



US Forest Offset Working Group (Meeting #6)

Agenda for December 3rd | 9:00 am – 11:00 a.m.

Location: Zoom, the public may view the meeting in a webinar format

Registration link: https://waecy-wa.gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6L3WMaf6SvCqF6jUDQ4WpQ

Welcome and overview

- Welcome to the meeting
- Disclosure of financial interest related to topics to be discussed
 - Please come prepared to share any relevant financial interests or professional engagements **not previously shared** related to the changes discussed in this meeting such as:
 - Intention or consideration of development of a forest offset project in Washington's market
 - Ownership, involvement, or other interest in an avoided conversion or reforestation offset project
 - Ownership, involvement, or other interest in an IFM projects on public lands
 - Any other financial interests that may be perceived as pertinent to this this discussion
 - Please note that the existence and disclosure of a financial interest **does not** preclude you from full participation in this discussion and meeting

Topic 1 – Leakage rate assumptions and deductions for IFM projects

- Ecology will share a brief overview of the approach and deductions associated with leakage (market-shifting and activity-shifting) in the existing protocol, recent critiques, and approaches in the voluntary market.
- Discussion questions;
 - Corrections, context, and clarifications related leakage
 - Does the 20% default rate assumption (for IFM) projects adequately account for project leakage?
 - Should Ecology consider approaches to disincentivize activity-shifting leakage for IFM projects?
 - Should Ecology consider an approach to leakage deductions that is project specific (based on project size, landowner type, or other factors)?
- Relevant materials:
 - [A Global Assessment of Regional Forest Carbon Leakage \(Daigneault, et al, 2023, preprint\)](#)
 - [Carbon leakage in energy/forest sectors and climate policy implications using meta-analysis](#)

Topic 2 – Forest Practice Requirements

- Ecology will share a brief overview of the forest practice requirements in the protocol and areas of alignment and misalignment with Washington and California’s Forest Practice Rules.
- Discussion questions;
 - Corrections, context, and clarifications related to forest practice requirements in the protocol
 - Are the even-age management restrictions in the forest practice requirements in the protocol a significant barrier to project development?
 - In addition to the even-age management restrictions, are there elements of the forest practice requirements in the protocol that pose a barrier for project development in Washington?
- Relevant materials:
 - [CARB US Forest Protocol 2015 – Forest Management Requirements \(p.18 - 21\)](#)
 - [WA Forest Practice Rules – Clearcut size restrictions \(WAC 222-30-025\)](#)

Public comment opportunity

Public participants, Ecology’s facilitator

- There will be a 15-minute public comment period. Public members are welcome to speak for up to two minutes. The comments should be focused on the content of the Forestry Offset Technical Working Group topics. Ecology will not respond to comments made by the public. Members of the public may provide written comments on the rulemaking process through the [digital comment platform](#).

Next Steps and Action Items

Next meeting: January 7th, 2024, 9 am – 11 am (Pacific Time)

Resource and Assistance

- Contact Jordan Wildish at CCAOffsets@ecy.wa.gov or 360-280-6488
- [US Forest Offset Working Group Webpage](#)