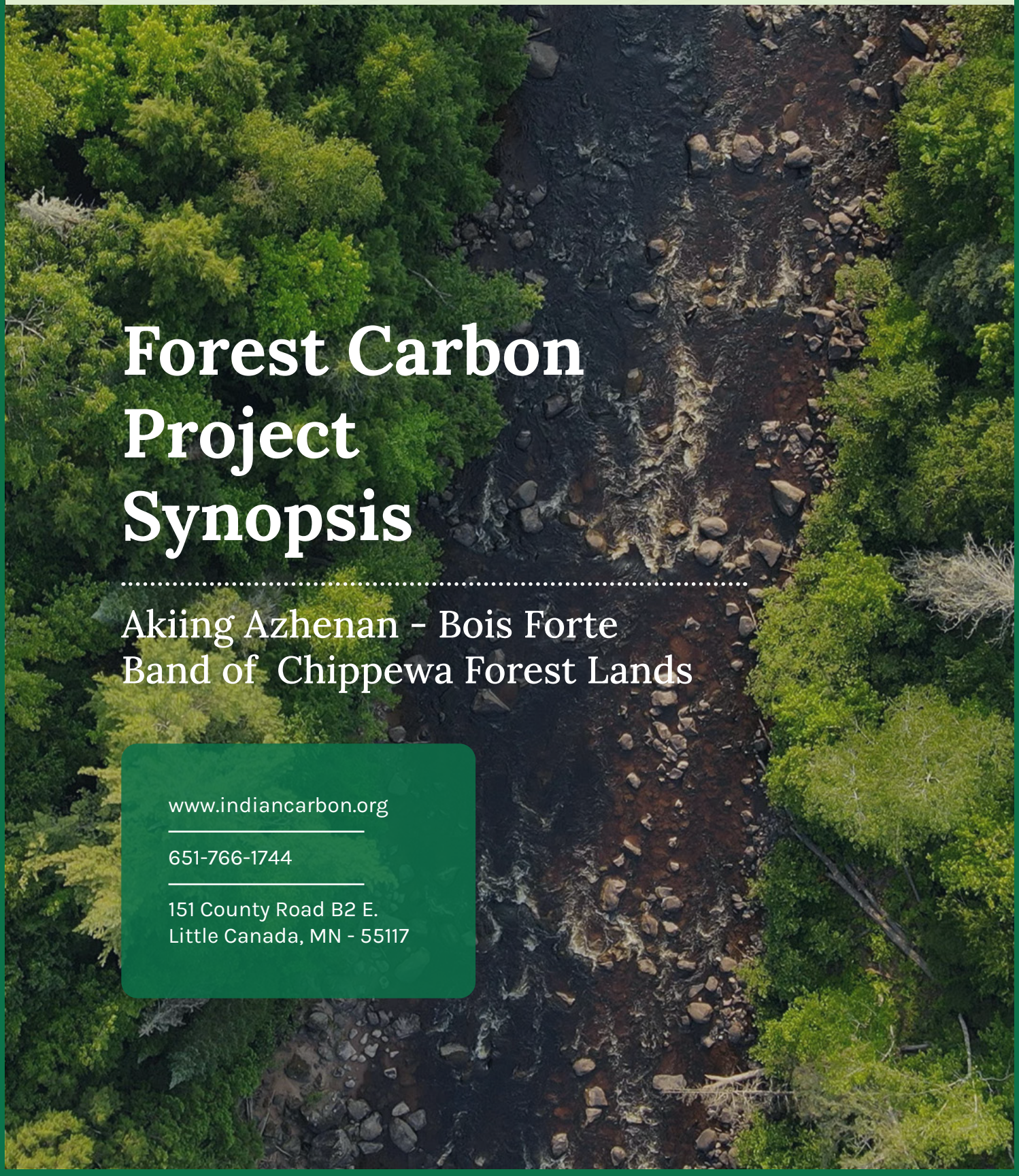
National Indian Carbon Coalition



Forest Carbon Project Synopsis

Akiing Azhenan - Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Forest Lands

