



# An Introduction to the Family Forest Carbon Program

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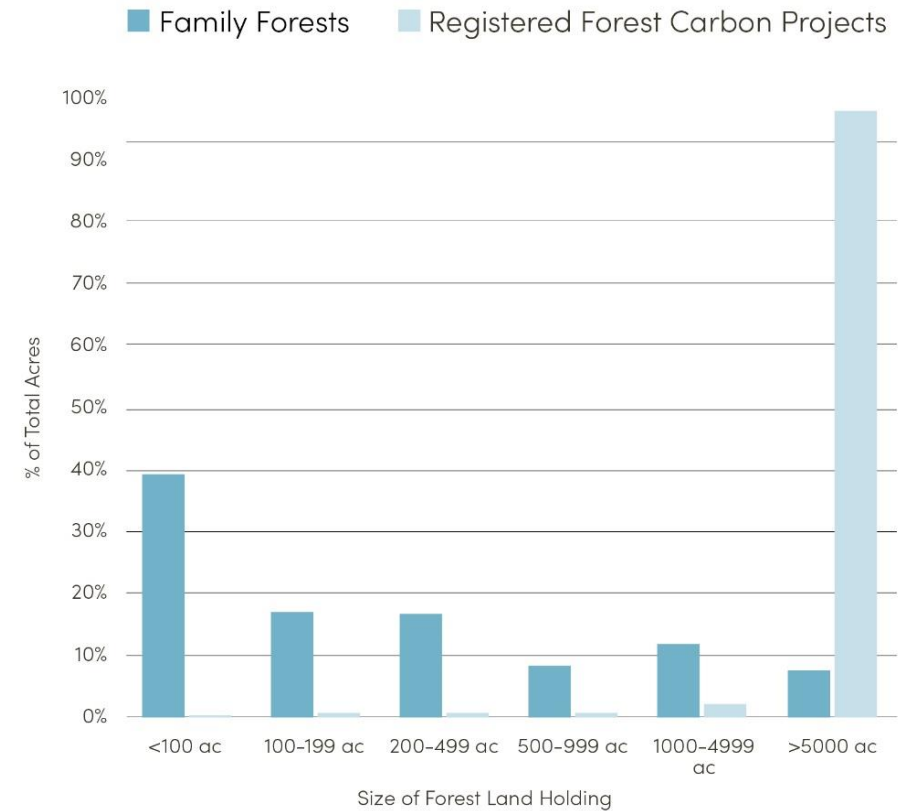


# The Family Forest Carbon Program

A new program from the American Forest Foundation and The Nature Conservancy that supports family forest owners in improving forest health and addressing climate change, by helping owners of small forest parcels access carbon market opportunities.

# Overcoming Barriers to Market Access

- Forest ownerships of less than 1,000 acres account for 80% of the private acres but represent less than 1% of forest carbon projects



# FFCP's Practice-Based Approach

'TRADITIONAL' CARBON PROJECTS	FAMILY FOREST CARBON PROGRAM
Pays landowners for carbon sequestered	Pays landowners to implement specific practices
Monitors carbon values on every property	Monitors practice implementation on every property; monitors carbon values on a landscape level using random sampling
High costs for monitoring on a per-property basis	Monitoring costs are high but spread across participating properties



# Establishing a baseline

Baseline established by matching enrolled plots to highly similar plots outside of program.



