

Working Woodlands is a model forest conservation program that harnesses certified forest management and the growing carbon market to catalyze private forest protection. Capitalizing on its extensive land conservation and sustainable forest management experience, the Nature Conservancy has entered an agreement with Blue Source, one of the nation's largest carbon project developers and marketers. This program establishes strategic alliances among the Conservancy, property owners and Blue Source to achieve major conservation goals and deliver forest carbon payments to Working Woodlands landowners.

How it works: The Nature Conservancy's PA Forest Conservation Program is a Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certified Resource Manager, allowing the Conservancy to provide FSC certification for private landowners. FSC evaluates and certifies sustainable forest management practices and provides landowners access to premium wood markets around the globe. Cooperating with qualified private forest consultants, our foresters conduct rigorous forest and carbon inventories and develop FSC-certified management plans for enrolled landowners.

Landowners who qualify for Working Woodlands sign on for working forest conservation easements or long-term management agreements to prevent conversion to non-forest uses and unsustainable management practices. All forest products produced from enrolled Working Woodlands properties are FSC-certified and the landowner retains 100 percent of the revenues.

The carbon sequestered as a result of improved forest management practices is aggregated and marketed as offsets by Blue Source, providing an additional revenue stream to the landowner. A portion of the carbon revenue covers the Conservancy's and Blue Source's costs. The services provided include a full forest inventory and FSC plan implementation, carbon monitoring, verification, and marketing. This approach allows landowners to receive full FSC forest planning and certification with no upfront costs while receiving long-term value from FSC-certified product and carbon sales.

Landowner Benefits:

- No up-front out-of-pocket costs
- Full forest and carbon inventory
- 10-year FSC-certified forest management plan
- Professional service provider network assistance with plan implementation
- 100% of all FSC-certified solid wood and wood biomass revenues
- Additional income from the sale of high quality carbon credits

By embracing a *Working Woodlands* approach, the Conservancy and cooperating private forest landowners ensure that important private forest lands remain forested and produce high quality economic and environmental values. For more information, please contact:

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