www.indiancarbon.org

651-766-1744

151 County Road B2 E.
Little Canada, MN - 55117

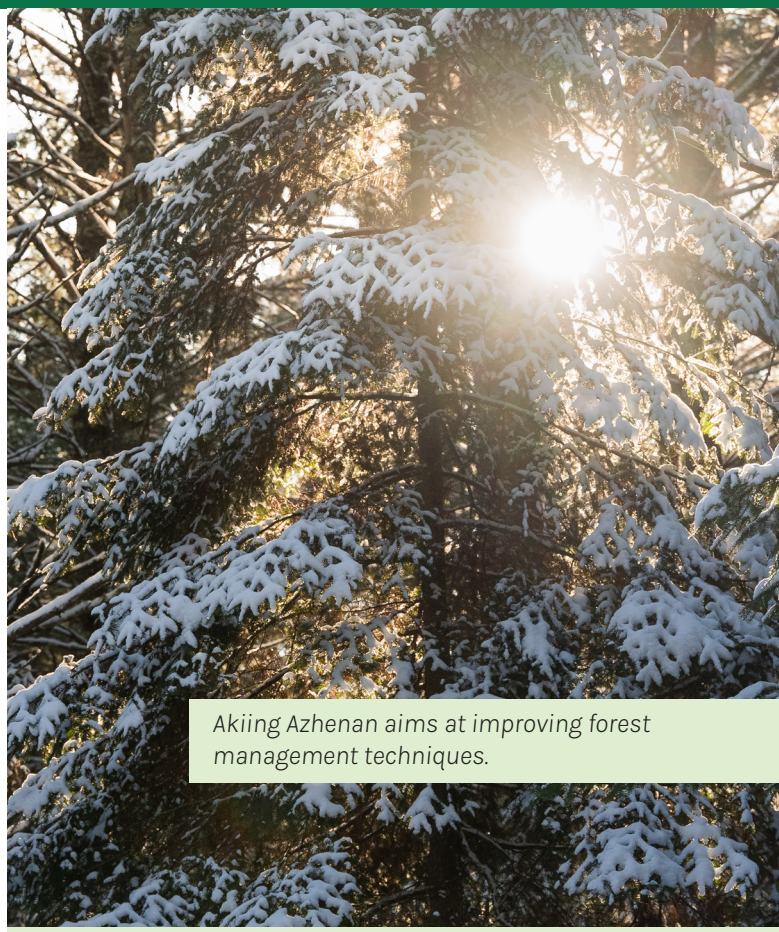
About the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa

In June of 2022, the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, one of eleven Tribal Nations in the state of Minnesota, reclaimed 28,000 acres of land within its traditional reservation boundaries through a purchase that marks the most significant Tribal Nation land return in the United States. Until the land transfer, the Band held 5% of its original territory and this acquisition nearly doubled its land base. The Band is exploring implementing improved forest management practices on the newly acquired land to increase the carbon in the forests. If successful, the Band can then sell the carbon credits to generate revenue to help pay off the mortgage from the 2022 land purchase..

The Bois Forte land re-acquisition is a major step toward righting a historical wrong. As a critical conservation pathway, the Band is working to leverage carbon credits through a partnership with the National Indian Carbon Coalition and enroll the 28,000 acres of forestland into the voluntary carbon market. This will create opportunities for the Band to increase access to resources and preserve healthy woodlands. The methodologies used create an innovative, potentially replicable model for supporting additional Tribal Nations' land-back objectives while demonstrating sustainable climate, conservation, and equity outcomes in high-quality, Indigenous-led carbon projects.

In June 2024, representatives from the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa community met in Duluth, MN, with members of The Nature Conservancy, TerraCarbon, and The National Indian Carbon Coalition to plan and discuss the development of the Bois Forte carbon project on the recently reacquired 28,000 acres of land on the Bois Forte Reservation. Over the course of three days, this team discussed all aspects of carbon projects and, with input from the representatives from Bois Forte, identified initial objectives for the three areas of interest (biodiversity, forests, and community).

