

Note on the Panel: A Range of Approaches to Large Landscape Conservation (LLC) in the Region

Notes prepared by Sarah Ganong

Mark Berry, Downeast Lakes Land Trust (DLLT), Carbon Offsets for Forest Conservation

- Conservation as an economic strategy, since communities are connected to landscapes in many ways—focus on environmental *and* economic value of resources
- Gave an overview of the 1.4 million acres of conserved contiguous land in the DLLT region, including a “community forest managed for community values” of sustainable recreation, wildlife habitat, and sustainable timber. The goal is to maintain the full range of native wildlife across the landscape and time.
- Carbon offsets for forest management: offsets are for an allowed emission of greenhouse gases that occur elsewhere. Voluntary and regulatory programs. DLLT is in the California Air Resources Board regulatory market.
- This program involves **improved forest management**, a commitment to maintain a higher level of forest stock and thus carbon in the landscape—must demonstrate addition to what was otherwise legally required.
- Regulations regarding improved forest management
 - Need to have timber/carbon stocking above regional baseline (based on many different factors, including eco-regions, data from U.S. Forest Service, forest type, site index. Lots of work to determine this)
 - Must make 100-year commitment to maintain stocking, to account, inventory, and verify carbon
 - Are potential reversals avoidable/unavoidable (wildfire, insect infestation)? Payment into a “buffer pool” at start of project covers unavoidable reversals
 - For avoidable reversals (poor management, failure to reach goals) the owner is financially liable and must buy themselves out for credits not provided
 - Important to consider if you have a timber resource that will be significantly above regional baseline and an opportunity for continued growth
- DLLT entered carbon market because it was compatible with their current goals, worked well with land/opportunity they had, and fulfilled an urgent chance to get the funding for conservation on the correct scale. They partnered with Finite Carbon and started in 2009; the first improved forest management contract outside of California. Moved into the regulatory market in March 2013.
- Expected benefits include \$1.6 net revenue up front to DLLT, plus future modest revenue based on growth
- The smallest parcel that would likely work would be an exceptional 2,000 acre property. Aggregating smaller parcels might be in the future, but legal responsibilities over 100 years with multiple landowners would be challenging
- Depends on the market moving forward and on a price for carbon. As the price per offset increases, smaller parcels become more viable.

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