

# GreenCollar

## Carbon Farming & the Emerging Biodiversity Market

Elissa Black – Head of Project Partnerships

Saul Clough – Queensland Business Development Manager



# GreenCollar's Purpose

**GreenCollar exists to value the environment and drive positive impact at scale**

We work with land managers, corporates, research organisations, government, Traditional Owners and other stakeholders to create methodologies and markets that put the environment on the balance sheet, and ensure money flows to the people living and working on the land that deliver environmental benefits for all.



# GreenCollar exists to value the environment and drive positive impact at scale

We want to see an environmental markets project on every Australian farm by 2040



## Integrity

We pride ourselves on open and honest dialogue; and hold ourselves accountable to the highest operational and mortal standards.



## Forward Thinking

Our approach is grounded in science and a continual drive to push boundaries and solve problems.



## Going Further

We go further to affect positive environmental impact at the largest possible scale.



## Sharing Success

We work inclusively to deliver equitable and ethical outcomes for all.



# GreenCollar



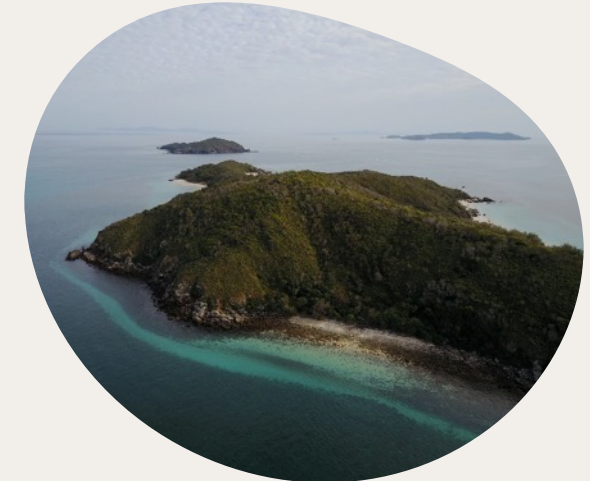
## Global leader in environmental markets

- Delivering nature-based solutions with high quality, high integrity outcomes and multiple economic, social and environmental benefits



## End-to-end environmental market services

- Project development: 200+ projects generating over 126million environmental credits



## Driving new market innovation







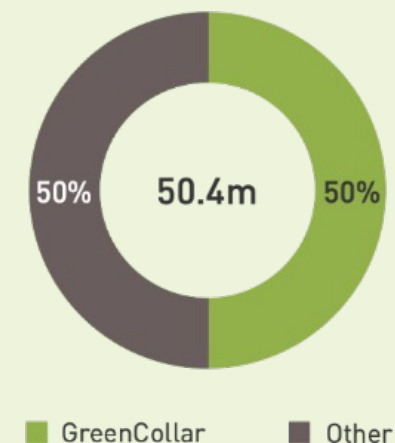
# Carbon Projects

# We are Australia's largest and most successful carbon project developer

- Work in partnership with farmers, graziers, Traditional Owners and other land managers to develop high quality, high integrity projects that deliver social, environmental and economic benefits
- Help landholders leverage markets to finance on-farm work that improves business and environmental sustainability
- At the forefront of the voluntary market, generating new demand for high quality, high integrity environmental credits
- Work with corporates to develop emission reduction and offset purchasing strategies, create new products and achieve net-zero targets

- Established in 2008
- 200+ nature-based projects running across rural Australia
- Generated over 126million Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)
- Largest supplier of nature-based ACCUs to the Australian government

Generated ACCUs from vegetation projects





# Established footprint in Queensland

- 47 operational projects across Queensland: 6 registered in the Burnett Catchment
- Delivering five projects under the Land Restoration Fund with more under development
- Avoided Clearing
- Human Induced Regeneration
- Native Forest from Managed Regrowth



# How we Operate

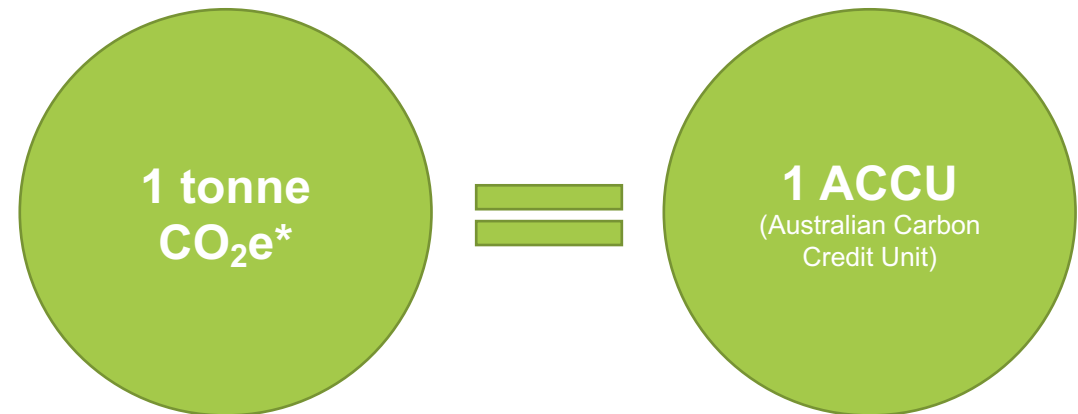
- **We work with landholders to identify & develop projects that suit their operations**
  - You don't have to de-stock or lock up the land
- **We are partners**
  - We don't charge fees. We take a profit share, which incentivises us to achieve the best outcome.
- **We carry the risk**
  - We are the project proponent and take on the delivery risk
- **We are responsible for compliance**
  - Allowing landholders to focus on operations
- **We take on admin, data collection, ongoing monitoring and reporting, auditing and liaison with the Clean Energy Regulator**





