

NACCB Interactive Session Report - 2024

Evaluating and advancing nature-based climate solutions through community-led carbon measurement

Organizers

- James Snider, WWF-Canada, Vice President, Science Knowledge & Innovation
- Steven Nitah, Nature for Justice, Managing Director
- Marlow Pellatt, Parks Canada, Ecosystem Scientist, Biodiversity & Carbon Strategies

Presenters

- Angie Kane, CEO, [Secwepemcúl'ecw Restoration and Stewardship Society](#) (SRSS)
- Garret Whitworth, [Innovatree Carbon Group Ltd.](#)
- Chad Willcott & Levi Burt, [Miawpukek First Nation](#)
- Barb Duffin, Director of the Cree Geomatics Department, [Mushkegowuk Council](#)

Summary

Accurate and affordable carbon measurement is necessary to evaluate and advance nature-based climate solutions to achieve targets under several international agreements. Some of the most significant carbon stores in the world are found in Canada and are located on the territories of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis. Accordingly, some Indigenous organizations and communities are eager to identify and assess the benefits of protection, stewardship, and restoration of ecosystems on their traditional territories through the lens of carbon storage and sequestration. This interactive session explored Indigenous-led measurement of ecosystem carbon and how innovative technologies are revolutionizing the measurement of carbon in nature. Brief presentations from representatives from Secwepemcúl'ecw Restoration and Stewardship Society, Innovatree Carbon Group Ltd., Miawpukek First Nation, and Mushkegowuk Council provided context for the need for carbon measurement, available technologies and training, community experiences, and data sovereignty. Presentations were followed by discussion in a Knowledge Café/Breakout Group session style.

Discussion Groups

- What is needed to support carbon measurement in communities?
 - Training/capacity building for measurement, data management, analysis, and interpretation
 - Engaging youth
 - Access to equipment, labs, and software
- What barriers exist, and how can we overcome those barriers?
 - Greater recognition and understood value of Indigenous Knowledge
 - Building community/Elder engagement into workplans
 - Long-term funding
- How can data sovereignty and data rights best be upheld in a collaborative community of practice?
 - Community information sessions
 - Translation of data and resources
 - Data sharing and Do Not Disclose agreements
 - Support for developing Indigenous-led platforms and hubs
- What are current and emerging technologies that could support community-led carbon measurement?
 - LiDAR, satellite and drone imagery; note that ground truthing is needed

Interested participants will continue to be engaged through WWF-Canada's Carbon Monitoring Community of Practice. **For more information:** Contact Emily Giles, egiles@wwfcanada.org