

## **Anticipated Procedure for Carbon Sequestration Projects in Georgia**

- 1- Landowner or Registry participant, with permission from landowner, contacts a carbon sequestration approved forester.
- 2- The approved forester will determine the requirements of the market that is likely to purchase the carbon credits
  - a. Is a conservation easement required
  - b. Does the market require afforestation
  - c. Carbon sequestration in forests only
  - d. Will carbon storage in forest products qualify
- 3- The approved forester examines the qualities of the project
  - a. Afforestation
  - b. Forest management
- 4- The approved forester must make sure that a management plan is established for the project
  - a. Existing management plan that meets Stewardship plan standards – add carbon sequestration as an objective
  - b. Existing management plan that lacks Stewardship plan standards – update plan appropriately with standards and carbon sequestration as an objective
  - c. No management plan – write management plan that meets Stewardship Plan Standards with carbon sequestration as one management objective.
- 5- The certifier must delineate and measure the size in area (acres) of the project. This will result in a shapefile or paper map made to scale.
  - a. The future need to split land into separate projects should be considered
  - b. Separate forest stands should be delineated on the map or shapefile with measurements made of each, if the stand exam measurement method is used.
  - c. Afforestation practices should be a separate project.
  - d. Lands that are separated geographically should be a separate project
- 6- The approved forester should perform measurement of forest carbon and estimate future carbon sequestration
  - a. Tree carbon measurement is required, soils are optional
  - b. Either the stand exam method (with lookup tables) or the field inventory method (cruise) of tree carbon measurement can be used.
  - c. Projections of future carbon is made using look-up tables or forest growth and yield models applied to carbon conversion formulas.
- 7- The approved forester submits the application to the Registry using online access.
- 8- The approved forester shall monitor the project and make one online report each year after the application to report any substantial changes in projected carbon sequestration. These changes would include loss of trees due to fire, insect, disease, harvests, and any land ownership changes.
- 9- At the end of the project period or every ten years after project registration, the certifier will perform a field inventory of forest carbon to confirm expected carbon sequestration levels. This will be reported to the online Registry.

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