



Forest Project Submittal Form

Instructions: This form should be completed in order to submit a forest project to the Reserve. A *forest project is a planned set of activities designed to increase removals of CO₂ from the atmosphere, or reduce or prevent emissions of CO₂ to the atmosphere, through increasing and/or conserving forest carbon stocks.*

Please complete all fields as thoroughly as possible. If the project in question is still in the planning/development phase, all fields must be completed using best available data and estimates based on the proposed project design. This is an interactive Word form. Upon completion, please save this form as a PDF prior to uploading it to the Reserve. All fields must be completed, even if the answer is also provided elsewhere; if a field is not applicable insert N/A in the space provided.

Does this project intend to report under the ARB Compliance Offset Protocol?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, this is the incorrect form for listing. Please submit the project using ARB's "[Application for Listing a U.S. Forest Offset Project](#)."

Reserve project ID (numerical, as it appears in the Reserve software): **CAR730**

Section 1: Project Contact Information

1. Project name (as it appears in the Reserve software): **Usal Redwood Forest**
2. Account holder (as it appears in the Reserve software)¹: **Usal Redwood Forest Company, LLC (URFC)**

Is the account holder authorized to sign the "Attestation of Title" form on behalf of all forest owners?¹

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is the account holder authorized to sign the "Restrictive Covenant and Project Implementation Agreement" (the "PIA")?²

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please disclose any impediments that may exist to the account holder signing the PIA:
There are two Deeds of Trust encumbering the Usal Redwood Forest property in favor of Bank of America (BoA) who assisted RFFI in financing the Usal acquisition. Conservation transactions, including the sale of carbon

¹ The account holder must also be the forest owner. The forest owner must sign the Attestation of Title and the PIA. Multiple parties that are involved in the ownership of the land and project itself must be disclosed to the Reserve in this form.

² Please review the PIA prior to listing to determine if the account holder is eligible as a forest owner.

sequestration credits, are contemplated under these loan documents. BoA does not have approval authority but will need to provide written consent prior to the execution and recordation of the PIA.

3. Forest owner (name of business entity as corporation, partnership, or individual): **Usal Redwood Forest Company LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Redwood Forest Foundation, Inc. (RFFI)**
4. Forest owner contact: **Mark Welther, President & CEO, Redwood Forest Foundation, Inc. - 510-459-1131 or Tom Tuchmann, President, US Forest Capital - 503-220-8103.**
5. Technical consultants who have assisted in project development (name of business entity as corporation, partnership, or individual): **US Forest Capital, LLC & North Coast Resource Management, Inc.**
6. Technical consultant contact: **Tom Tuchmann, US Forest Capital LLC, President - 503-220-8103**
7. Other parties with a material interest in the project: **The Conservation Fund holds a Conservation Easement Deed encumbering the project.**
8. Date of form completion: **October 16, 2013**
9. Form completed by (name, organization): **Tom Tuchmann, US Forest Capital, LLC**

Section 2: Ownership and Organization Summary

10. Is the proposed forest owner the property owner(s) in fee for the project area? (Owner in fee is the absolute owner of real property and free from any restrictions, conditions or limitations.)

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please complete the following:

- (a) Provide documentation (e.g. deed of trust, title report, etc.) showing the forest owner's ownership interest in the property and its interest in the trees and standing timber located on the property. Upload as a separate PDF titled "Ownership Interests Documentation."

If no, please answer/complete the following:

- (a) Explain how the entity identified as the forest owner has the right to undertake the project, register it with the Reserve, and execute the PIA:
- (b) Would the forest owner's execution of the PIA breach any relevant legal obligation or agreement it has with the fee owner(s) of the property?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please explain:

- (c) Has consent been given by the fee owner(s) of the property to the project and to the forest owner executing the PIA?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please explain:

- (d) Does the forest owner anticipate that the fee owner(s) of the property will also execute the PIA with the Reserve?

☐ Yes ☐ No

- (e) Will the fee owner(s) of the property consent to the execution of the PIA and assist in the recording of the Memorandum of PIA on title?

☐ Yes ☐ No

- (f) Provide documentation (e.g. deed of trust, title report, etc.) showing the forest owner's ownership interest in the property or its interest in the trees and standing timber located on the property. Upload as a separate PDF titled "*Ownership Interests Documentation.*"

11. List all property owners in fee, the ownership structure, and the Assessor Parcel Number (APN) for each tract of land in the project area:

Names/Entity	Entity Type (e.g. corporation, partnership, individual)	APN
Usal Redwood Forest Company LLC	LLC	Please see attached "Usal APN."

