CARBON FARMING - SAVANNA BURNING EXPLAINED

**SUMMARY**

Carbon farming is an agribusiness; Landowners supply a carbon credit to meet a demand from either the government, a corporation or individual.

A savanna burning project puts in cool, early dry season burns each year in the right type of country (eligible vegetation). July 31 is the cut-off date. After this fires are considered hot and late.

Carbon credits are generated when the greenhouse gas emissions are below the baseline (10 or 15 year average annual emissions). The Savanna Burning Abatement Tool (SavBAT) is used to calculate the estimated greenhouse gas savings (abatement).

Carbon credits can be sold to the government through the Emission Reduction Fund (average combined ERF price $12.10 per credit) and/or in the voluntary market to corporations and individuals.

**HOW CARBON FARMING WORKS**

![Carbon Credits Diagram](Source: Aboriginal Carbon Fund)

**WHERE SAVANNA BURNING WORKS**

![Savanna Burning Map](Source: Australian Government)

**ELIGIBLE VEGETATION TYPES**

![Vegetation Map](Source: Courtesy of Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council and SavBAT)

**MEASURING ANNUAL CARBON CREDITS**

![Carbon Credits Graph](Source: Courtesy of Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council and Aboriginal Carbon Fund based on SavBAT results)

**KEY SUCCESS FACTORS**

- **Start-Up Funding**
- **Essential Project Elements**
- **Good Governance**
- **Project Champion**

All the essential project elements need to work together for success.

(Source: Aboriginal Carbon Fund)
Where savanna burning works
Eligible vegetation types
Measuring carbon credits
How carbon farming works

Land owner

Project

CARBON CREDITS

$ Buyer
Essential Project Elements

Start-Up Funding

Good Governance

Project Champion
CARBON FARMING - SAVANNA BURNING PROJECT STEPS

10 STEPS FOR A SAVANNA BURNING PROJECT

1. What is our vision (plan) for country?
2. Do a feasibility study including governance arrangements (not just science). Consent required from parties with an interest including native title holders.
3. Register your carbon project with Clean Energy Regulator (CER) and open a carbon credit account
4. Do project:
   - Create vegetation map,
   - Conduct cool burns (before 1 August), and
   - Stop hot wildfires.
5. Produce carbon report for Audit (using SavBAT and NAFI)
6. Submit audited report to CER to secure carbon credits
7. Develop co-benefits report detailing social, cultural and environmental outcomes to obtain price premium
8. Sell carbon credits to the government and/or on the voluntary market to a corporation
9. Apply agribusiness income as agreed in governance arrangements
10. Track social return on investment so investors and community members can see the benefits of the project.

ONGOING PROCESSES

- Keep all records
- Record all social, cultural and environmental co-benefits (i.e., turtle tagging, looking after sacred sites)
- Build a trusting relationship with corporate Australia