Pierce Conservation District Reforestation Program – 2020 Validation Report

Year 4

Document Prepared by City Forest Credits

1/30/2025

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Name	Pierce Conservation District Reforestation Program - 2020
Project Registry Number	007
Project Type	Tree Planting
City Forest Credits Protocol Version	Version 6, August 11, 2018
Project Start Date	March 8, 2021
Project Location	Puyallup, WA and South Prairie, Pierce County, WA
Project Operator	Pierce Conservation District

SUMMARY

State what stage of crediting this Validation Report applies to (i.e. after planting, Year 4, 6, 14, or 26). Provide a few sentences about the overall project. Include the Planting Design and Quantification Method.

In the fall of 2020 and spring of 2021, the Project Operator, Pierce Conservation District, planted 3,065 trees, using the riparian planting design. Based on the version of the protocol when the project started, Planting Protocol Version 6, the riparian method was available. Moving forward the project will be monitored using aerial imagery, per the cluster planting method. The trees were planted throughout the sites on an average of 10' spacing. Trees were planted on both sites to restore riparian areas as vegetated stream buffers. Trees were planted from October 2020 through March 2021.

Since the original planting, there has been an estimated 40% loss of trees based on monitoring estimates. However, 1,400 trees have been replanted throughout both sites to remediate loss. Replanting efforts since the original planting have included planting 125 trees in 2022, 750 trees in 2023, and 525 trees in 2024. The estimated 40% loss of trees is due to multiple factors. Additionally, due to flooding, the South Prairie Creek total project area decreased by 0.35 acres, and is now 7.3 total acres. The Peck Riparian site remains at 1.37 acres.

For the Year 4 credit issuance, the Project Operator conducted a plot sample inventory to evaluate tree establishment across the 8.67-acre Project Area.

ELIGIBILITY

Additionality (Section 4)

Criteria
The City Forest Credits Standard and Tree Planting Protocol ensure additionality for every carbon project. A project activity is additional if it can be demonstrated that the activity results in emission reductions or removals that are in excess of what would be achieved under a "business as usual" scenario and the activity would not have occurred in the absence of the incentive period provided by the carbon markets.

Issue Validated

Project Operator has signed an Attestation of Additionality on November 8, 2024, that confirms that the trees were not planted due to an enacted ordinance or law, as well as stating that Project Operator used the Registry's performance standard baseline in adherence with the WRI GHG Protocol, that the Project Operator signed a Project Implementation Agreement with the Registry for a 26-year Project Duration, that the 26-year Project Duration is in addition to and longer than any commitment the Project Operator makes to non-carbon project tree plantings, and that trees were not planted on sites that were forested and then cleared of trees within the prior 10 years.

No Double Counting and No Net Harm (Section 5)

Criteria
The City Forest Credits Standard describes prevention of double-counting in Section 5.1 and safeguards and the "No Net Harm" Principle in Section 5.2. Project activities shall not cause net harm to the environment or urban communities. Project Operator must sign an Attestation of No Double Counting of Credits and No Net Harm.

Issue Validated
Project Operator has submitted a signed Attestation of No Double Counting of Credits and No Net Harm on October 23, 2024. The Registry has analyzed geospatial data of the Project Area against that of all other registered urban forest carbon afforestation and reforestation projects to confirm that the Project Area for this project has not already received credits under the CFC Standard.

DATA COLLECTION AND CARBON QUANTIFICATION

Carbon Quantification (Section 10 and Appendix A)

Criteria
Project Operator must follow the data collection and quantification methods outlined in Appendix A of the Protocol.

Issue Validated
Project Operator used the riparian planting design and quantification method, per Registry guidance provided to the Project Operator at the time of initial crediting. CFC will monitor this project via aerial imagery, and the quantification method remains the same. Project Operator determined canopy growth via high-resolution drone imagery uploaded to ArcGIS. A random point sample was analyzed in ArcGIS, to determine current canopy cover. Project Operator collected 150 points at the Peck Riparian site, and 250 points at the South Prairie Creek site. Project Operator found tree cover to be 10.40% across the two sites, overall, which is greater than the 2.8% canopy cover goal required for Year 4.

Additionally, though 0.35 acres of the South Prairie Creek site was lost due to the creek shifting and migrating, this only accounts for about 3.77% of the total trees planted, which is well under the 20% mortality rate that was built into the project at the initial crediting stage. Due to the random point

sample canopy cover results, and despite the 0.35-acre reduction in project area, Project Operator did not need to adjust their total credits.

The Carbon Quantification Summary is as follows:

Total number of trees planted (including replacements)	5,120
Project area (acres), if applicable	8.67
Total number of trees per acre, if applicable	~401
Credits attributed to the project (tCO2e)	6,037
Credits after mortality deduction (20% or insert observed mortality, if greater)	4,829
Contribution to Registry Reversal Pool Account (5%) (tCO2e)	241
Total credits to be issued to the Project Operator (tCO2e)	4,588
Total credits requested to be issued in Year 4 (30% of above)	1,835

GHG Assertion: Project Operator asserts that the Project results in GHG emissions mitigation of 4,588 tons CO_2e over the 26-year Project Duration. Project Operator asserts that per Protocol guidelines, 40% of Project GHG emissions mitigation is issued at Year 4, or 1,835 tons CO_2e.

Co-Benefits Quantification (Section 12 and Appendix A)

Criteria
Project Operator must follow the co-benefit quantification methods for rainfall interception, air quality, and energy savings.

Issue Validated
Project Operator has followed the co-benefits quantification method using the templates provided by City Forest Credits. The following table documents the quantified ecosystem services in resource units and avoided costs per year when Project Trees reach 25 years old.

Ecosystem Services	***Resource Units***	***Value***
Rainfall Interception (m3/yr)	19,413.73	$142,522.88
Air Quality (t/yr)	-0.7020	$1,411.65
Energy: Cooling – Electricity (kWh/yr)	40,447.86	$2,070.93
Energy: Heating – Natural Gas (kBtu/yr)	125,341.13	$1,426.84
Grand Total ($/yr)		$151,136.15

VERIFICATION REPORT

CFC reviewed the Verification Report January 30, 2025 by Matthew Lee to ensure it accurately reflects the documentation contained in the Year 4 Project Design Document Amendment and supporting documents.

VALIDATION CONCLUSION

I attest that all the information provided in this validation report is free of material misstatement, to the best of my knowledge. The project complies with the validation criteria outlined in the City Forest Credits Standard and Tree Planting Protocol Version 6.

Approved by City Forest Credits on January 30, 2025 in 2024.