12. If more than one name is listed as fee owner in the table above, who is authorized to sign on behalf of all parties and who will be designated to manage the project³?

13. Provide documentation (e.g. deed of trust, title report, etc.) showing other property interests existing within the project area, which are held by third parties and affect the trees and standing timber located on the property (e.g., mineral rights, timber rights, easements, rights

³ Only one entity can sign the Attestation of Title, Attestation of Regulatory Compliance, and the Attestation of Voluntary Compliance. If a forest owner consists of a combination of eligible entities, it is the responsibility of the forest owners to designate one entity with the authority to sign on behalf of all parties.

of way, leases etc.). Upload as a separate PDF titled “*Ownership Interests Documentation.*” In addition, in the table below, please list all entities that hold any direct or indirect⁴ legal interest⁵ in the trees or standing timber located on the property and what right the entity has through such interest to impact the trees or standing timber on the property.

Name/Entity	Type of Legal Interest	Potential Impact on Trees / Standing Timber
Alexander McPherson Estate, Incorporated	Mineral rights	424.1 acres affecting Usal Redwood Forest Company LLC (URFC)
Claire McKee Holmes and Bertha McKee	Mineral rights	200 acres affecting URFC
Robert H. Haskell and Mary C. Haskell	Mineral rights	323.52 acres affecting URFC
John C. McPherson and Muriel McPherson and Clarke McPherson and Otilie C. McPherson	Mineral rights	323.52 acres affecting URFC
The Conservation Fund	Conservation easement	Limits harvest to 2.9% of inventory across the property.

For each entity listed above, please provide further explanation of their rights to impact or otherwise affect the property, trees, and standing timber located on the property, and what impediments such rights could potentially pose to implementation of the forest project: **To our knowledge, none of the mineral interests listed above have been exercised, and as of this date, neither RFFI nor URFC has been notified by any mineral rights holder about future actions that would impact the property, trees, and standing timber located on the property. The Conservation Fund's conservation easement places a restriction on the entire property limiting harvest to 2.9% of inventory. This is a passive right and the Conservation Fund does not have ownership over any carbon. The conservation easement also requires that the Usal Redwood Forest to be managed under Forest Stewardship Council standards. However, this is not expected to impact the project.**

14. Is this project located on public land?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe how the project's management activities and baseline will be approved, including any public vetting processes necessary to evaluate management and policy decisions concerning the project activity:

⁴ An "indirect interest" is any property interest that is not specific to trees or timber, but that could potentially impact the trees or standing timber located on the property.

⁵ Such interests could include a mineral or subsurface interest, surface interest, development right, future interest (reversionary or remainder interest), easement, or right of way.

15. Is this project area located on tribal land?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe how the land within the project area is owned by a tribe or private entities:

Section 3: General Project Site Information

16. Please select the project protocol under which this project is being submitted:

Forest Project Protocol, Version **3.2**

17. Specify your forest project type:

☒ Improved Forest Management

☐ Reforestation

☐ Avoided Conversion

18. Is this project intending to be issued Offset Credits as an early action offset project?

☒ Yes ☐ No

19. Is this project intending to be issued ARB Offset Credits under the Compliance Offset Protocol?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please submit the project using the Offset Project Listing Information Form – Compliance Protocol.

20. Project site state: **California**

21. Project site location, including county (e.g. Humboldt County; Fresno; Near Truckee): **North of Fort Bragg in Mendocino County**

22. What assessment area or area(s) does the project fall within? (See the Assessment Area Data file at: <http://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/forest/assessment-area-data/> If multiple assessment areas are identified please indicate the approximate percentage of the forest project's total area contained in each area.) **Coast Redwood/Douglas-fir Mixed Conifer**

23. Have any GHG reduction tonnes from the project ever been registered with or claimed by another registry or program, or sold to another third party prior to registering with the Reserve? **no**

If the answer is yes, you must complete and return a "Project Transfer" form.