# What landholders need to know about carbon

- The Clean Energy Regulator (CER) administers the voluntary carbon scheme through the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF)
- Land managers apply to undertake a project that generates ACCUs (Australian Carbon Credit Units)
- Consent must be gained from Territory or State Governments, banks, native title holders and other stakeholders with an interest on the land
- ACCUs are sold to Government, corporates or investors looking to offset their emissions or invest in the carbon market



\*CO<sub>2</sub>e = Carbon Dioxide Equivalent. CO<sub>2</sub>e is a measure that standardises one metric tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It can also be used as a measure for other greenhouse gas emissions that have the same global warming potential as CO<sub>2</sub>

# Projects must meet certain requirements

## Projects must...

- Be new
- Go beyond business-as-usual activities (additionality)
- Not be required by law
- Not be receiving financial support from specified government programs
- Follow an approved method
- Not be an excluded activity listed in the Carbon Credits Regulations





# Avoided Clearing

- Queensland is the largest contributor to National deforestation rates
- Avoided Clearing provides an alternative income stream to reward landholders for breaking the clearing cycle and protecting native vegetation
- It doesn't require locking up the land

## Actions

- Cessation of broad scale clearing
- Feral animal control
- Fire management
- Management of total grazing pressure
- Water management

## Key Benefits

- Sequestration of carbon
- Reduced soil erosion & salinity
- Protection of native habitat
- Improved biodiversity
- Investment in local community
- Job creation
- Drought resilience



# Human-Induced Regeneration & NFMR

- Suited to areas where preservation of mature vegetation isn't possible or land is suffering from severe degradation
- Involves changing land management practices in-line with existing agriculture operations to regenerate the land
- Doesn't require locking up the land

## Actions

- Infrastructure upgrades
- Feral animal control
- Managing timing & extent of grazing
- Ceasing mechanical or chemical destruction of regrowth
- Managing non-native species

## Key Benefits

- Sequestration of carbon
- Reduce runoff
- Improved soil health & water retention
- Habitat regeneration
- Improved biodiversity
- Local community investment
- Job creation
- Drought resilience





# Nature & Biodiversity

# Opportunities for Australian Agriculture

- Australian Agriculture is well placed to benefit from emerging biodiversity credit markets and harness the potential for biodiversity enhancement as a new form of primary production.
- Managing around 58% of Australia's land mass and providing substantial land management expertise and capacity to manage biodiversity.
- PWC estimates a biodiversity market could generate \$137 billion in financial flows to advance Australian biodiversity outcomes by 2050







## Reef Credits - A world-first water quality market protecting the future of the Great Barrier Reef

- Reef Credits incentivise on-farm actions that improve water quality entering the Great Barrier Reef
- Delivers measurable, independently audited water quality outcomes
- In partnership with sugar cane producers, GreenCollar have generated **37,932 RCs** from **11 projects**



1 Reef Credit

=

**DIN**

or



538kg Fine Sediment

# NaturePlus™ Credits



1 NaturePlus™ Credit

1 hectare of habitat  
or species improvement  
or maintenance

*NaturePlus™ innovatively translates the complexity of nature into a common unit of high-quality outcomes*



# Methods Applied to NaturePlus™ Pilot Projects



## **Koala Population and Habitat Condition Method**

Co-developed with Queensland Trust for Nature and WWF Australia.

Assess the condition of Koala presence and habitat quality at the property and project scale in Australia

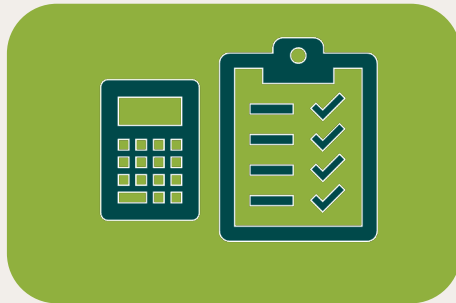


## **GreenCollar Native Vegetation Condition Monitoring Method**

Delivers environmental accounts that provide consistent, standardised and objective information on the condition and trend of native vegetation in a way that is practical, transparent and scientifically robust.

