



# An Introduction to the Family Forest Carbon Program

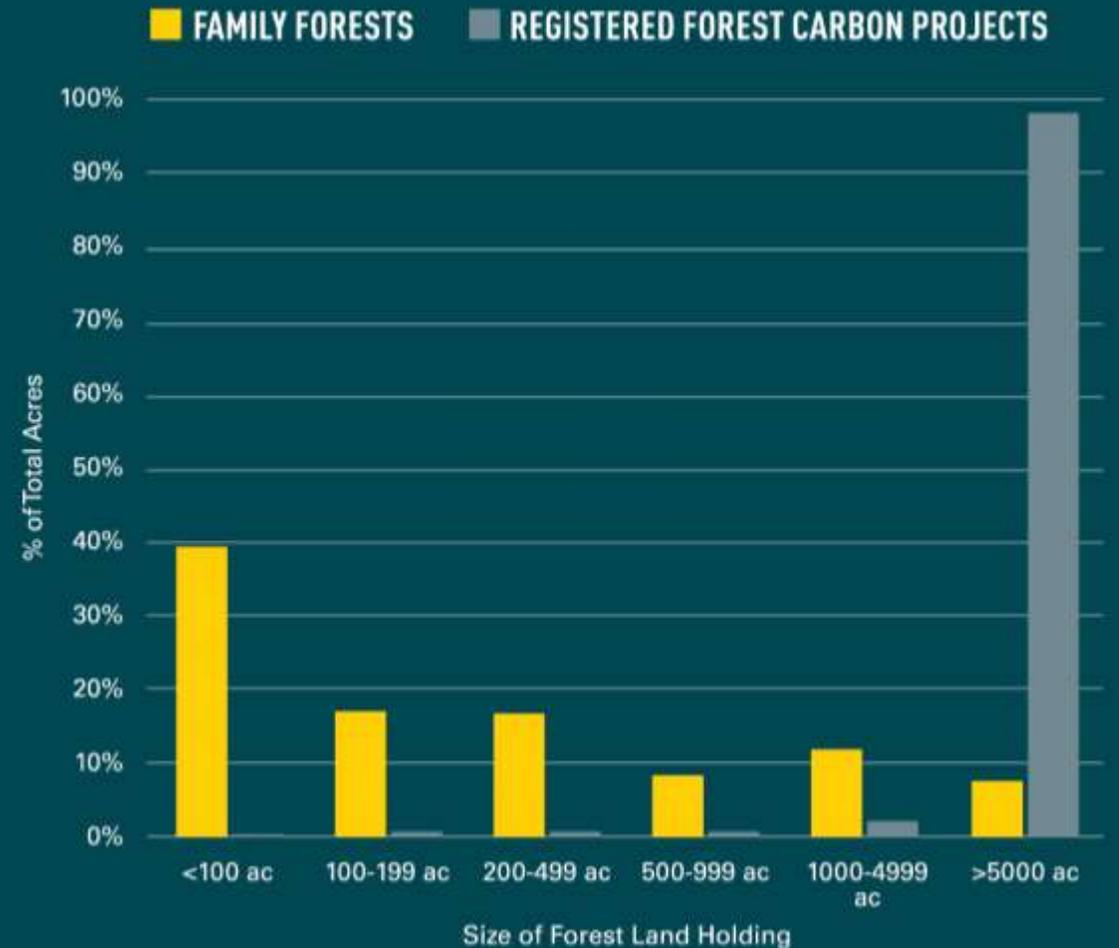
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American Forest Foundation