Because the carbon project prioritizes these three areas of interest, it will also receive Verra's Climate, Community, and Biodiversity (CCB) Standards Certification. This additional certification is given to land-based projects that simultaneously address climate change, support local communities, and enhance biodiversity conservation. The project is currently under design and there will be opportunities for Band members to provide input on the design of the project.



Akiing Azhenan aims at improving forest management techniques.

Verra's VM0045 Methodology

The Bois Forte Carbon Project uses a third-party standard to measure its carbon impacts: Verra's VM0045 methodology, which applies to a wide range of improved forest management (IFM) practices. The methodology compares the forest management practices in the project area to practices applied by other forest managers in lands outside the project area. If the management practices in the project area result in more carbon on the land compared to the other areas, the project will generate carbon credits that can be verified by the standard and sold in the voluntary carbon market.



Bois Forte Band of Chippewa
Northern Minnesota

About the National Indian Carbon Coalition

The National Indian Carbon Coalition (NICC) cultivates holistic systems projects that strengthen Indigenous land stewardship, promote measurable resiliency, and create benefits for communities to thrive. NICC was established as a program under the Indian Land Tenure Foundation (ILTF) & Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) to reacquire tribal lands through revenue generated by the sale of carbon credits created by carbon sequestration or offset projects.

Our work, previously defined in relation to carbon, is now framed as nature-based climate solutions, which are high-quality, high-integrity projects that restore natural ecosystems, increase access to alternative resources, and maximize climate resilience through decarbonization.

About The Nature Conservancy

TNC is the world's largest non-profit environmental conservation organization. Our mission is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends, including tackling the dual threats of accelerated climate change and unprecedented biodiversity loss. Grounded by decades of on-the-ground experience, we maximize our ability to affect change by bringing together local communities, real-world solutions, policy expertise, sustainable financing, and collaborative partnerships.

About TerraCarbon

Formed in 2006, TerraCarbon LLC is a leading advisory firm that helps develop carbon offset projects to fund natural climate solutions. We support natural climate solutions (NCS) that involve restoration, improved management, and conservation activities that increase carbon storage and/or avoid greenhouse gas emissions in forests, wetlands, grasslands, and agricultural lands around the world.





32,000,000
Trees

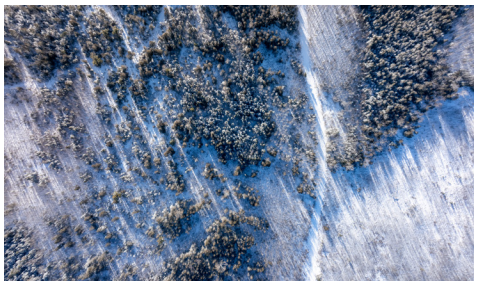
~215,000 MT
Carbon Offsets
Over 5 Years

22,000
Acres

Project Snapshot

The Bois Forte Carbon Project will play a significant role in generating the income and resources needed to fund the largest Tribal Nation land return in the United States through private capital.







OFFSET PROTOCOL / METHODOLOGY:	Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) "VM0045 Improved Forest Management Using Dynamic Matched Baselines From National Forest Inventories" and the Climate Community and Biodiversity Standards
ACREAGE OF PROJECT:	The project will encompass 22,000 acres of forestlands owned by the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa.
PROJECTED OFFSET QUANTITY:	The carbon offset project is expected to yield between 100,000 and 330,000 Verified Carbon Units (VCUs) over the next 5 years.
ENVIRONMENTAL CO-BENEFITS:	The project will encourage the preservation of native ecosystems and the protection of the moose population amongst other native wildlife species. The CCB Standards also outline benefits for the Climate and local Biodiversity.
COMMUNITY CO-BENEFITS:	Enrolled lands will be used for rice production, while the project will also provide opportunities through employment and livelihood development supported by carbon revenue.

Contact Us

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