24. Total project area acreage: **49,000 acres**
25. Please describe the rationale for determining the project area boundaries: **Project area boundaries are determined by URFC's ownership. The project encompasses URFC ownership in entirety.**
26. Describe the GHG Assessment Boundary for the project, including any optional carbon pools/reservoirs that will be included (refer to Tables 5.1 – 5.3; at a minimum list the required pools): **The primary pools that will be included in the GHG Assessment Boundary include: IFM-1: Standing live carbon, IFM-3: Standing dead carbon, IFM-7: Carbon in in-use forest products, and IFM-8: Forest product carbon in landfills.**
- The secondary pools that will be included include: IFM-9: Biological emissions from site preparation activities, IFM-14: Biological emissions/removals from changes in harvesting on forestland outside the Project Area, and IFM-17: Biological emissions from decomposition of forest products.**
27. Provide a general description of the forest conditions within the project area:
- a. Species (tree) composition (the species listed should be consistent with those found within the project's assessment area): **Based on total basal area, approximately 56% species volume is conifer (Redwood (42%) and Douglas fir (58%)). Approximately 44% of species volume is Tanoak.**
 - b. Age class distribution: Describe the approximate age classes that occur within the project area (e.g. 10% aged 10-20 years, 40% aged 21-30 years, 50% aged 31+ years, etc.): **The age class distribution is as follows: 3% aged 0-9 years; 5% aged 10-19 years; 17% aged 20-29 years; 22% aged 30-39 years; 24% aged 40-49 years; 14% aged 50-59 years; 6% aged 60-69 years; and 9% aged 70+ years.**
 - c. Management history (describe what has been occurring on the property prior to implementation of the forest project): **The property has been intensively managed by different landowners for timber production for over 100 years. Usal Redwood Forest Company has managed the property since June 2007. URFC did not harvest between 2007 and 2011. In 2012 URFC harvested 1.2 mbf and expects to harvest a similar amount this year. Prior to URFC's ownership, the Hawthorne Timber Company managed the property from December 1999 through June 2007. Georgia-Pacific Corporation managed the lands since they acquired them from Boise Cascade in 1973. The Union Lumber Company owned and managed the lands from 1950 until 1969 when they merged with Boise Cascade.**
 - d. Associated flora and fauna: **Usal Redwood Forest provides critical habitat for the following Federally threatened species: Northern spotted owl, Coho salmon, Chinook salmon and Steelhead trout. Usal also provides critical habitat for other sensitive species and/or listed species, including Cooper's hawk, Osprey, Vaux's swift, Northern red-legged frog, Tailed frog, Southern seep/torrent salamander and Western pond turtle. The Foundation and previous owners have also monitored occurrences of 14 additional wildlife species and 7 important botanical resources.**
 - e. Recreational opportunities: **There are numerous recreational opportunities on the Usal Redwood Forest. The Usal Forest contains a 17.4-mile property border along the South Fork of the Eel River and Usal Creek; the western boundary of the**

property is adjacent to Usal Beach State Park where there are beach and water based recreational opportunities; Usal Creek flows through Usal Forest to Usal State Park; and the Usal Forest adjoins the Sinkoyne State Wilderness, Sinkoyne Wilderness State Park, South Fork Eel State Park, Standish-Hickey State Park, and Reynold Wayside Park.

A conservation easement allows controlled access for an array of public recreational opportunities including hiking, bird watching, biking, and other non-motorized activities. Motorized recreational activities will only be allowed on existing roads. For public safety, URFC's forest management plan will identify those areas and those times of the year where permission will be required to access the property given fish and wildlife issues, timber management and other considerations.

- f. Watercourses (list major watercourses that are within the project area): **Usal Redwood Forest contains more than 18 creeks and tributaries, including Usal Creek and South Fork Eel River tributaries such as Indian and Stanley Creeks. In total, there are 437 miles of Class I, II, and III streams on the property, including 59.1 miles of fish bearing streams. The Forest's eastern boundary runs approximately 7.5 miles along the South Forest Eel River, which is a component of the California Wild and Scenic Rivers System.**
28. Provide a general description of land management activities occurring on similar landscapes: **Private land management activities are focused on growing and harvesting of timber primarily through even-age management techniques. Landowners have, to a lesser extent, also managed their properties to take advantage of rock, gravel and subsurface minerals on their properties. Over the last decade, industrial timberlands have increasingly been fragmented into smaller lots and sold for development, recreational/second homes, and vineyard conversion.**
29. Will the project become part of an aggregate?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Section 4: Project Eligibility