# Forest Carbon Projects vs. Forest Ownership Size

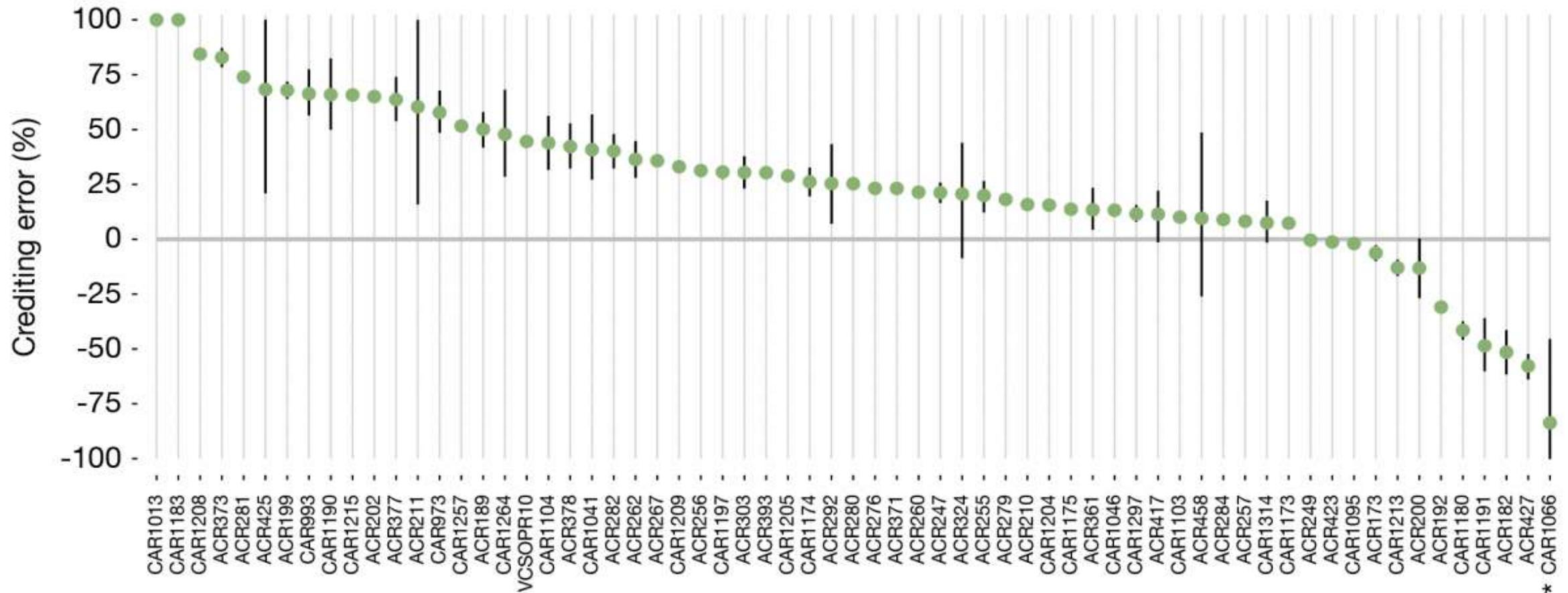
Ownerships less than 1,000 acres account for 80% of the acres, **but less than 1% of the forest carbon projects.**



# Modeled approaches to carbon accounting may lead to overestimation of mitigation

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Total overcrediting: 29.4% (90% CI: 20.1% to 37.8%)