= enrolled property



= enrolled property plots



= available plots

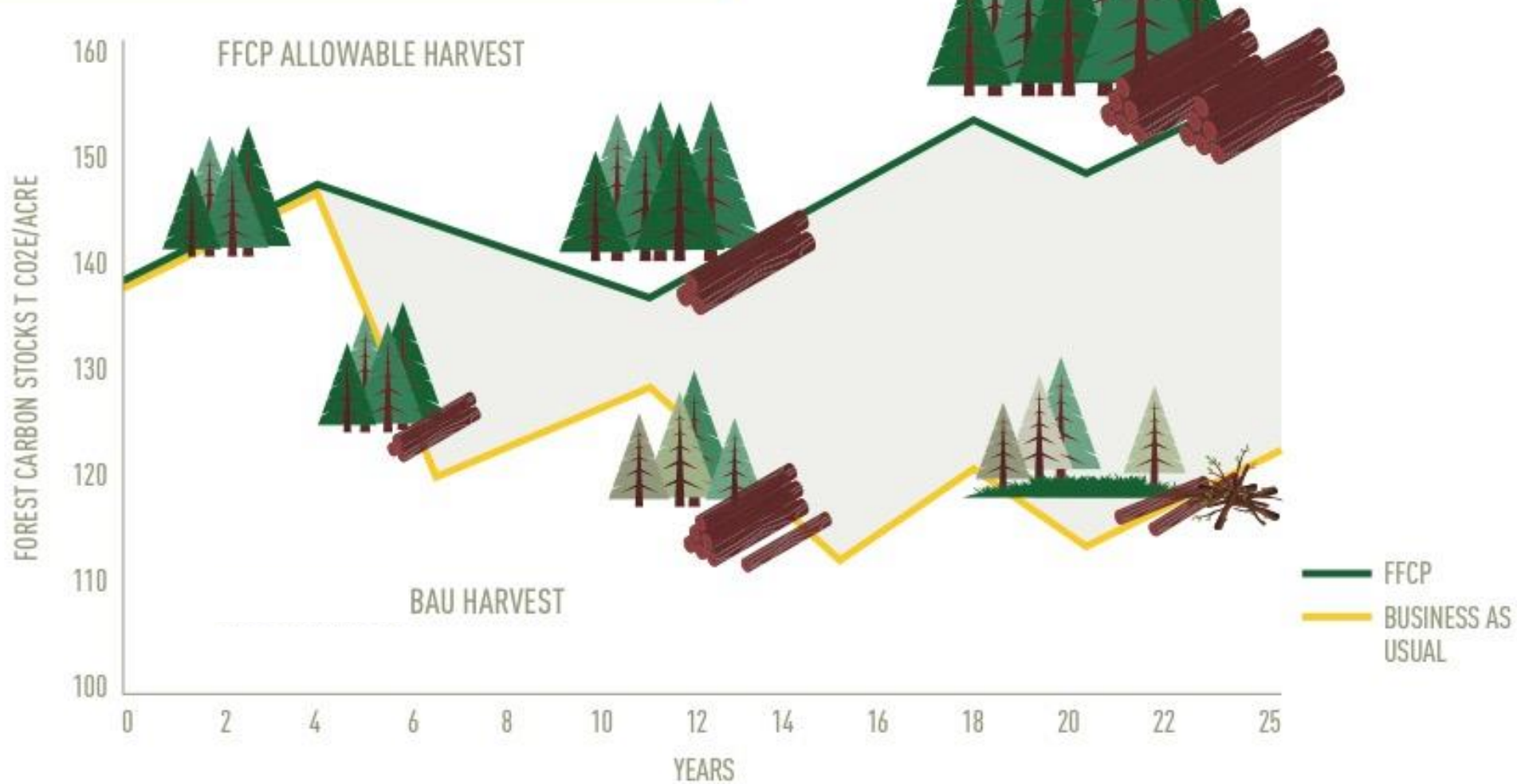


= matched plots used to form the baseline



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# INDIVIDUAL STAND CARBON IMPACT





# Methodology Approved by Verra

NEWS > VERRA RELEASES METHODOLO...

## Verra Releases Methodology for Improved Forest Management Projects

28 OCTOBER 2022



<https://verra.org/verra-releases-methodology-for-improved-forest-management-projects/>



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# FFCP Program Benefits

- Free to enroll
- Short-term contracts - 20 years
- Practice-based approach allows management flexibility
- Payments are guaranteed for the life of the contract
- Annual payments begin in year one including a large lump sum upon contract signing
- Access to technical assistance and other local landowner networks
- New methodology provides a more accurate climate benefit





# Landowner Agreement Terms

- Landowner receive payments made throughout the agreement period according to a set schedule.
- Landowner keep an up-to-date forest management plan.
- Landowner keep us up to date on major changes and complete a reporting form every five years.
- FFCP will own the rights to the carbon in the project area.
  - There will be a contract lien on your property stating this
- We may visit your property periodically to conduct monitoring.







# Program Eligibility and Requirements

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# Healthy Forests for our Future:

A Management Guide to Increase Carbon Storage in Northeast Forests





# Landowner Eligibility

- Non-Industrial Private Landowner with at least 30 contiguous forested acres within one of the eligible geographies.
- Forests originating from natural regeneration (plantations are ineligible)
- No restrictions on the land that exclude timber harvest activity (local ordinances, conservation easement, designated no harvest areas)
- Additional eligibility criteria tied to the specific practices





# Stand Level Eligibility

- At least 50% composition of Maple-Beech-Birch forest type
- Some softwood or other trees species are allowed, a forester will be able to determine what forest will qualify
- Need to relatively well stocked with some component of sawtimber sized trees

*Essentially, needs to be at the stage that could otherwise be commercially harvested.*



