

Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor



Australian Native Reforestation - Gold Standard Certified

Verified Emission Reduction (VER) & Planned Emission Reduction (PER)

Australia's largest biodiverse reforestation carbon sink - making genuine emission reductions that deliver long term, sustainable development for future generations.

The Project

The Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor native reforestation project is creating a 200km stretch of biodiverse habitat on degraded agricultural land. The project is Gold-Standard certified, guaranteeing quantifiable carbon sequestration that is removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere whilst restoring a threatened ecosystem.

Gold Standard-certified projects are required to make real, measurable impacts on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) priorities. This means that investing in our Gold Standard offsets delivers significantly more value than just environmental benefits.

The *Corridor* is located in the northern wheatbelt of the Southwest Australia ecoregion. This region was once teeming with a unique array of life, being recognised as one of only 36 Global Biodiversity Hotspots - home to thousands of endemic plant and animal species.

However, the last 100 years of land clearing, mostly

for agriculture, has pushed this once flourishing woodland to the brink. This has left flora and fauna with minimal connected habitat, making many species conservation significant. Compounded by a drying climate, the soils are also less suitable for traditional agriculture.

The vision for the *Corridor* is to revegetate native woodland that connects remnant vegetation with 12 nature reserves, building vital ecological linkages. Since 2008, we've planted more than 30 million native trees and shrubs (of 60+ different species), and the project is continuing to grow each year.

This high impact reforestation project is simultaneously delivering environmental, economic, social and cultural heritage co-benefits, through effective nature-based climate change solutions.

Gold Standard[®]

Climate Security & Sustainable Development



30 million+
native trees and shrubs planted

15,500+ hectares
land being restored

1 million+
tonnes of carbon captured

Project Key Facts

Type: Biodiverse reforestation

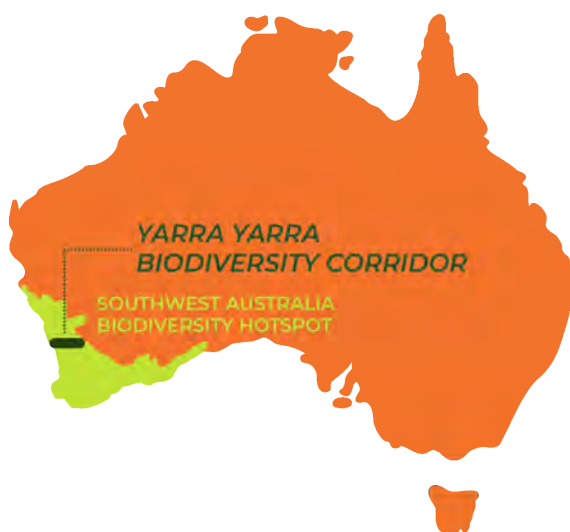
Location: Northern wheatbelt, Southwest Australia

Status: In operation, credits available

Emissions Reduction: 1.059M tonnes CO2-e over 50 years

Vintage: Ongoing

Certification: Gold Standard VER & PER



Technical information

The *Corridor* project is the first premium Gold Standard certified project in Australia. It is verified to remove 1.059 million tonnes of CO2-e from the atmosphere over 50 years.

Carbon credits verified by The Gold Standard Foundation are known as Verified Emission Reduction units (VERs). They may be retired and used for carbon neutrality claims.

In acknowledgement of the time taken and upfront finance required to sequester carbon in forests, The Gold Standard Foundation allows the registration of expected emission reductions. These credits are called Planned Emission Reductions (PERs) and can be traded, but cannot be retired.

After a third-party audit validates the sequestration of carbon, the PER credits will automatically become VER credits. In the interim, an equivalent number of verified carbon credits from an international project can be retired to enable buyers to claim carbon neutrality.

MORE THAN JUST CARBON, PROJECT CO-BENEFITS:

BIODIVERSITY

The *Corridor* is restoring York gum woodland by planting more than 60 different native species of trees and shrubs that are highly adapted to the local environment and are relied upon by countless wildlife species. Habitat and food sources are also being grown for endangered species like Malleefowl and the Western Spiny-tailed Skink, among many others.

Ecological surveys and scientific research conducted in our revegetation sites have recorded high biodiversity recovery rates of plant and animal communities.

REGIONAL COMMUNITIES

More than \$12.8M has been invested in engagements with more than 80 businesses in the region. The project continues to create employment and training opportunities and flow-on effects to the local economy.

INDIGENOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE

The *Corridor* is situated on the traditional lands of the Noongar, Yamatji, and Widi Mob people, and this Country includes numerous sites of cultural significance. The project has consulted with Native Title holders since its inception, and cultural heritage sites have been identified and protected on all current properties with ongoing site management advice and employment.

WATER & SOIL QUALITY

Native reforestation is helping reduce salinity and counter the rising water table, creating healthier soils and cleaner water. The project is reversing the legacies of agriculture, restoring richer soil microbial communities. The plantings are preventing erosion, desertification, and dryland salinity.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Good health and well-being

Contribution to the wellbeing of Indigenous communities by restoring Country, protecting heritage sites, and creating jobs.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Quality education

Provision of job-specific training sessions and inductions for local employees.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Clean water and sanitation

Lowering salinity in both ground and surface waters of the project's lifetime.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Decent work and economic growth

Creation of 400+ jobs, over 50 Indigenous roles, and more than 80 businesses have been involved.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Climate action

1.059M tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions will be sequestered over 50 years.

15 LIFE ON LAND



Life on land

The biodiverse plantings of native trees and shrubs contain over 30 species of conservation significance, and habitat for thousands of species.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Partnerships for the goals

Partnerships with 11 local and national organisations have been formed from the project.



Legal carbon protection

The plantings are legally protected for 100 years by a Carbon Right and a Carbon Covenant on the land title. Carbon credits are assigned unique serial numbers and assigned or retired on the Gold Standard Impact Registry; a public registry that guarantees the credits cannot be double-counted or resold.

Each planting site is monitored and reported on for vegetation condition, biodiversity, and soil and water quality at some sites. An independent co-benefits study has been conducted, and we've undertaken repeated biodiversity assessments and other scientific research in the area to continually improve the project's outcomes.



Mitigating fire risk

Fire control measures such as fire breaks and light sheep grazing help to reduce fuel loads and mitigate fire risk in the project area.

The biodiverse mix of native species we plant are adapted to fire and self-generate to be sustainable in the long-term. Many species rely on natural fire intervals to germinate and some seeds are also pre-treated with smoke to mimic the fire response.



Copyright ©2022 Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd. The information contained herein is subject to change without notice. Carbon Neutral shall not be liable for technical or editorial errors or omissions contained herein.
carbonneutral.com.au | ABN: 42 164 635 769 | Australian Financial Services Licence: 451004


carbonneutral
Turn Emissions into Trees®