

## WildEyre carbon credit planning

A local conservation program, WildEyre, has recently completed a study into atmospheric carbon dioxide sequestration rates for revegetation specific to the west coast of Eyre Peninsula. The WildEyre Working Group (members being Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board, Department for Environment, Water and Natural Resources, Nature Conservation Society of SA, The Wilderness Society South Australia and Greening Australia) have fine-tuned the generic carbon sequestration models through a series of bushland condition monitoring surveys and are now sharing the results with the community in the hope to provide future informed options for landholder's looking to diversify their business enterprises.

WildEyre Project Manager Andrew Freeman said from the analysis we now have a detailed map that displayed the potential rate of carbon sequestration and this is quite a game changer.

"Generally, we experience a drier environment here on Eyre Peninsula compared to where these scientific models have previously been applied so we did have to calibrate the models for the local flora. Now we understand how much carbon, and geographically where this carbon can best be stored through local revegetation efforts. At a farm level this potential carbon sequestration information is good for farmers strategic planning, and at a broad community level it's also a great eye-opener for Eyre Peninsula to envisage how our region can potentially help mitigate climate change," Mr Freeman said.

Mapped areas displayed in green to dark-green have the highest potential carbon sequestration rates and areas in brown to orange have less sequestration potential. However, Mr. Freeman says ultimately the viability of these projects will depend on economic feasibility and market prices.

While the future of Australian carbon pricing will always vary, the average price paid for carbon in recent Emission Reductions Fund (ERF) auctions is \$12.14 per tonne. To equal the profits derived from grazing in the green areas the carbon price needs to be a least \$23 per tonne. "In the future I believe farmers will start looking closer at those green areas that they know they cannot crop to weigh up if it's more profitable to diversify and plant with native vegetation for carbon storage or continue sheep grazing enterprises," Mr Freeman said.

To read a summary factsheet or download the full report search for *Carbon Sequestration from Targeted Revegetation in the WildEyre Region*, at: [www.wildeyre.com.au](http://www.wildeyre.com.au)

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