



August 2007 Update

NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION PARTNERS WITH THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE TO PROVIDE CARBON OFFSETS

Last month the National Forest Foundation (NFF) launched the Carbon Capital Fund, an offset program that links conservation donations to a measured carbon benefit on national forests. Contributions to the Carbon Capital Fund will be used to replant areas that have been damaged by wildfire or other natural disturbances. Winrock International, an organization that specializes in forest carbon measurement and monitoring, will verify all qualifying carbon benefits. This new partnership program with NFF will help the Forest Service address some of the uncertainties of forest carbon offset projects and demonstrate how forest management and conservation activities can be included in a climate change strategy.

➤ You can learn more about the partnership program at www.fs.fed.us/ecosystems-services/carboncapitalfund. We will continue to post details about the program on our site, including information about the reforestation projects.

CENTER FOR URBAN FOREST RESEARCH LEADS EFFORT TO DEVELOP CCAR URBAN FOREST PROTOCOLS

The Center for Urban Forest Research is working with a multi-stakeholder group to draft Urban Forest Reporting Protocols for the California Climate Action Registry (CCAR). The protocols will use leading science from the Center of Urban Forest Research to provide cities, utilities, and other organizations the means to predict, measure, and verify the climate benefits of urban trees. Representatives from California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Pacific Forest Trust, CCAR, California Energy Commission, and California Air Resources Board are involved in the protocol development process, as well as utility, nonprofit, and urban forestry professionals.

➤ The Center for Urban Forest Research is one of 13 research units affiliated with the U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Research Station. Information about the protocols is on line at: www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr.

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www.fs.fed.us/ecosystems-services

UPCOMING EVENTS

CARBON MARKETS USA, SAN FRANCISCO CA, SEPTEMBER 11-12: The two-day meeting will bring experts together for a series of panel discussions on U.S. and global carbon market activity. Panelists will discuss climate policy developments, the voluntary carbon market, carbon offset projects, and sustainable forestry's role in climate change adaptation and mitigation. A meeting agenda is available at www.greenpowerconferences.com/carbonmarkets.

SUSTAINING AMERICA'S FORESTS, PORTLAND OR, OCTOBER 23-27: The Society of American Forester's 2007 national convention will feature markets for ecosystem services and the role of forests in addressing climate change. A number of technical sessions focus on forest carbon management, bio-energy developments, urban tree benefits, and market-based conservation. Get the details at www.safconvention.org.

Cooperative Forestry's Ecosystem Services seminar series continues through the end of the summer at our Washington D.C. office. Details are available on our website: www.fs.fed.us/ecosystems-services/seminars.

September 18: Dan Spethmann, Manager of Investment Programs at New Forests

October 23: Frances Kuo, Director of the Landscape and Human Health Laboratory at the University of Illinois

➤ **Visit our website to learn about other upcoming events...**

RESOURCES

NEW RELEASE: In *The Law and Policy of Ecosystem Services* (Island Press, 2007), J.B. Ruhl, Steven E. Kraft, and Christopher L. Lant examine the geographic, ecological, and economic context of ecosystem services and the existing status of ecosystem services in law and society. A series of case studies highlight wetlands mitigation banking, agricultural subsidy policy, ecosystem management on public lands, pollution trading markets, and global climate change. The authors identify shortcomings of current law and policy and explore the design of new legal instruments and institutions that better account for ecosystem service values.

*Do you have news or events to share?
Send a brief description by email to elarry@fs.fed.us*