UKCCC Annual report Template

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Key Information	
Farm / Company name	Bank Farm
Project Developer	Beyond Zero
Project reference	TR00001, TR00002, TR00004
Annual monitoring visit date	10th September 2024
Conducted by	Douglas Wanstall UKCCC
Requirement to alter risk buffer?	No
Report completion date	24th October 2024
Latest vintage released	Yes
Approved by	Douglas Wanstall UKCCC
Location	Kent
Key contact (name)	Geoffrey Wanstall
Key contact (email)	admin@bankfarm.co.uk
Key contact (phone)	01233720215
Project Owner	Bank Farm
Project Information	
Project description	Habitat creation, woodland management, regenerative agriculture, agroforestry
Proposed main activities	• *Arable reversion to pollen and nectar, bird food mixes, hedge planting, active woodland management , agroforestry, reduced emissions.*
Project size	*Circa 300 ha*
Target outcomes	• *Carbon removal* • *Biodiversity improvements and connectivity* • *Reduced emissions*

MAIN PROJECT IMPACTS

UN Sustainable development goals (SDG's) met as part of project	**Expected outcome of project**
SDG 13 Climate Action	Net Zero status surpassed
SDG 15 Life on land	Numerous species identified and biodiversity habitat creation and connectivity enhanced.
SDG 12 Responsible consumption and production	Continued reduction of chemical and fertilizer usage
Main social impacts of project	• Increased employment, • Cleaner air • Cleaner water • Numerous outreach events held for local and national groups • Reduced flooding risk
Principle environmental impacts of project	• CDR removal, • Biodiversity enhancement

BASELINE UPDATE REQUIREMENT	
Which baselines are required:	
Soil tests to UKCCC protocol V1.2	2024
UK Hab map to 1m resolution	2024
Current emissions	2024
Net zero calculation	2024

REVERSAL AND REBOUND RISK

Item	
Has the risk of reversal been considered, and a risk assessment completed?	Yes, low risk identified
Is there any potential rebound effect	None identified
Project TR00002	
Annual Net Carbon removal	1020
Annual uncertainty buffer changed?	No
Total annual buffer (not including NR)	234
Total credits released to market	765
Project TR00004	
Annual Net Carbon removal	26
Annual uncertainty buffer changed?	No
Total Annual buffer (not including NR)	2
Total credits released to market	23

Declaration of interest

The Bank Farm projects have been designed and developed over the same time as the UK Carbon Code has been created. The farm has acted as the proving ground and played a valuable role in forming the systems created and utilised by the UKCCC. Bank Farm is owned by the Wanstall Family, with Douglas Wanstall being the current UKCCC commissioner and head of projects for Beyond Zero. As a result and in line with the UKCCC rules, I Douglas Wanstall declare an interest in the Bank Farm Projects.

As part of this verification cycle, new project dashboards will be produced along with updated emissions and carbon removal baselines by the end of 2024.

Once completed the data will be validated and verified by a third party validation and verification body, namely A Greener World.

Bank Farm is developing as a regenerative and restorative agricultural systems knowledge transfer centre and as such has welcomed many visitors to the farm, from government organisations to climate professionals, who have been able to cast a critical eye over the Bank Farm projects and scrutinise the processes that led to carbon credit issuance.



Commentary

This annual report covers the 2024 vintage year for two Bank Farm projects, TR00002 and TR00004, both projects for reporting and verification purposes have been combined.

Bank Farm has continued to build upon its work as a showcase of regenerative and restorative circular agricultural interventions. Over the past two years it has introduced a number of enterprises and techniques to help the business to further reduce emissions and create a financially and climatically resilient farming model.

Fruit and vegetable waste from an allied business is brought back to the farm, is turned into a paste and fed to black soldier fly larvae. These in turn are combined with home grown wheat and fed to the farms free range meat chickens, providing much of their protein and fat requirements.

A new, mini anaerobic digester has been installed at a satellite site, this takes the distillery waste that is produced by the onsite Pleasant Land distillery and produces methane gas that is used to heat the young poultry chicks. Latent heat from the digester itself heats a polytunnel that produces a range of fruits and vegetables. This has reduced the use of fossil gas.

All but a couple of arable cropping fields have now been planted with pollen and nectar and bird feeding plots, with an aim to dramatically increase the amount of biodiversity that is present on the farm. This aims to build on the numbers of yellow hammers and Goldfinches that are already quite prevalent on the farm. Sky lark numbers continue to rise but the continual rise in corvid numbers remains a concern for the family as these may impact other species.

The farms market garden continues to flourish and despite a tough start to 2024 has produced high yields of a range of fresh produce. The market garden continues as a no dig demonstrator and the team have made improvements to the no dig potato crops, one of the hardest to perfect under this system. The market garden acts as a test bed for a range of soil improvement techniques and is now host to a PHD project to determine the effects on the soil microbiome where a range of home made fertilizer products are used.

The work in the Living lab continues with a strengthening relationship with the university of Kent who are working with the farm and Beyond Zero to continually add academic validation of the regenerative techniques, trialled on the farm. There are a total of 4 PHD candidates

working on various projects and the data produced will be fed into the continual development of the UKCCC and its processes.

The next development is to

Bank Farm will be the first in the Beyond Zero project portfolio to undertake regenerative agricultural accreditation under the A Greener World methodology and

Future project options

Beyond Zero have identified a number of options for future project development and Bank Farm has expressed an interest in developing further carbon removal interventions. These include:

Wetland creation. A number of low lying areas liable to flood have been identified as possible sites for wetland creation. The areas in question are of low ecological value at present and the creation of wetland and introduction of reed species could increase carbon removal, help clean water and slow the flow of water in flood events, helping to alleviate flooding and nutrient overload issues further downstream.

Agroforestry. It is likely that two new areas of agroforestry will be developed over the next 12 months. One will include a mix of Paulownia and cricket bat willows. The second area is to be developed with the on-site distillery, where fruit trees will be planted and the produce used to make a range of alcoholic drinks. The farms meat chicken business will expand into the agroforestry areas, the shade will benefit the birds and provide additional forage for them.

More Hedgerows. Bank Farm have planted a lot of hedgerows in the last few years, reinstating ancient field boundaries. There is still more that could be planted to increase carbon removal and improve biodiversity connectivity.

Enhanced Rock Weathering (ERW) The UKCCC has been awarded a small grant to examine the suitability of a range of rock types for use in ERW. A range of small trials, both lab and field scale will be undertaken to ascertain the value of local rock to remove atmospheric carbon at scale. The work will inform ERW project development into the future.

Douglas Wanstall

UKCCC Commissioner