PACIFIC FOREST TRUST

Fact Sheet

Van Eck Forest Project

The Pacific Forest Trust's *Van Eck Forest Project* ensures significant climate benefits are achieved from the sustainable management of roughly 2,200 acres of working redwood forest in Humboldt County, California. Initiated in 2004, the *Van Eck Forest Project* is the first emissions reductions project registered and independently verified under the California ForestProtocols—the rigorous accounting standards adopted by the California Air Resources Board to help meet the state's ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Carbon Banking for Climate Benefits

The Van Eck Forest Project will permanently reduce more than 500,000 tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions over a 100-year period by ensuring the use of sustainable forestry practices that sequester more carbon than could be attained through conventional forest management. The Pacific Forest Trust holds a working forest conservation easement on Van Eck that ensures the forest (and its increased carbon stores) will never be lost to development, converted to other uses or logged in an unsustainable manner.

The Van Eck Forest provides these climate benefits by absorbing CO2 from the atmosphere and storing it as carbon in its trees for hundreds of years or longer. By ensuring harvest practices always remove less timber volume than is grown, carbon stores in the Van Eck Forest will permanently increase. Established working forests like Van Eck are especially effective at storing carbon as they grow older due to the fact they store substantially greater volumes of carbon over a shorter time than do recently planted trees.

The California Climate Action Reserve Forest Protocol—developed over a four-year period with the participation of scientists, foresters and climate experts—is the first exacting governmental accounting standards in the U.S. for climate projects that embrace forest management and avoided deforestation.

The Forest Protocol sets the rules for projects to produce emissions reductions that are real, permanent, additional and verifiable. They require that project activities are additional to what the forest would normally provide under

The Forest Facts

Project size: 2,200 acres **County:** Humboldt

- Project to reduce more than 500,000 tons of CO_2 over 100 years
- First Project registered and certified under California's Forest Protocols
- Owned by the Fred M. van Eck Forest Foundation
- Managed by the Pacific Forest Trust since 2002

The Presidio of San Francisco, CA (Main Office) • 1001-A O'Reilly Avenue San Francisco, CA 94129 TEL 415.561.0700

Corvallis, OR • TEL 541.754.6868
Olympia, WA • TEL 360.791.8224

Sacramento, CA • TEL 916.214.1382
www.PacificForest.org

Van Eck Forest Project

"business-as-usual" forestry; and they provide assurances that the emissions reductions will be permanent by securing the forest practices with a conservation easement and by verifying reductions via a third-party, state-licensed certification process.

In addition to helping cool the climate, the *Van Eck Forest Project* helps protect wildlife habitat, safeguard clean water supplies and restore biodiversity and old-growth qualities. Select, sustainable timber harvests are conducted on Van Eck providing the building industry and consumers with high-quality wood products and the local community with dependable jobs.

Ecological Benefits

- Protects significant open space
- Restores native redwood ecosystem
- Protects habitat, in particular for species dependent upon older growth forests such as the Northern Spotted Owl.
- Enhances the forest landscape's ability to absorb and store atmospheric carbon
- Verified and registered emissions reductions generated by the Project represent the equivalent to taking 123,000 cars off the road for a year

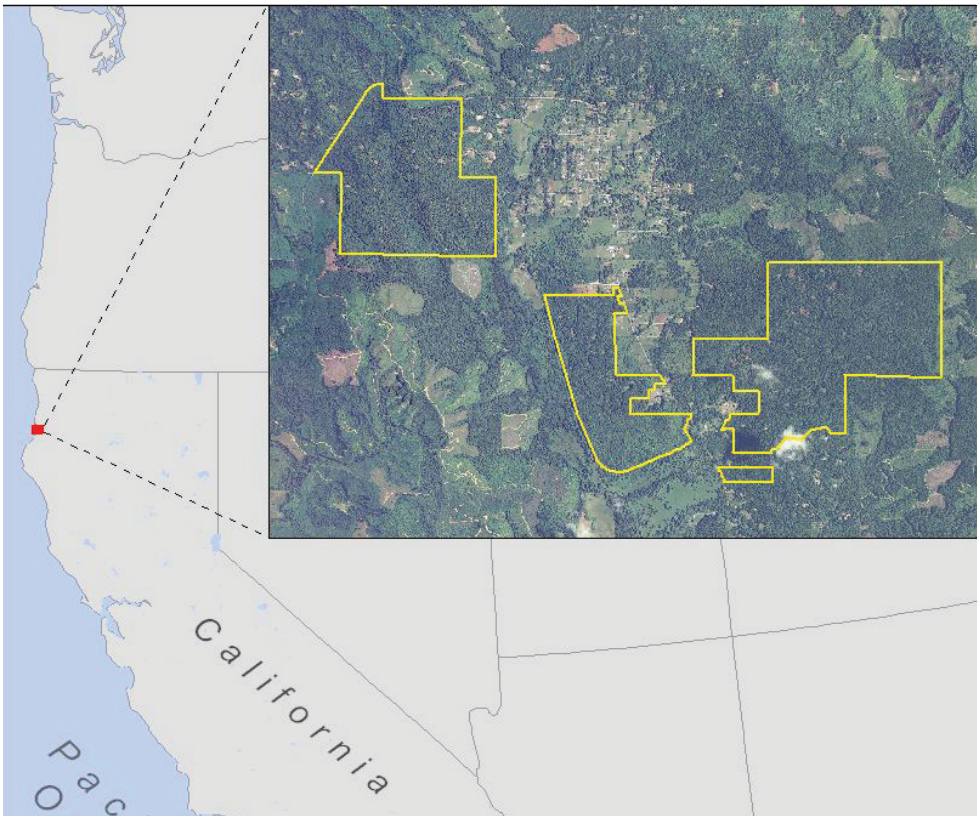
Economic Returns

In four years (2005–2009), the *Van Eck Forest Project* earned:

$3M from sustainable timber harvests

$2M for the sale of 185,000 metric tons of registered emissions reductions*

* These carbon sales cover emissions reductions that have been or will be accrued and verified from 2005–2011



- Buyers include climate leaders like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Calif. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, businesses dedicated to carbon neutrality and investment funds such as those run by Natsource LLC, the world's largest buyer of offsets, as well as web-based retailers such as BeGreen and Save-The-Planet-and-Win
- Provides local, sustainable employment for loggers, truck drivers, mill workers, timber cruisers, biologists and foresters, among others
- The property is economically self- sustaining, with revenues covering all operating expenses while returning income to the landowner to support research and graduate scholarships at Purdue University