



## CLIMATE ACTION RESERVE



Climate Action Reserve Monthly Newsletter

July 2014

- Quote -

"[I]f there's one thing I would like to see, it'd be for us to be able to price the cost of carbon emissions."

-- U.S. President Barack Obama, in an interview with Thomas Friedman

### Climate Action Reserve quick facts

Account holders: 309  
Total projects: 413  
CRTs: 52,659,546

### Upcoming events

July 17:  
[Submitting Compliance and  
Early Action Offset Projects  
Under California's  
Compliance Offset Program](#)

August 6:  
[Introduction to the Reserve's  
New Urban Forest  
Management and Urban Tree  
Planting Protocols](#)

[View full calendar](#)

### Notable events

July 24-25:  
[ARB Board Meeting](#)

**Climate Action Reserve  
2013 annual report  
available online**

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## Letter from the President

Dear friends and colleagues,

I hope you're enjoying the long days of summer! I definitely encourage you to find time to enjoy the beautiful trees, parks, and natural areas in and around your neighborhoods. We all know that urban trees can help both mitigate and provide resilience against climate change while also providing valuable habitat, reducing localized air pollution, and helping manage stormwater runoff. To help support the planting and management of trees in urban areas, the Climate Action Reserve recently updated and expanded the [Urban Forest Project Protocol](#). The new protocol improves usability and feasibility for more cities and urban areas. Previously, offset credits were earned for tree planting activities only; and now, cities can also earn offset credits for urban forest management activities that increase carbon stored in trees. We are excited by these changes and are looking forward to having these important projects supported by the carbon market.

We've also been hard at work on other protocols. We have begun the work to create a standardized [Grassland Project Protocol](#) including now having formed a multi-stakeholder

The Reserve's [2013 Annual Report](#) is available in pdf format on our website. If you would like to receive a print copy, please send an email to: [newsletter@climateactionreserve.org](mailto:newsletter@climateactionreserve.org).



### Missed a Reserve webinar? Check out our online presentations archive

Recordings and presentation materials from previous Reserve webinars can be found on our [online presentations archive](#).



### Check out video recordings from NACW 2014

Recordings of plenaries, keynote addresses and select breakout sessions are available on the [Reserve's YouTube page](#).



workgroup to develop the draft. The protocol will quantify and provide credit for the avoided carbon emissions resulting from preventing the conversion of grasslands into other uses. If you are interested in participating as an observer of the meetings, please contact [policy@climateactionreserve.org](mailto:policy@climateactionreserve.org). By participating as an observer, you'll gain valuable insight into the protocol development process, including research, analysis, discussion, and public comment feedback.

We are also excited about the progress that the California Air Resources Board (ARB) is making on the development of its [Compliance Offset Protocol Rice Cultivation Projects](#). By changing rice cultivation practices to incorporate dry seeding, early drainage, or alternative wetting and drying, rice farmers can reduce methane emissions associated with the organic decomposition that occurs when the rice field is flooded. The addition of new offset protocol types denotes ARB's continued confidence in its offsets program and we are honored to be able to continue help inform ARB's protocol development with our own experience and expertise in [rice cultivation](#).

Another important endeavor we're already working on this summer is the 2015 installment of the Navigating the American Carbon World conference! We are planning to incorporate several new ideas and exciting opportunities to learn and network. Stay tuned for more information, including dates and location which we will be announcing shortly!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Gary Gero'.

Gary Gero  
President

### Climate Action Reserve adopts new version of its Urban Forest Project Protocol

On June 25, the Reserve Board of Directors adopted an updated version of the Urban Forest Project Protocol (UFPP). The protocol provides a standardized approach for developing offset projects from managing and planting trees in urban areas and significantly expands the land area that's eligible to be developed into an offset project.

The most significant update of the new protocol version, which was developed with support from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CalFIRE) and extensive contributions from a diverse workgroup, is the introduction of urban forest management. Cities and urban areas can earn offset credits across an entire urban area by adopting activities - such as managing healthy, vigorous trees that are well-spaced and avoiding tree removals - that increase the total amount of carbon stored in the trees. As established under the

### **Climate Action Offsetter: The Climate Trust**

Seattle City Light, a public utility serving 740,000 residents in Seattle, Washington, signed a contract with Portland-based nonprofit, The Climate Trust, to launch the first-ever national project to voluntarily purchase carbon credits sourced from reductions made with organic composting. Seattle City Light purchased 35,000 carbon reduction tons of verified emission reductions from two organic composting projects within the state, eliminating harmful methane emissions. The methane removal from these projects is equivalent to 6,200 cars being driven annually!

[Read more](#)

previous versions of the protocol, cities and urban areas can also still earn offset credits by planting trees to increase the amount of carbon sequestered and stored.

[Read more](#)

### **Meet Michael Conrardy, our new Program Associate**

Michael's role as Program Associate is to serve as a technical resource to project developers and verification bodies. He provides customer service to account holders with respect to policy interpretation, methodology, and clarification issues. He reviews project documents under both the Reserve's program standards and the California Air Resources Board compliance offset program. Before joining the Reserve, Michael worked as a technical team leader and manager at AECOM Environment, focusing on GHG assessment and sustainability.

[Read more](#)

### **Newly registered projects in the Reserve**

Projects in the Climate Action Reserve achieve registered status upon successfully completing verification by an independent, accredited verification body.

#### [Virginia Conservation Forestry Program - Tazewell-Elk Garden](#)

Location: Russell, Washington and Tazewell Counties, Virginia  
CRTs issued: 244,078

#### [Peninsula Composting](#)

Location: Wilmington, Delaware  
CRTs issued: 70,316

#### [The B6 Dairy Farm BioFactory\(R\) Project](#)

Location: Gooding, Idaho  
CRTs issued: 24,746

#### [Blue Mountain Biogas](#)

Location: Beaver County, Utah  
CRTs issued: 24,643

#### [Coolgas ODS 2013 Project #1](#)

Location: Bowling Green, Ohio  
CRTs issued: 108,627

#### [Roanoke Valley Resource Authority - Smith Gap Regional Landfill](#)

Location: Salem, Virginia  
CRTs issued: 93,339

[View the complete list of projects](#) (both listed and registered)  
[View Climate Reserve Tonnes](#) (CRTs) that have been issued

## About the Climate Action Reserve

The Climate Action Reserve is the most experienced, trusted and efficient offset registry to serve the carbon markets. With deep roots in California and a reach across North America, the Reserve encourages actions to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and works to ensure environmental benefit, integrity and transparency in market-based solutions to address global climate change. The Reserve program promotes immediate environmental and health benefits to local communities and brings credibility and value to the carbon market. The Climate Action Reserve is a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles, California. For more information, please visit [www.climateactionreserve.org](http://www.climateactionreserve.org).

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