

CLIMATE, COMMUNITY & BIODIVERSITY (CCB) STANDARDS CERTIFICATION

Verra's Climate, Community, and Biodiversity Standard certifies land-based projects that simultaneously address climate change, support local communities, and enhance biodiversity conservation.

CLIMATE

- The climate aspect of the CCB standard involves proving that a project area is protected from deforestation and enhancing ecological health. Commercial harvest is permitted but not required.
- Carbon projects using "dynamic baselines" generate carbon credits by comparing the carbon sequestered within a project area to similar non-project areas.
- A dynamic baseline is periodically recalculated, tracking carbon sequestration in both the project and non-project areas for accuracy.
- This approach ensures high-quality carbon credits by reflecting the actual benefits of the project's activities in real-time.
- The dynamic baseline increases transparency and validity in carbon credit generation compared to static measurement approaches.

COMMUNITY

- To meet the social requirements of the standard, the community must be actively involved in project design and implementation.
- Focus in North America is on engaging and supporting Tribal Communities
- Input must be gathered from relevant stakeholders and rights holder, such as elders, women's groups, and youth, to ensure that the project's objectives and activities are aligned with the wishes and vision of the Tribe..
- A project Steering Committee composed of voluntary Bois Forte members and staff acts as a liaison between NICC, the community, and Tribal councils, ensuring representation at every step.
- The steering committee is tasked with providing regular updates and opportunities for community feedback and participation throughout the project's duration.

BIODIVERSITY

- Biodiversity in CCB projects should not be negatively impacted by the carbon project and ideally increases. How this is achieved depends on location, local biome, and Tribal community objectives.
- Tribal communities and various departments (e.g., cultural, natural resources, forestry) provide input on biodiversity objectives and management.
- Monitoring biodiversity is challenging due to potential indirect effects on species, including culturally significant and endangered species.
- NICC ensures data sovereignty, keeping Tribal biodiversity data private and secure throughout the project.
- Biodiversity goals may influence or be influenced by climate (forest) and community goals. NICC and team will be transparent about where your objectives align and where there may be tradeoffs. We will support you in determining monitoring methods that are cost-effective and reasonable with staff time and resources.