



The Savanna Fire Management Industry's contribution to the development of a revised savanna fire management methodology

Savanna Fire Management Industry Working Group
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CONTEXT

- 2018 savanna fire methods have a number of deficiencies preventing industry adoption – particularly the combined sequestration method
- The industry has been lobbying for some time for these to be rectified.
- With the transition of method responsibility from the Department to the Regulator, a number of methods were prioritised by the Minister – savanna burning is not one of them
- The industry needs to take action to ensure continued momentum – SFM Industry Working Group established



The Hon Angus Taylor MP

Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction



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Videoconference
4 December 2020

And in 2021, we are prioritising 5 key areas. These are:

- Soil Carbon,
- Carbon Capture Use and Storage,
- biomethane or Green Gas,
- Plantation Forestry and
- Blue Carbon.

SFM WORKING GROUP

- Established in October 2020 under the Carbon Market Institute (CMI)
- Secretariat support by Corporate Carbon (CC)
- Co-chairs – Gary Wyatt (CC) and Kristina Koenig (KLC)
- Open to all industry participants
- Focus on technical issues where there is broad industry consensus (Native Title matters continue to be covered via ICIN and Land Councils)
- Advocated for the method to be prioritised: Letter to Minister and meetings with Department and Regulator

REQUESTED METHOD FIXES

- Science

- Fixing errors in fuel accumulation rates (L-values)
- Including 'pindan' (acacia shrubland) in the method through addition to the TGD as an eligible vegetation type

- Policy

- CFI Act amendments to correct relinquishment of avoidance credits, changes to project area and transfer between the two 2018 methods
- Extending 5-year transition window
- Reinstating time-bound mechanism for a transition period between baseline ending and project start date
- Adjusting required management of prescribed weeds
- Addressing uncertainty created by potential changes to the Technical Guidance Document (TGD)
- Allowing for longer maximum and subsequent crediting periods

TIMELINE

- 2017/18 and ongoing: Method deficiencies identified and industry working towards resolution with the Department
- 2018: Release of pindan paper (Lynch et al)
- 2019 onwards: Research into living biomass and standing dead trees
- 2019/20 onwards: Feasibility studies on method extension to spinifex grasslands
- 2020: Method development responsibility moved from Department to Regulator
- 2020: Priority list released – excluding SFM for the next year

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- **Proponents**
 - Key insights and experience with implementation on the ground
 - Need for risk mitigation and operational feasibility of methods
 - Require continued accessibility of the method and reporting platform – consultation and co-development are crucial
 - Indigenous industry perspective via ICIN
- **Clean Energy Regulator**
 - Oversight of Method Development
 - Work focused on priority methods as announced by the Minister
- **One-year timeframe for new methods**
- **Pragmatic approach in collaboration with industry**
- **CDU**
 - Research and scientific background to the methods
- **Inventory team (assisted by CSIRO)**
 - Preparation for a move to FullCAM
 - Aiming at ‘front-end’ to be similar to SavBAT
 - Biomass accounting
- **CMI**
 - Industry representation & working group oversight

STEPS FORWARD

...for discussion and industry input

- Continue to advocate for method fixed given uncertainty about timeline for new method – what are the next steps?
 - Engagement with the Regulator, including on technical errors
 - Leverage existing research done by Industry in regards to errors and fixes
- Continue lobbying for inclusion of SFM on next year's priority list – via Minister and Department
 - Corporate engagement and support for advocacy?
- Do we need a 'task force' for more detailed method development? Who should be involved?
 - CDU
 - CSIRO
 - Inventory / biomass team
 - ??
- Continue emphasizing the need for a good 'front-end' to FullCAM and opportunity for additional forecasting / planning / reporting tools