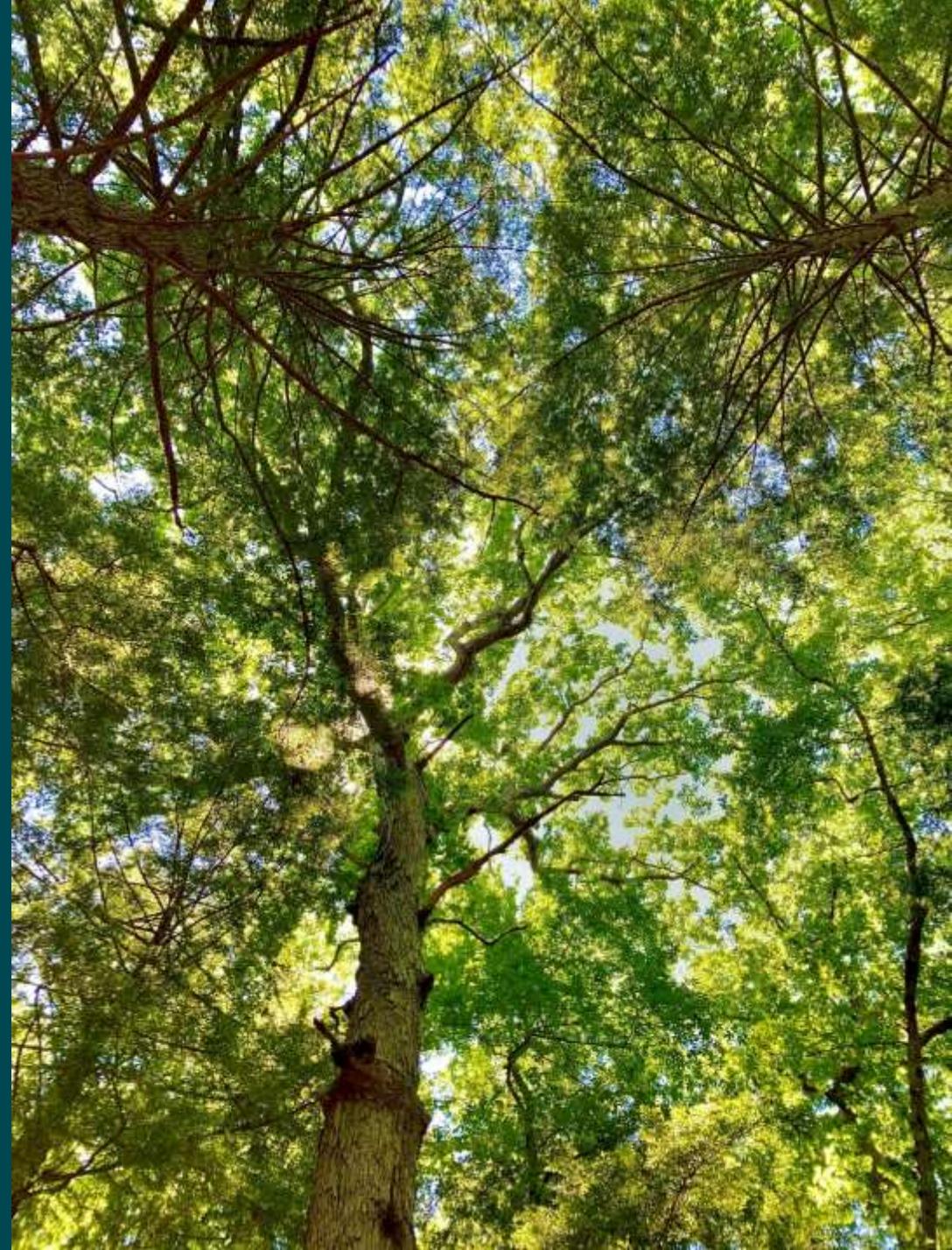
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# General Structure

Landowner incentive payments result in a change in forest management

Those changes result in an increase in carbon storage compared with non-enrolled land

That additional carbon storage is quantified and sold as carbon credits that fund the program



# What Makes the FFCP Different?

'TRADITIONAL' FOREST CARBON PROJECTS	FAMILY FOREST CARBON PROGRAM
Pays for stored and sequestered carbon	Pays landowners to implement specific practices
Purely a financial transaction	Provides technical assistance and customized forest management plan
High costs for monitoring on a per-property basis	Monitors practice implementation on every property; monitors carbon values on a landscape level
Additionality determined from modeled baseline	Additionality determined from observed baseline, updated with every verification cycle.