# Growing Older Forests

- No harvest over 20-year period.
- With prior FFCP approval, allows for:
  - Salvage resulting from storm events or pest/pathogen outbreak or
  - Harvest to control pest/pathogen outbreak
  - Use of fencing or tree shelters to control deer and moose browse
  - Firewood harvest for personal use (up to annual maximum volume; less than 12" DBH, from lower canopy strata)
- Recommends treatment of invasive plants, and native competing vegetation





# Enhance Your Woodlands

## Enrolled Project Area:

- 20-year contract period
- invasives/competing vegetation removal
- firewood for personal use and browse control
- Basal area removal may not exceed 25% of the Basal Area per acre in any Harvest Area
- Harvest that exceed limits are Prohibited Removals



# Personal Firewood Harvest

- Annual maximum permitted removal based on the table (right).
- Live trees must be less than 12" DBH and from lower canopy strata.
- Evenly distributed throughout project area.
- Not conducted in a manner that is intended to result in or reduce the requirements for a Substantial Harvest
- Not cause or contribute to any Prohibited Removal.

Forested Project Area (acres)	Max Cords/year
30-199	5
200-299	10
300-399	15
400-499	20
500+	25





# Forestland Tax Evaluation

## NY 480a

### Compatible with FFCP Practices?

- Grow Older Forests – 20 year commitment to no harvests
  - Some special designated areas may apply with state forester agreement
  - Still needs to be accessible, or otherwise harvestable
- Enhance Your Woodlands – limited forest treatments
  - Some amendments to prescriptions may be needed
  - Overstocked stands (Above-line) may recommend a heavier silvicultural treatment by state forester, may not qualify





# Program Enrollment

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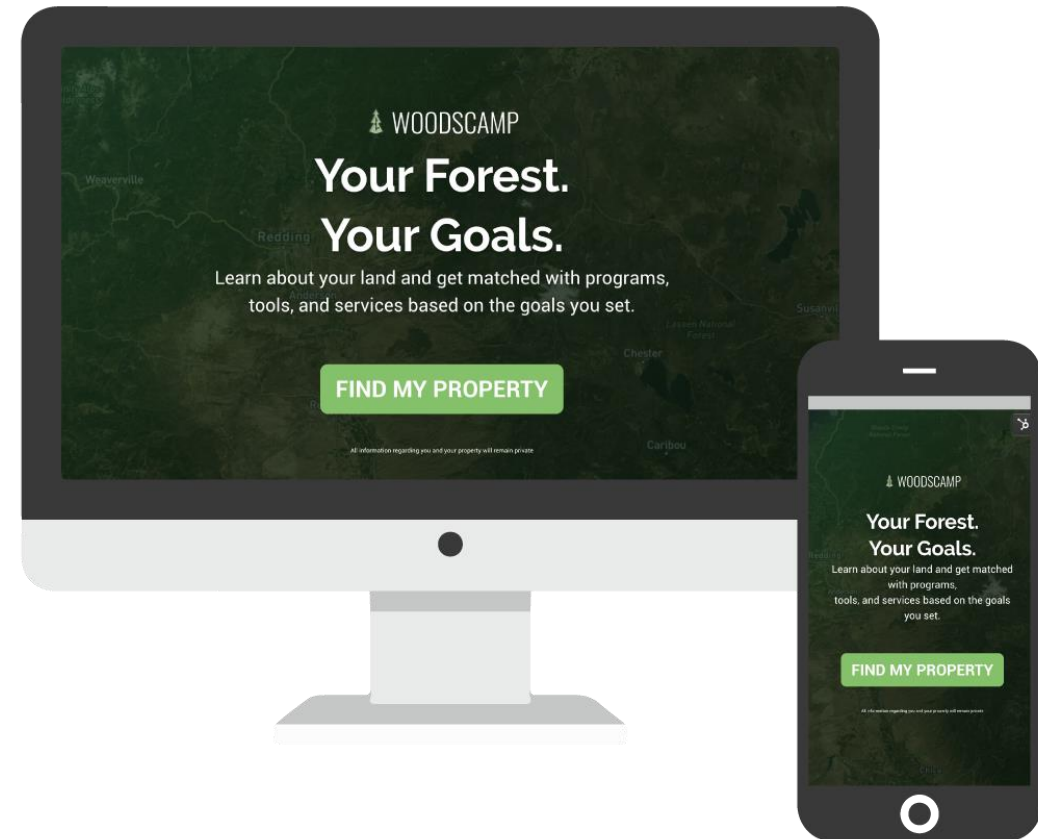
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# WoodsCamp

