links between and the extent of native vegetation areas. - Carbon Neutral facilitates additional environmental surveys – increases knowledge of flora, birds, insects and animals regionally. This has been assisted through collaboration with Universities and CSIRO.
Financial structure	Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd is a private company that has been connected to carbon sink projects since 2008. All land is wholly-owned by Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd.

	• Land has been directly purchased through a formal contract to purchase. • Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd carries out all the management over all the properties. • All establishment has been paid for by the company. • All past and on-going management activities have been paid for by the company.
Infrastructure (roads/houses etc):	All properties are served by public roads. Within each property there are the following: • Internal access tracks and roads • External firebreaks (perimeter tracks that are trafficable) • Internal firebreaks (which are trafficable) Some properties have maintained/occupied houses and sheds: • Pine Ridge • Bowgada Hills • Preston Waters One property has an unoccupied house/sheds: • Terra Grata Three properties have no managed buildings: • Tomora • Hillview • Hughes Block
Water bodies:	There are no permanent water bodies on any property. There are several water channels that run through properties. These periodically flow after rains. No establishment takes place within the riparian zone.
Sites with special significance for indigenous people and local communities -	Only 3 sites of significance exist over the properties: 1. Bowgada Hills – “Cave Hill” is a registered indigenous heritage site. Carbon Neutral consulted with the

resulting from the Stakeholder Consultation:	Aboriginal Affairs Department (AAD) before establishment. No establishment is on the site and Carbon Neutral's activities are respectful of the heritage status. 2. Terra Grata – a broad “Mythological Zone” exists over portion of the property. Carbon Neutral consulted with the AAD before establishment. Establishment was permitted on portion of the area as it is not in conflict with the heritage status. 3. Hillview – an area within remnant vegetation exists – Carbon Neutral's establishment activities do not extend into this area. There are 2 other areas that are known for “indigenous interest” but are either not registered or within remnant vegetation areas. No impact on Carbon Neutral's establishment.
Where indigenous people and local communities are situated:	Indigenous communities are now largely integrated into current towns. There is no indigenous community on Carbon Neutral land – none are known to exist there within the last century. There is one indigenous community that is approximately 50km from Carbon Neutral's northern properties. There are no communities that have special rights to carry out activities on any Carbon Neutral land.
Where indigenous people and local communities have legal rights, customary rights or sites with special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance:	Whilst three cultural sites are within Carbon Neutral's properties (see above), there are no known specific cultural activities that area carried out on those sites or any other sites on Carbon Neutral land. Indigenous peoples are free to visit these sites if necessary (although permission to enter Carbon Neutral properties is necessary).

APPENDIX 4-SUMMARY OF APPROVED DESIGN CHANGES

Please refer to Design Change [Requirements](#) for more information on procedures governing Design Changes

Revision History

Version	Date	Remarks
1.2	14 October 2020	Hyperlinked section summary to enable quick access to key sections Improved clarity on Key Project Information Inclusion criteria table added Gender sensitive requirements added Prior consideration (1 yr rule) and Ongoing Financial Need added Safeguard Principles Assessment as annex and a new section to include applicable safeguards for clarity Improved Clarity on SDG contribution/SDG Impact term used throughout Clarity on Stakeholder Consultation information required Provision of an accompanying Guide to help the user understand detailed rules and requirements
1.1	24 August 2017	Updated to include section A.8 on 'gender sensitive' requirements
1.0	10 July 2017	Initial adoption