

CO2 AUSTRALIA

Agrixtra Advertising Feature

\$300 million still up for grabs

FOR the past two years, farmers across central and western Queensland and New South Wales have been quietly cashing-in through selling carbon credits to the Australian Government under its \$2.55 billion Emissions Reduction Fund.

One way to get carbon credits is to retain regrowth vegetation on your property, through stopping pulling, spraying and burning trees as they come back onto the land. These credits can then be sold to the government under sales contracts that provide regular, locked-in payments for up to 10 years.

"Regrowth used to be seen as a lost opportunity on your land, but these days you can earn some serious money through turning it into a carbon project and locking in ongoing payments from the government – it's a drought proof way to earn good money from your less productive land" said Berrick Wagstaff of CO2 Australia, one of the oldest carbon project operators in Australia.

There has been huge uptake, with over 160 landholders already signed up. Graziers have been particularly active, often converting less productive parts of their holdings into a carbon project while continuing to run productive grazing operations on their property. "This is a great way to diversify your income and can be a way to get paid twice for the same bit of land – once from your grazing and then again for the carbon credits", said Mr Wagstaff.

While big dollars can be made, setting up and running a project involves a lot of technical work, government paperwork and set-up costs. For this reason, many



CARBON FARMING BONANZA: Queensland graziers have been big winners in the governments latest \$133 million carbon credit auction.

people are choosing to work with expert carbon agents like CO2 Australia. "We take the pain out of the whole process by covering all the up-front costs and doing all of the leg-work so you can be hands free" said CO2 Australia Managing Director, James Bulinski. "Our fees are success-based, so if we don't get a win for you selling the carbon credits, you aren't out of pocket at all".

Contracts for the sale of carbon credits are secured through government run auctions. At the latest auction, held in April, sales of over \$133 million were achieved, with Queensland based graziers among the big winners. "We've had a 90% success rate at auctions and we were very happy to get a win for a bunch of big projects this April, amounting to

around \$9 million in value" said Mr Bulinski.

With \$300 million left for the government to spend at future auctions, CO2 Australia expects there may be another 6-8 months left to get new projects set up. "We think there will be another auction toward the end of this year and we are busy working with landholders to secure more wins at that" said Mr Bulinski. "The fund is quickly running out though, so I'd encourage anyone with an interest to get in touch now".

One of the key requirements for making a carbon project work is large-scale. "We are typically working with people who have at least 5,000 acres of regrowth that is in the early stages of coming back from past pulling, lopping or burning" said

Berrick Wagstaff, who works as CO2 Australia's Landholder Relations Manager.

Berrick grew up in Blackall and spent the best part of half his life working grazing operations, so he knows how to make a carbon project fit for a working farm. "We like to really spend time with the people we are working with, to make sure we understand their set-up and how a carbon project will work in the best for them and their needs", said Berrick. "We are on the road visiting people regularly and I'm always keen to hear from anyone that might want us to come out and see if this will work for them".

Anyone interested in hearing more can contact Berrick on 0429 722 347, or email berrick.wagstaff@co2australia.com.au.



CALLING IN: CO2 Australia's Berrick Wagstaff is visiting farms through Queensland letting people know how to make money from carbon projects on-property.

TALK TO US ABOUT DIVERSIFYING YOUR FARM INCOME BY SELLING CARBON CREDITS

CO2 Australia has worked with over 100 farming families to set up profitable carbon projects.

- Earn a passive income selling carbon credits
- Lock in a long-term, secure revenue stream
- We do the work, you get the rewards



Contact Berrick Wagstaff for more information, or a free appraisal of options for your land.
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