

Suggested Topics for CIG GHG Roundtable Discussion
C-AGG Meeting, November 2-3, 2011
Washington, DC

Producer Recruitment

1. Producer recruitment/engagement efforts:
 - a. What methods are CIG teams using to recruit producers for the projects?
 - b. What is the initial producer feedback?
 - c. Are CIG teams engaging or providing outreach to others as part of this process – such as crop advisors, producer or commodity groups, supply chain partners, etc?
 - d. Identify additional needs, challenges, obstacles, successes, and constraints.

Credit Stacking

2. Are you seeking to recruit producers who currently participate in USDA conservation programs?
 - a. If yes, are you targeting producers under current conservation programs?
 - b. If no, are you refusing such producers and what programs are being refused?
 - c. Please describe your team's thinking and approach to producers currently enrolled in conservation programs.

Quantification Methodologies and Registries

3. Are there any methodological or protocol-specific issues that are providing specific challenges for your project – such as additionality, or aggregation, or monitoring, reporting, and verifying (MRV)?
4. There is the potential for a disconnect between the theoretical discussion about the role that agriculture can play in carbon markets/generating carbon credits and the reality of the constraints of dealing with the existing carbon registries and what practices/projects are eligible and what farmers are willing to do. Have you found this to be true? If so, how do you plan to reconcile this disconnect within your CIG project?
 - a. One of the constraints, for instance, is that some “registry” eligible practices either require the land to be permanently protected or the credits are discounted. Have others found incentives that will encourage landowners to enter into permanent easements? Perhaps modeled in USDA programs?
5. In order to certify credits from nutrient management in the American Carbon Registry, you need 5 years worth of baseline nutrient management and yield data in order to calibrate the DNDC model. We are finding that some farmers do not have that information, limiting our pool of possible project participants. Are there any “shortcuts” or alternatives to that requirement?