Easy to sign up

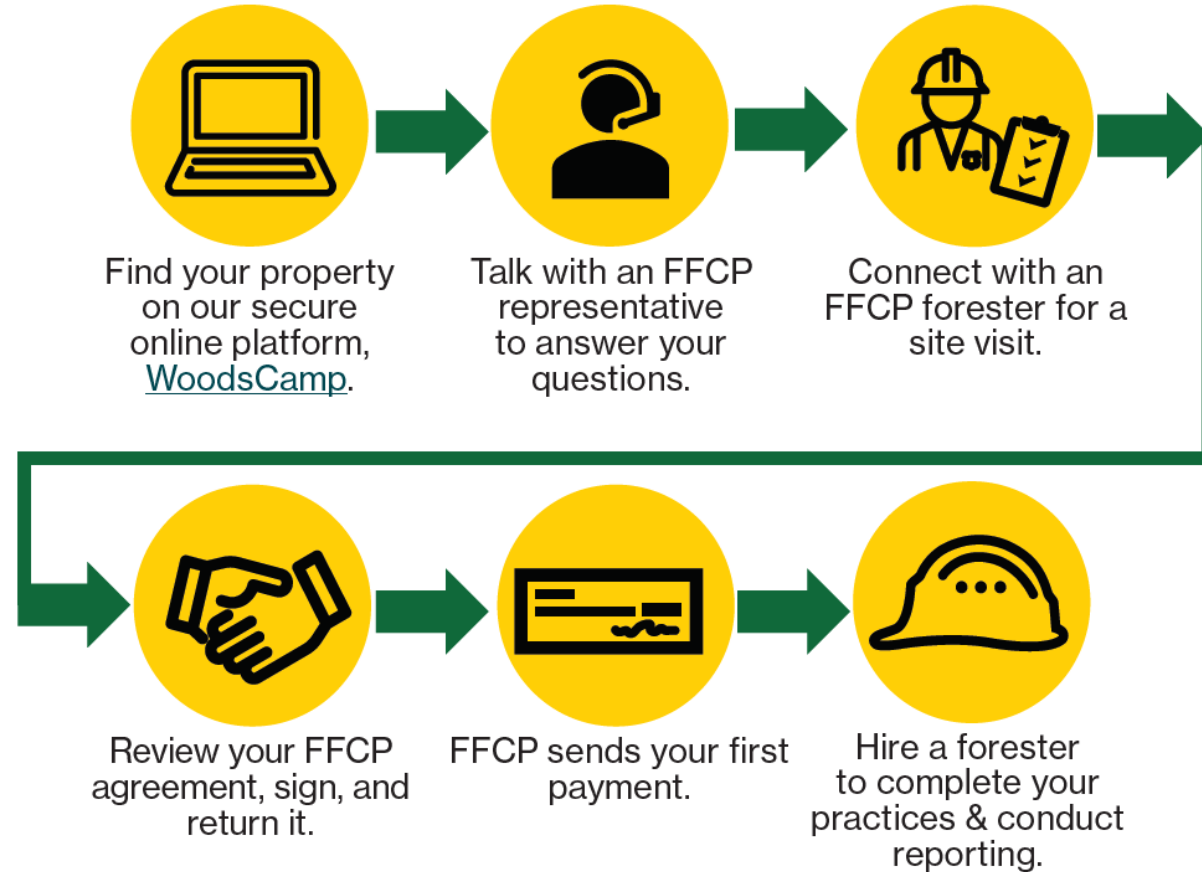
<https://familyforestcarbon.org/>



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# Landowner Involvement



Landowners can get started at [familyforestcarbon.org](https://familyforestcarbon.org)



# Payment Schedule

YEAR OF CONTRACT	PERCENT OF TOTAL PAYMENT RECEIVED
Year 1	20% + \$800 for management plan
Year 2-8	3% each year
Year 9-14	4% each year + \$800 in Year 10
Year 15-19	5% each year
Year 20	10%

## Current Practice Payments:

- Enhance Your Woodland - \$200/ac
- Grow Older Forests - \$300/ac

# Payment Schedule

Landowner has **100 eligible acres** that they would like to enroll

YEAR	Payment Received that Year
Year 1	\$4,000 + \$600 for the development of Management Plan
Year 2 - 8	\$600 a year
Year 9 - 14	\$800 a year + \$600 for the development of Management Plan
Year 15-19	\$1,000 a year
Year 20	\$2,000





# Opportunities for Consultants

Consulting and Staff Foresters will assist landowners throughout the process:

- Landowner Referrals
- Site Evaluations and Project Delineation
- Data Collection
- Project Implementation and FMP development (contracted by landowner)







# Thank You

## Please ask any questions that I didn't address!

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