



# PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

## BIODIVERSE REFORESTATION

### CARBON OFFSETS

Seller: Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd (Carbon Neutral)

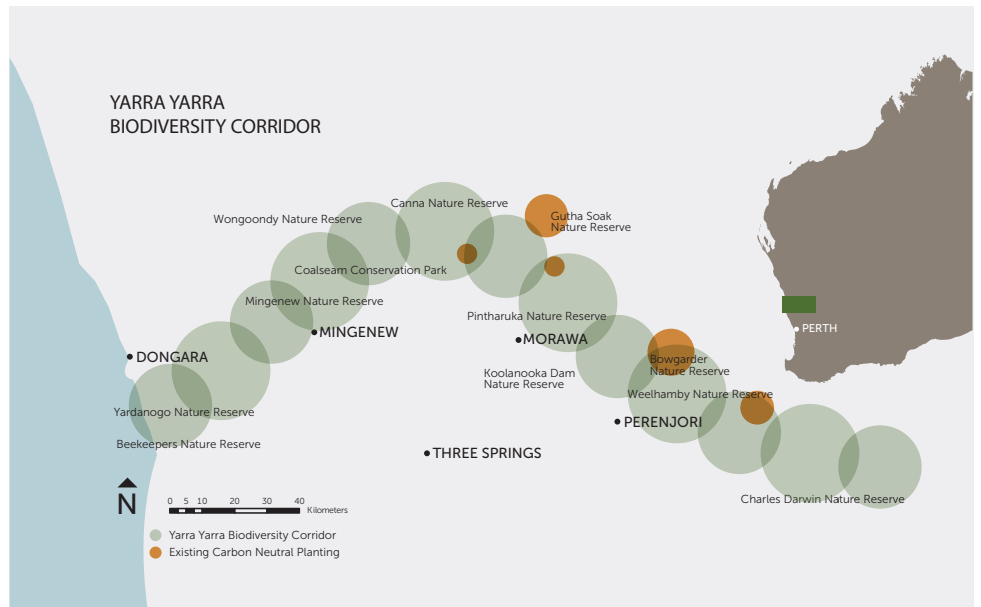
ABN: 42 164 635 769

Carbon Neutral assists businesses to measure, reduce and offset greenhouse gas emissions. By calculating your carbon footprint and taking actions to reduce and offset emissions, organisations can achieve real benefits:

- Reduce energy costs
- Procure business with like minded companies
- Operate a more energy efficient workplace
- Enhance corporate social responsibility
- Point of difference over competitors
- Be a leader in the low carbon economy

#### YARRA YARRA BIODIVERSITY CORRIDOR

Current plantings, together with fragmented remnant vegetation, form part of a corridor which includes the Koolanooka Dam Nature Reserve, Bowgada Reserve and the Moonagin Threatened Ecological Community (TEC). This region is recognised as a biodiversity hot spot in WA and the opportunity to permanently connect habitat corridors at this scale has unique and significant environmental benefits.



#### CARBON SINK DEVELOPER

Carbon Neutral through its association with Auscarbon Pty Ltd (Auscarbon), has in excess of 9,000 ha of genuine biodiverse plantings established for carbon offsetting. These projects are developed on degraded agricultural land in the Mid West of WA and have more than 13 million native trees and shrubs that connect valuable habitat and landforms. Auscarbon was the first company to issue Forestry Offset certificates under the former Greenhouse Friendly™ program and is a Registered Offset Entity under the Federal Government's Carbon Farming Initiative. The partnership allows for the development of new large scale plantings.

#### WHAT IS CARBON OFFSETTING?

Carbon Neutral Reforestation Offsets are generated from carbon sequestered by specific biodiverse tree plantings. By purchasing offsets, entities are able to counter the emissions that are generated through activities such as power generation or motor vehicle operation. Trees remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis and store the carbon in their leaves, branches, stems, bark and roots. Approximately half the dry weight of a tree's biomass is carbon. One tonne of C = 3.67 tonnes of 'carbon dioxide equivalent' (CO<sub>2</sub>-e).





BEFORE (TYPICAL PLANTING SITE)



AFTER (APPROXIMATELY 3 YEARS)

## BUYING CARBON NEUTRAL REFORESTATION OFFSETS

Carbon Neutral has access to offsets from existing plantings or from future project development. Depending on time of offset purchase, reforestation offsets may be allocated from trees already planted, or trees to be planted next winter.

## BIODIVERSITY VALUES

Our self-sustaining mixed species environmental plantings establish plant communities which enhance and support local biodiversity. It is intended the impact of our tree plantings on biodiversity values (flora and fauna) in this region will be assessed. Connectivity values are high as our major planting sites exceed 9,000 ha of biodiverse carbon plantings. As well as sequestering greenhouse gas emissions, trees planted on our sites may help reduce soil salinity, wind and water erosion; enhance biodiversity; and restore habitat for native flora and fauna. Our plantings are located in Southwest Australia, the only Australian 'biodiversity hotspot' to be recognised globally.

## CARBON MEASUREMENT

On-ground measurement of carbon is based on detailed growth models using specie specific allometric equations to reflect the amount of carbon stored in the forest. These measurements and sampling techniques are part of our methodology development under the Federal Government's Carbon Farming Initiative. Carbon Neutral is also a contributor under CSIRO's project "CFI Methodology and Tool Development – Estimation of change in biomass carbon in complex woody systems".

## MONITORING & REPORTING

The site will be monitored annually for health and survival for 5 years. Monitoring reports will be posted on Carbon Neutral's website.

## LEGAL PROTECTION

The trees will be protected for 100 years by a Carbon Right and Carbon Covenant.

## PROJECT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Auscarbon will maintain overall management obligations under a Plantation Agreement with Carbon Neutral. This includes health monitoring and fire control measures.

## SANDALWOOD EXCLUSION

A small quantity of Australian Sandalwood (*Santalum spicatum*) has been established on the site. Sandalwood may be harvested. Both the host plant and the Sandalwood are excluded from the stem count for allocation to donors/buyers.

## FIRE RISK

Insurance cover for re-establishment is maintained 3 Years from planting. After that time it is expected that the native species provide natural regrowth in the event of damage from fire, pests or vermin. Other protection strategies include geographic separation of projects and grazing of sheep to reduce the inter-row biomass.

## ACCOUNTABILITY AND VERIFICATION

Carbon Neutral offers the following assurances to buyers of Carbon Neutral Reforestation Offsets:

- Planting Reports and the current Monitoring Report will be available on the Carbon Neutral website
- Carbon measurement will be independently verified against our processes and procedures by a qualified third party
- Each purchaser will be issued with a Certificate of Transfer detailing serial numbers of each carbon offset(s) purchased
- Our internal register of Carbon Neutral Reforestation Offset allocations is to be independently audited annually

## TAX DEDUCTIBILITY

Voluntary offset purchases for businesses and other organisation may be tax deductible as a business expenses. Please seek your own taxation advice.

[www.carbonneutral.com.au](http://www.carbonneutral.com.au)

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