



Emissions Reduction Fund:

Native vegetation regrowth method (and opportunities to participate)

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Overview:

Regrowth methods support projects that retain native regrowth on agricultural land from further clearing. All methods require a land clearing 'event' to have occurred and for this event to have been more than seven years prior to application to the Emission Reduction Fund (ERF). This opens up the opportunity for a landholder to change their practice by allowing previously cleared native vegetation to regrow and sequester carbon, which under business-as-usual would not have been stored.

Three ERF methods fall into this category:

The Avoided Land Clearing Method

The avoided clearing of native regrowth method provides a mechanism to reduce emissions associated with land clearing. By applying it, a land owner can earn Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs) by protecting native regrowth on agricultural land from further clearing. Projects using this method would need to demonstrate that regrowth has been cleared at least twice and can legally be cleared again.

The Native Forest from Managed Regrowth Method

For a parcel of land to be eligible for an ERF project under this method, the land must have been cleared previously and regrown as a result of excluding livestock or other active management practices to help regrowth of native forests occur.

The project proponent must first prove that the regrowth in question has been actively cleared in the past for farming or grazing purposes. Potential exists under this method for a project to be applied in conjunction with existing landholders who may have cleared large areas in the past for these activities through aggregation. Further analysis of land-use change is required to determine exact areas that may be eligible.

Human-Induced Regeneration Method

The Human Induced Regeneration method is for those land managers wishing to establish forests by promoting the regeneration of native forests that have been suppressed by agricultural land uses.

Activities can involve excluding stock or managing non-native plants in the project area (but do not include planting or direct seeding). The method covers human-induced regeneration of native vegetation since 1 July 2007, on land that is not conservation land, by any of the following activities:

- exclusion of livestock,
- management of the timing and extent of grazing,
- humane management of feral animals,
- management of plants that are not native to the project area,
- cessation of mechanical or chemical destruction, or suppression, of regrowth,
- the rehabilitation of scalded soils on rangeland, by the creation of shallow earth banks or furrows to trap rainfall or slow water runoff.

Further information:

- The Avoided Land Clearing Method methodology: www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/emissions-reduction-fund/methods/avoided-clearing-native-regrowth
- The Native Forest from Managed Regrowth Method methodology: www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/emissions-reduction-fund/methods/native-forest-managed-growth
- The Human-Induced Regeneration Method methodology: www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/emissions-reduction-fund/methods/human-induced-regeneration-native-forest