

### **Background Reading:**

#### **USFS Carbon Sequestration Website**

Has links to some of the best informational sources available.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/ecosystemservices/carbon.shtml>

#### **Forest Carbon in the United States: Opportunities and Options for Private Lands**

This Pacific Forest Trust report describes management approaches on private forests that will lead to lasting net increases in carbon stocks. It also identifies causes of forest carbon loss, proposes ways to develop a domestic forest carbon market, and outlines the principles of forest carbon accounting.

<http://www.pacificforest.org/policy/forestcarbon.html>

#### **Forest Carbon Trading and Marketing in the United States**

A paper presenting an overview of the state of carbon trading and voluntary markets for forestry offset projects, and an analysis of evolving forest carbon markets in the United States. <http://www.foreconinc.com/Documents/Forest-Carbon-Trading-and-Marketing-in-the-United-States1232007162610.pdf>

### **Carbon Market Initiatives for Forestry:**

#### **Georgia's Carbon Sequestration Registry**

<http://www.gfc.state.ga.us/ForestMarketing/CarbonRegistryDocs.cfm>

The Georgia Forestry Commission, with assistance from the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources and others, has proposed a functional operational system for the Registry. This system, or protocol, includes standards for measurement and recording of sequestered carbon in forests and other lands in State. It should be clearly understood that these proposals are in draft format and it is the intention of the Georgia Forestry Commission to adjust the protocol as determined by new information gathered during the review period. It is anticipated that the Registry will be operational by May 1, 2007.

#### **DU's Carbon Sequestration Program**

<http://www.ducks.org/Conservation/EcoAssets/1306/CarbonSequestration.html>

DU's Carbon Sequestration Program is evolving based on national policy and is designed to assist landowners in a growing environmental market. Our objective is to help guide industry and landowners in taking advantage of this market by assembling carbon offset credits associated with ecologically sound forest or grassland restoration work on private lands. This important work will provide income to landowners and help fulfill DU's conservation mission by increasing waterfowl habitat in our priority areas. Landowners or farmers wishing to convert marginal agricultural land to trees may now have an opportunity to derive substantial income by selling carbon offsets associated with this restoration. Eligibility guidelines for carbon sequestration projects have not yet been determined.

Focus areas include the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley. Voluntary, they set the price according to the costs of restoration projects. Afforestation only. Landowner payments depend on the project. They are interested in expanding to other wetland priority areas in the Southeast. Contact: [Dick Kempka](#), Director of Energy and Technology Partnerships Tel: (901) 758-3795

#### **The Carbon Fund**

<http://www.thecarbonfund.org/index.shtml>

The Carbon Fund is promoting the creation of carbon assets through the restoration of native habitats throughout the world in a manner that encourages the protection, restoration and enhancement of fish, wildlife and plant resources. It is encouraging the participation of all farmers and landowners whose lands are now being used for agricultural and silvicultural purposes, especially those that were recently farmed and are now fallow.

*Their efforts are focused on afforestation in bottomland hardwood regions in the Southeast. They are working with a number of government and NGO partners.*

### **The Pacific Forest Trust**

<http://www.pacificforest.org/services/climate.html>

PFT conducts research and analysis on the role of improved forest management and conservation in reducing carbon dioxide emissions, the most significant global warming gas. As part of the international effort to combat global warming, PFT works to develop the policy framework and trading mechanisms for the emerging market in forest-based carbon emissions reduction credits.

PFT also works to build the market for forest-based carbon credits by generating model transactions through our Forest Climate Program: The Pacific Forest Trust represents landowners who have forest-based carbon credits from a growing portfolio of private forestlands in the Pacific Northwest. These forests have been documented by the U.S. National Research Council as the best carbon sinks in the world. In addition to sales of its banked credits, our program also facilitates the sale of forest carbon credits from other conserved forestlands in the region.

*PFT is recognized as the leading organization working to develop research, policy, and voluntary market mechanisms to create carbon market opportunities that support sustainable forestry.*

### **National Farmers Union's Carbon Credit Program**

<http://www.nfu.org/issues/environment/carbon-credits/>

Farmers Union's Carbon Credit Program allows ag producers and landowners to earn income by storing carbon in their soil through no-till crop production and longterm grass seeding practices. Farmers Union has earned approval from the Chicago Climate Exchange to aggregate carbon credits. Farmers Union will enroll producer acreages of carbon into blocks of credits that will be traded on the Exchange, much like other agricultural commodities are traded.

*They are starting a new program for forestlands, and are targeting sustainably managed forest in particular. Note that they are trading in CCX- this means that currently they are only able to sell credits for unforested lands that were reforested after 1989. CCX will soon be accepting other forestlands. It also means that landowners will only receive the current CCX market price- about \$4/ton- which is considered extremely low for forestry credits. Currently, landowners can enroll for the period 2007-2010 and receive the CCX price calculated on an annual basis. No permanent easement is required, and the commitment ends in 2010. Landowners can end their participation at any time. Consultants I spoke with indicated that they are seeing payments of \$16-20/acre/year for hardwood forests in Missouri.*