30. Project start date (MM/DD/YYYY): **06/13/2007**
- a. Specify the actions that identify the project start date: **Usal Redwood Forest was acquired by Usal Redwood Forest Company LLC. Usal Redwood Forest Company LLC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Redwood Forest Foundation, Inc. (RFFI), a non-profit organization comprised of timber, environmental, business and community leaders. RFFI is dedicated to acquiring, protecting, restoring and managing forestlands for the long-term benefit of the local community. The Usal Redwood Forest was purchased for the multiple and equally important purposes of establishing a community forest, generating jobs, protecting habitat, improving water quality, providing recreational opportunities for the community and ensuring the long-term sequestration of carbon.**

31. First reporting period (MM/DD/YYYY): **6/13/2007 to 12/31/2013**

32. Have the forest owner(s) as identified in question #3 owned the property within the project area since the project's start date?

☒ Yes ☐ No

33. Is commercial harvesting planned or ongoing within the project area?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe how the forest owner will satisfy one of the three requirements for employing and demonstrating sustainable long-term harvesting practices (refer to Section 3.10.1 of the Forest Project Protocol for additional information).

☒ Third party certification as explained in Section 3.10.1. Please explain: **RFFI seeks to be certified by the Forest Stewardship Certification by the third quarter of 2015.**

☒ Operating under a renewable long-term management plan that demonstrates harvest levels which can be permanently sustained over time and that is sanctioned and monitored by a state or federal agency. Please explain: **The Forest Owner will employ and demonstrate sustainable long-term harvesting practices through adherence to the California Forest Practice Rules. The Forest Owner meets sustained yield requirements through mandatory compliance with 14CCR 913.11(c). Balancing growth and harvest over time will be accomplished through the implementation of an array of silvicultural harvest regimes on the ownership. Where necessary, management activities will be constrained to account for resources protection measures. The individual Timber Harvesting Plan document required for harvesting will contain specific monitoring and reporting obligations to verify compliance with the California Forest Practice Rules.**

☒ Employment of uneven-age silvicultural practices and canopy retention on all of its landholdings within the same assessment area as explained in Section 3.10.1. Please explain: **The Usal Forest has been managed through high grading and even age systems for the last 100 years and is in need of intensive restoration. RFFI is implementing a forest management plan that will transition the entire forest to an uneven age stand conditions within one rotation (approximately 50 years). During this time, RFFI will use uneven age management techniques where conditions warrant and variable retention where there is a need to re-establish the stand.**

34. Specify how the project meets (or will meet) the following requirements under "Natural Forest Management" (refer to Section 3.10.2 of the Forest Project Protocol for additional information):

- a. *Native species*: Does the project currently consist of at least 95% native species based on the sum of carbon in the standing live pool? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If no, indicate how the project will meet this requirement:

- b. *Composition of native species*: Does any one tree species currently exceed the 'composition of native species' percentage in the Assessment Area Data file?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, indicate how the project will meet this requirement:

- c. *Distribution of age classes/sustainable management*: Does the project currently contain more than 40% of its forested acres in ages less than 20 years? (Areas impacted by significant disturbances may be excluded from this test.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, indicate how the project will meet this requirement:

- d. *Structural elements (standing and lying dead wood)*: Does the project currently meet the requirement to retain lying dead wood in sufficient quantities (refer to Table 3.2 in the Forest Project Protocol for additional information):

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, indicate which requirement the project meets:

If no, indicate how the project will meet this requirement: **It is expected that the accumulation of lying dead wood will be commensurate with recruitment from standing dead trees. URFC is committed to maintaining if not increasing, the number of standing dead trees within the Project Area as a component of its forest management objectives. URFC does not currently, nor does it intend in the future to actively pursue salvage operations on its timberlands.**

In the case of the Usal Redwood Forest Project, the project area has not undergone any recent salvage harvesting. Therefore, all that must be demonstrated is that the greater of one metric ton of carbon per acre or 1% of standing live carbon stocks is present in standing dead wood, or that progress towards these targets is ongoing. The Project currently does not meet these standing dead wood targets; however, ongoing forest management will continue to make progress towards the above mentioned standing dead wood target.

