# Environmental plantings pilot support session checklist

Proponents of environmental plantings pilot projects can access support sessions with the Clean Energy Regulator (CER). These sessions are designed to support proponents to prepare project report and crediting applications for their project.

Project report and crediting applications are prepared and submitted in the CER’s [Online Services](https://onlineservices.cer.gov.au/)[[1]](#footnote-2) platform. Before you book a support session, you should attempt to complete the application yourself first using the available guidance materials.

If you have booked a support session, you should bring completed or draft mapping files for your project, your reporting period start and end dates, and project management dates.

This document contains a detailed list of the project records and the project mapping files you are required to bring to a CER support session. You must bring these items to a session unless they have been marked as optional. This document also contains a place to record any questions you have for which you might need additional information or support.

Before you start, ensure:

* you can access the project report and crediting application form in Online Services
* you have an ANREU account
* your project is declared without conditions.

## Project records to provide prior to a CER support session

|  | Record type | Description | Notes (if applicable) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Species and stocking density | * Dates of plantings * Evidence that species planted are native to the local area | FullCAM data requirement |
|  | Management activities | * Records of any fertiliser use, weed control * Any restricted activities * Dates of these activities | FullCAM data requirement |
| ☐ | Fuel use | * Type and quantity of fuels used in project area in implementing the project | \*Only provide if applicable  FullCAM data requirement |
|  | Fire records | * Managed or unmanaged fires * Biomass burning and site preparation * Dates and size of area of burn | \*Only provide if applicable  FullCAM data requirement |
|  | Project reporting period dates | * Start and end dates of reporting period | FullCAM data requirement  Have the dates ready for the start and end of the reporting period being applied for |
|  | FullCAM output files\* | * Plot, spatial files and calculations | \*Optional  These can be created by you, the CER or a third party |
|  | Additional information\* | * Any additional information to support the offsets report or meet requirements under the method * Provide any geotagged photos as additional evidence | \*Optional |

## Project mapping files to provide prior to a CER support session

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | File type | Description | Notes (if applicable) |
|  | Project area mapping file | Property boundaries | This is the area file you would have provided for the project registration |
|  | Carbon estimation area (CEA) mapping file | Outline of the planting area |  |
|  | Exclusion area mapping file\* | Parts of the project area where plantings have not been implemented | \*Optional  These can be created by you, the CER or a third party |
|  | Model points\* | Each CEA must have a modelling point that is representative and located in the approximate centre of the CEA | \*Optional  These can be created by you, the CER or a third party |

Accepted file types for the project mapping files include: .shp (preferred) .asc .cpg .dbf .geojson .gpkg .json .kml .kmz .pdf .prj .qix .qmd .qgs .sbn .sbx .shx .tif .tiff .xml .zip

## Questions or issues

You should use this table to list any questions or issues you encountered during your attempt to:

* complete a project report and crediting application
* prepare the project mapping files

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Question | Notes |
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## Additional information and definitions

Learn more about the [crediting process for ACCU Scheme projects](https://cer.gov.au/schemes/australian-carbon-credit-unit-scheme/how-to-participate-accu-scheme/project-reporting-and-audits)[[2]](#footnote-3).

Find out more about the [environmental plantings pilot](https://cer.gov.au/schemes/australian-carbon-credit-unit-scheme/accu-scheme-methods/reforestation-environmental-or-mallee-plantings-fullcam-method-2014/environmental-plantings-pilot-method-closed)[[3]](#footnote-4).

Read the [2014 Reforestation by Environmental or Mallee Plantings method](https://www.legislation.gov.au/F2014L01212/latest/text)[[4]](#footnote-5).

### Terms used in this document

| Term | Definition |
| --- | --- |
| Carbon estimation area (CEA) | These are parts of the project area where you have implemented project plantings. The boundary of each CEA must align to the stems of the outermost part of the planting (the extent of the planting).  You can have more than one CEA in your project. Multiple CEAs may be needed when:   * your plantings have different planting and management events (e.g. they have been planted at different times) * some parts of your plantings have been affected by a disturbance event. * your plantings are located on land with different soil type, aspect or slope. * your plantings consist of a different mix of plant species. * your plantings are located more than 1.5km apart.   The total area of each CEA, as well as the characteristics of the land on which it is located, will be used to calculate the carbon sequestered by your planting in FullCAM. |
| Evidence of planting | You need to provide evidence that the project has been implemented and is being maintained.  Types of evidence you should provide are as follows:   * invoices and receipts showing the purchase of seeds and seedlings and works to prepare and establish the planting. * evidence of the project area, including at a minimum mapping of CEAs and Exclusion Areas.   This information is used to ensure the project is being conducted and your planting has the potential to achieve forest cover. |
| Exclusion areas | These are parts of your project area where you have not implemented the project. This may be the areas of your project where you have not implemented project plantings, or gaps within a planting where you have not or could not undertake the planting.  The exclusion area is all parts of your project area other than the carbon estimation area(s). As an example, this could include dams, houses, roads, rocky outcrops, firebreaks, and existing areas of vegetation. |
| Management activities | If you are going to undertake activities such as applying fertiliser or controlling weeds, you need to provide details of when these activities commenced, and the extent that it has been applied to the planting (as a percentage of total area).  These activities will be applied to the model that determines the amount of carbon sequestered by your planting. If these events are to be modelled, you are expected to maintain records evidencing the implementation of those activities. |
| Model points | Each carbon estimation area needs a model point. Model points are used by the modelling tool to find out information about the climate, soil and productivity of your planting to determine how much carbon will be sequestered over time.  Modelling points are located in the approximate centre of each CEA and are represented by a single latitude and longitude.  As each CEA only has a single model point, the selected point should be representative of the entire CEA. The CER considers that representativeness, above centrality, is the primary factor in the selection and placement of a model point. |
| Quantity of fuels used | You must provide the type and quantity of any fuels used to establish, maintain and monitor the planting.  This could include diesel use from farm machinery used to prepare ground prior to planting or to establish the planting, or vehicle fuel use while undertaking weeding for the project.  Emissions from fuel use are deducted from the carbon dioxide equivalent that has been sequestered by your planting. |
| Species planted | You must list the species (scientific and common name) planted in each CEA.  This helps demonstrate that your planting meets the requirements of a mixed species environmental planting, that is:  A mixture of tree and shrub species that:   * are native to the local area and established through planting * reflect the structure and composition of the local native vegetation * are sourced from seeds from within the natural distribution of the species and are appropriate to the biophysical characteristics of the area of the planting |
| Stocking density and anticipated crown cover | You must provide an estimate of the stocking density of your planting at establishment. This is measured as the number of stems planted per hectare. This can be evidenced by inventories and invoices demonstrating seeds and seedlings purchased and planted or a count of the number of stems in your planting.  You must also provide the anticipated crown cover of these trees at maturity. Anticipated crown cover is the proportion of the land that will be covered by crowns of the trees (the outermost extent of trees) at maturity. |

1. https://onlineservices.cer.gov.au/ [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. https://cer.gov.au/schemes/australian-carbon-credit-unit-scheme/how-to-participate-accu-scheme/project-reporting-and-audits [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. https://cer.gov.au/schemes/australian-carbon-credit-unit-scheme/accu-scheme-methods/reforestation-environmental-or-mallee-plantings-fullcam-method-2014/environmental-plantings-pilot-method-closed [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. https://www.legislation.gov.au/F2014L01212/latest/text [↑](#footnote-ref-5)