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# Eligibility

Private ownership

Minimum of 30 acres

Northern hardwood forest type

Available for harvest

No prior carbon project





# Healthy Forests for our Future:

A Management Guide to Increase Carbon Storage in Northeast Forests



# About the Guide



## Purpose

Enable landowners and foresters to make climate-smart decisions

## Contents

### 10 forestry practices to:

- Increase or maintain carbon stored in the forest within 20 years while
- Building the forests' ability to 'bounce back' from climate change impacts

## Protect forests

1. Avoid forest loss

## Grow new trees and forests

2. Green developed areas
3. Reforest
4. Plant trees to increase forest stocking

## Reduce stressors

5. Remove invasive vegetation
6. Protect seedlings and saplings from deer browse

## Manage forests

7. Increase time between harvests
8. Establish forest reserves
9. Create gaps to promote regeneration
10. Retain more carbon in a thinning

# About the Guide



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# How It Works for the Landowner



1

Find your property on our secure online platform.



2

Connect with an FFCP representative to answer your questions.



3

Submit your management plan and project planning form, OR get a site visit from a forester, paid for by FFCP.



4

Review and sign your FFCP Agreement.



5

Receive your first payment soon after signing.

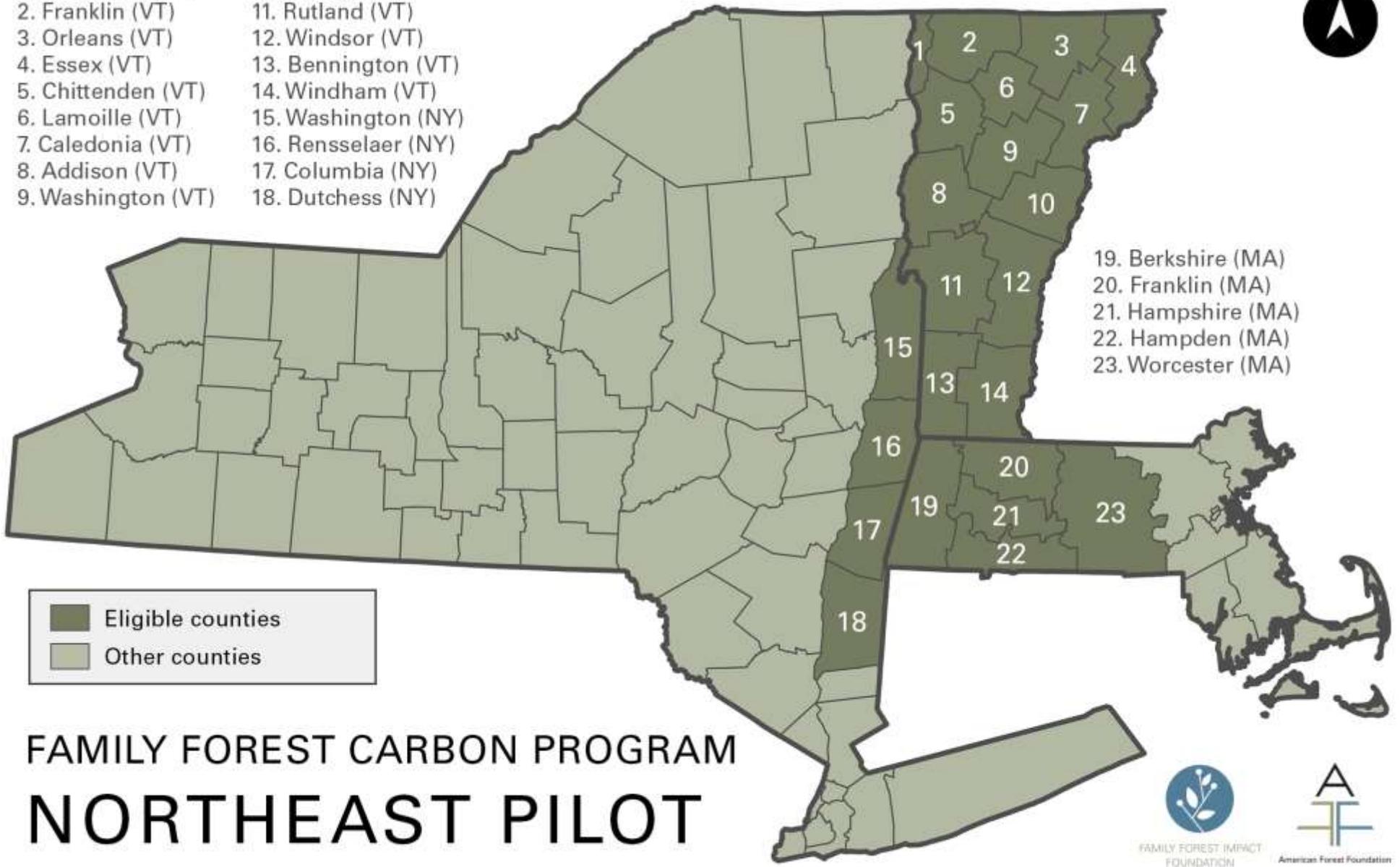


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Hire a professional to complete and document practices.

- 1. Grand Isle (VT)
- 2. Franklin (VT)
- 3. Orleans (VT)
- 4. Essex (VT)
- 5. Chittenden (VT)
- 6. Lamoille (VT)
- 7. Caledonia (VT)
- 8. Addison (VT)
- 9. Washington (VT)
- 10. Orange (VT)
- 11. Rutland (VT)
- 12. Windsor (VT)
- 13. Bennington (VT)
- 14. Windham (VT)
- 15. Washington (NY)
- 16. Rensselaer (NY)
- 17. Columbia (NY)
- 18. Dutchess (NY)

- 19. Berkshire (MA)
- 20. Franklin (MA)
- 21. Hampshire (MA)
- 22. Hampden (MA)
- 23. Worcester (MA)



- Eligible counties
- Other counties

# FAMILY FOREST CARBON PROGRAM NORTHEAST PILOT



County boundaries sourced from the United States Census Bureau in 2021.

Last updated: Oct. 29, 2021, by Lynn Riley, lriley@forestfoundation.org



# Let's Collaborate

Synergies between FFCP practices and other state programs and practices

Information sharing with landowners and consulting foresters

Opportunities for forester training

Provide feedback on practices and process

**[familyforestcarbon.org](http://familyforestcarbon.org)**  
**[rcampbell@forestfoundation.org](mailto:rcampbell@forestfoundation.org)**



**Thank You**

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# Management Rulebook

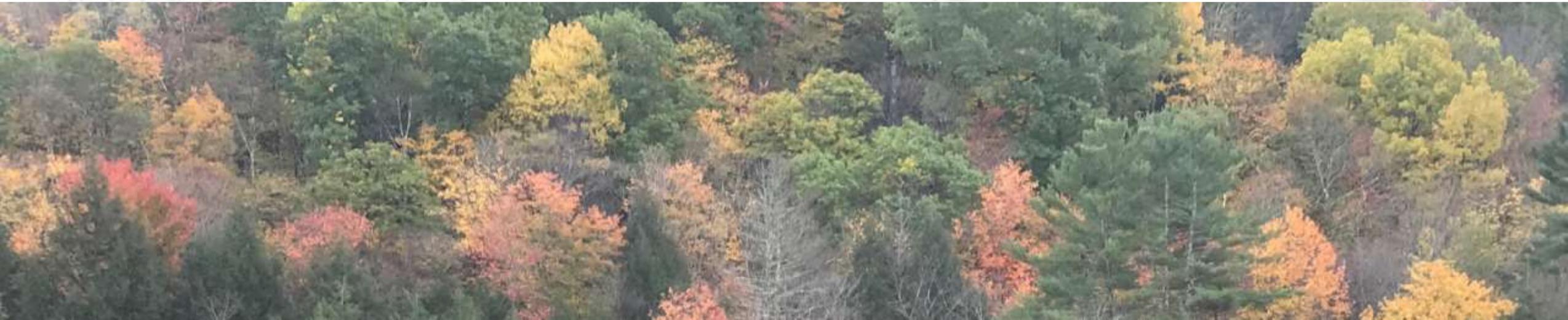
Total harvest less than 15% of total basal area