35. Will the project incorporate broadcast fertilization? ☐ Yes ☒ No

36. Will this project employ a Qualified Conservation Easement or Qualified Deed Restriction?

☐ Yes ☒ No

- a. Date the Qualified Conservation Easement or Qualified Deed Restrictions was/will be recorded (MM/DD/YYYY):
- b. Terms that affect forest management within Qualified Conservation Easement or Qualified Deed Restriction:

Reforestation Projects

37. The project is submitted under the eligibility requirement of:

- a. ☐ Less than 10 percent tree canopy cover for a minimum of 10 years.
 - i) Describe the reason for the lack of forest cover:
- b. ☐ Subject to a significant disturbance that has removed at least 20 percent of the land's above-ground live biomass.
 - i) Describe the nature and effects of the significant natural disturbance that occurred:
 - ii) Indicate the eligibility scenario pertaining to the project site as identified in Appendix E of the Forest Project Protocol and explain why your project meets that scenario criteria OR provide a description of how the project occurs on a type of land for which the forest owner has not historically engaged in or allowed timber harvesting:

38. List any laws, statutes, regulations or other legal mandates that would encourage or require reforestation on the project area:

Improved Forest Management Projects

39. Does the forest land have an estimated canopy cover of 10 percent or greater? **Yes**

40. Does the project take place on land that was part of a previously registered forest project?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, why was the project terminated?

Improved Forest Management Projects on Private Lands

Description and citation of any and all legal constraints affecting forest management activities on the project area: **Federal legal constraints:**

o **Endangered Species Act (ESA) (16 U.S.C. §§1531-1544) – Under ESA Section 9, RFFI is prohibited to “take” any listed species. RFFI must seek a Section 10 Incidental Take Permit and comply with the associated Habitat Conservation Plan in the event that an otherwise lawful act would result in a take of a listed species. Listed species that may occur in Usal Redwood Forest include Northern spotted owl, Coho salmon, Chinook salmon and Steelhead trout.**

o **Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251-1376) – Many California streams, including the South Fork Eel River, have been listed as impaired waterways under Section 303(d) of the CWA. In accordance with its Section 303(d) listing, the South Fork Eel River Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for Sediment and Temperature identifies 12 forestry-related measures to address nonpoint source pollution problems. Activities performed on Usal Redwood Forest must ensure the implementation of these measures.**

State legal constraints:

- o Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act (FPA)
- o California Forest Practice Rules (CFPR)
- o California Endangered Species Act (CESA)
- o Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
- o California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Local legal constraints: Not applicable.

Private legal interest constraints: Conservation easement

Improved Forest Management Projects on Public Lands

41. Describe how current and future public policy will affect onsite carbon stocks and how the baseline modeling incorporates constraints imposed by all applicable statutes, regulations, policies, plans and activity-based funding:

Avoided Conversion Projects

42. Does the forest land have an estimated canopy cover of 10 percent or greater?

43. Describe how the type of anticipated land use conversion is legally permissible:

44. Describe how the project area will be dedicated to continuous forest cover (i.e., through a conservation easement or transfer to public ownership):

45. Was the land under private ownership prior to project start date? ☐ Yes ☐ No

46. Has a real estate appraisal for the project area been conducted? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, does the appraisal for the property demonstrate that the value of the anticipated alternative land use for the Project Area is at least 40 percent greater than the value of the current forested land use? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, specify the highest value alternative land use identified in the real estate appraisal for the project area and describe how the physical characteristics of the project area are suitable for the alternative land use:

47. Where conversion is to commercial, residential, or agricultural land use, is the slope of the project area greater than 40% on average across the Project Area?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

If yes, please explain:

48. Where conversion is to mining land use, does (or will) the appraisal provide evidence of the extent of mineral resources existing in the project area:

☐ Yes ☐ No

49. Where conversion is to agricultural land use, does (or will) the appraisal provide evidence of soil suitability and water availability for the type of expected agricultural land use?

☐ Yes ☐ No

50. Where conversion to residential, commercial, or recreational land use is anticipated, please describe:

- a. The proximity of the project area to metropolitan areas:
- b. The proximity of the project area to grocery and fuel services and accessibility of those services:
- c. Population growth (people per year) within 180 miles of the project area:

Additional information:

I have completed and/or reviewed this form, and believe it contains the most accurate data and information possible.

Signature of individual completing form: _____

Name: **Tom Tuchmann**

Title: **President**

Organization: **US Forest Capital, LLC**

Date: **October 21, 2013**

End of form