# Environmental Accounts

## What are they and why use them?



**Environmental accounts record and track changes in environmental asset condition.** Environmental accounting is consistent with financial accounting and uses basic accounting principles to organise data.



**Environmental assets** are the fundamental **accounting units** for environmental accounts (e.g. native vegetation, soils, freshwater, native fauna, marine).



**Condition** represents the **physical qualities** of the environmental asset determined using a scientific method. Measurement of condition can be used to inform business decision making and provides visibility of the **impacts of land management.**



**Nature Plus™ Projects** are required to demonstrate **an initial improvement trend** in condition of the environmental asset.



# NaturePlus™ Backed by Science

- Methods are informed by the Accounting for Nature Standard, existing state biodiversity assessment frameworks and other scientific research and monitoring protocols
- Build off scientific consensus on the **most suitable indicators for assessing condition** which are fit for purpose for the asset being measured
- Baseline condition is verified and assessed at project commencement by comparing indicators of the asset's current state against benchmark values indicative of the un-degraded or reference state of that asset.



# Environmental Condition Indicators

## Which indicators do we use for NaturePlus?

- Indicators are **key characteristics used to measure the condition** of environmental assets
- GreenCollar's Native Vegetation Methodology uses these indicators:



Basal area



Large trees



Native plant species richness (trees)



Native plant species richness (shrubs)



Non-native plant cover\*



Recruitment of canopy species

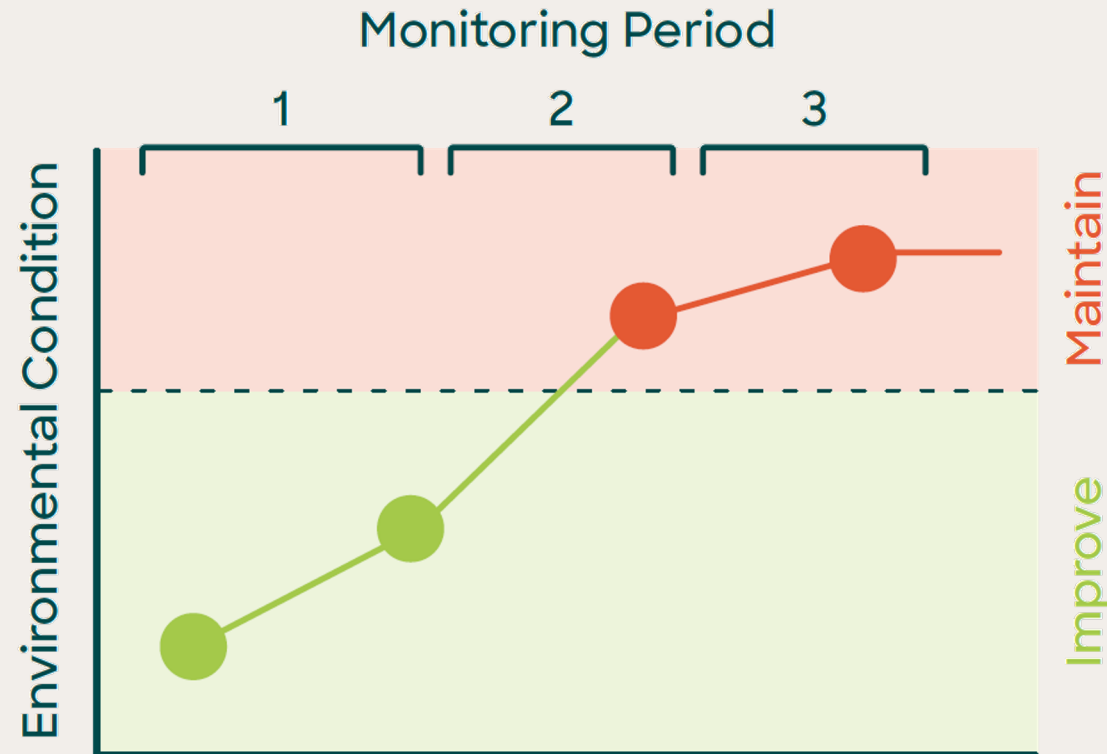


Site context\*

- Non-native plant cover achieves 100% condition score where there are no weeds present. The score declines as more weeds are found to be present
- Site context is measured as the amount (%) of native-vegetation retained in the surrounding landscape within a 1km buffer



# Generating NaturePlus™ Credits



- NaturePlus™ credits **can only be generated** from a land management project **after improvement in environmental condition has been third-party audited then verified by Accounting for Nature®**
- Once areas have improved to a sustainable level, credits can be generated by successfully **maintaining that condition**.
- Environmental Accounts track environmental condition and are publicly available for anyone to view.

# Robust Audit and Assurance Framework

- The NaturePlus™ Standard uses **third-party assurance frameworks** for monitoring, reporting and verification of environmental outcomes.
  
- Enhanced disclosure and transparency are supported through publication of environmental asset condition on the Accounting for Nature Project Registry





Thank you

Q & A