No high grading

Canopy gaps less than 20% of any harvested area

Canopy gaps smaller than 5 acres

Leave four big trees per acre



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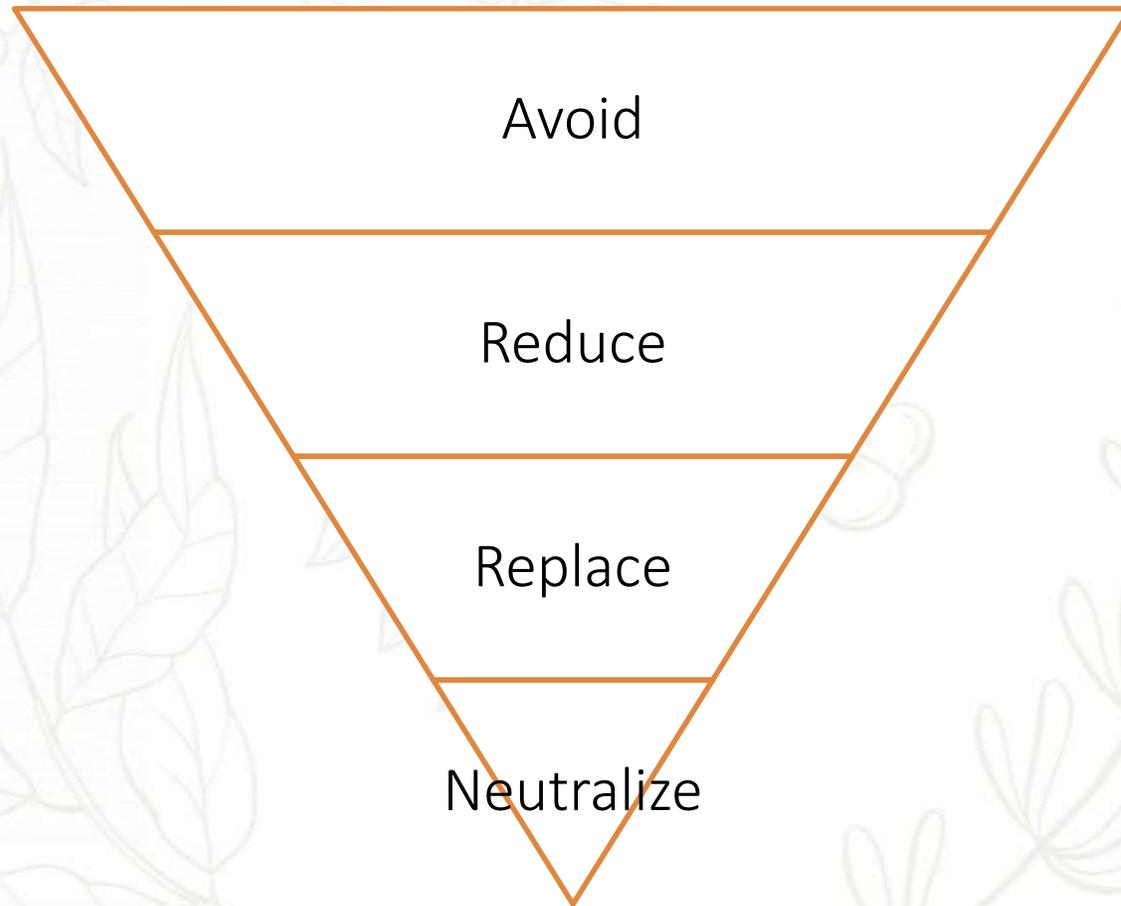
# Grow Older Forests

Defer harvest for 20 years

NOT A PERMANENT RESERVE



# Emission Reduction Hierarchy



Avoid energy use and/or emissions generation

Implement energy efficiency measures and redesign products and services to reduce emissions

Covert to renewable energy

Neutralize unavoidable emissions with carbon credits



# CALCULATING PROGRAM IMPACT



-  FIA PLOT
-  FIA MATCHED PLOT
-  FFCP MONITORING PLOT
-  FFCP ENROLLED PROPERTY

