



Community Partnership as a Key Pillar of Nature-Based Carbon Removal Projects



Community Partnerships

Introduction

Chestnut Carbon is a leading developer of nature-based carbon removal credits committed to accelerating the path to net zero across diverse industries.

Through high-quality, U.S.-based forest carbon offsets that are both additional and verifiable, the company delivers impactful climate solutions. Its proprietary approach focuses on developing forest carbon offset projects on family-owned forestland (and marginal crop and pastureland). These long-term projects decrease carbon emissions by cultivating biodiverse forest ecosystems, improving air and water quality, and supporting local communities.

Community Partnership anchors our work in local expertise and needs. We don't simply acquire land and plant trees — we build lasting relationships with rural communities to ensure our efforts align with community priorities. Our comprehensive stakeholder engagement approach exceeds industry requirements because we understand that successful conservation requires community buy-in and collaboration.

Simply put, it's the right thing to do.

Community Impact since 2022

\$48.8MM

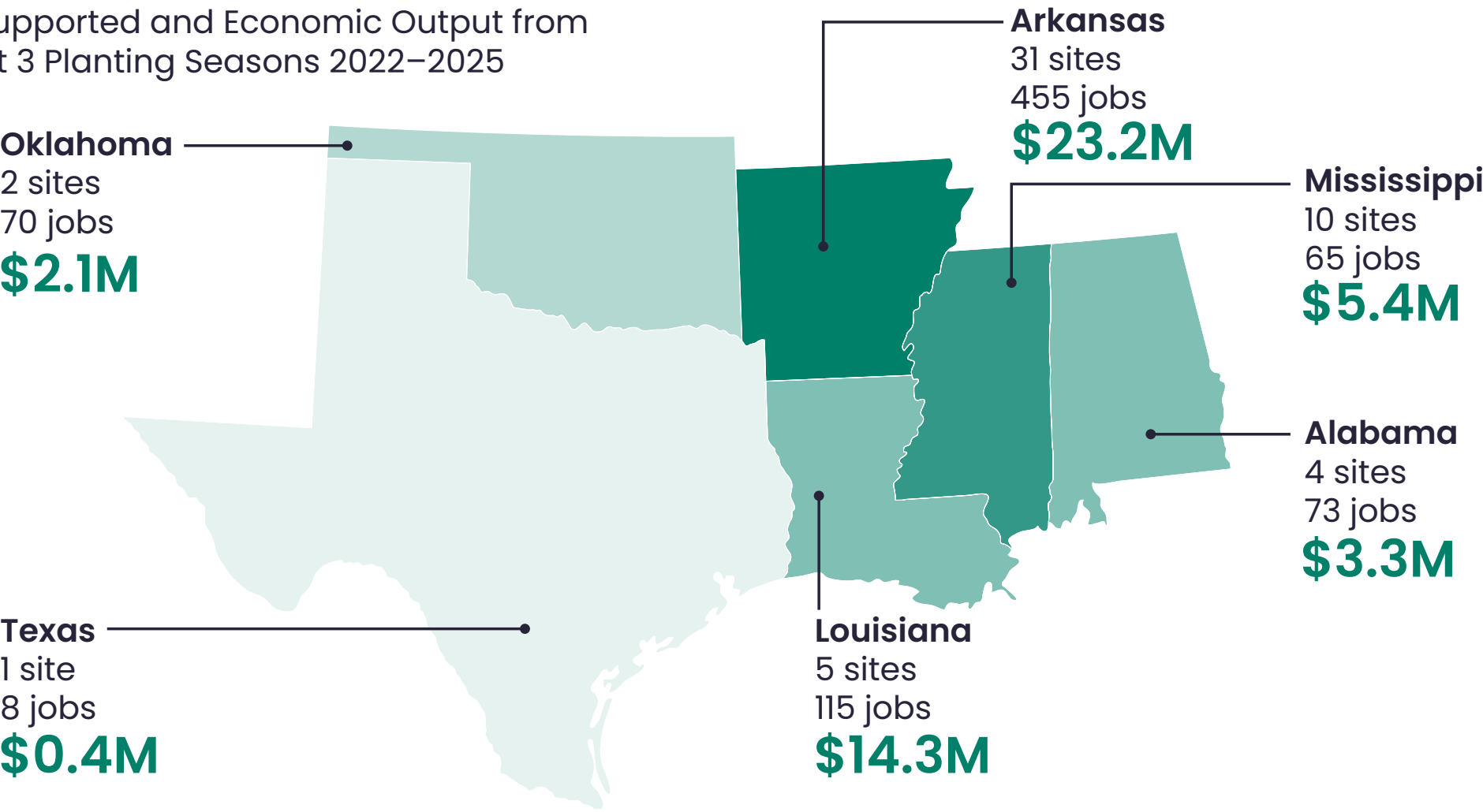
in economic output
across six states

786 jobs

supported across restoration
projects and forest management
programs in the Southeast

Chestnut Carbon Afforestation Project Sites

Jobs Supported and Economic Output from
our first 3 Planting Seasons 2022–2025



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, IMPLAN, Chestnut Carbon. Analysis by Beacon Economics. See Appendix for further report data.



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Chestnut Carbon has been a thoughtful and engaged partner, investing locally and building lasting relationships with our community. Their commitment to transparency, sustainability, and responsible land use supports both our values here in Arkansas as the Natural State, and long-term economic growth—making them the right kind of partner to help rural communities thrive.

Donnie Crain
CEO, Morrilton Chamber of Commerce
and Conway County Economic
Development Corporation

Empowering Community and Economic Development

Chestnut is dedicated to forming lasting partnerships with local communities through mutually beneficial nature restoration projects.

Community-Centered Approach and Stakeholder Engagement

Our stakeholder engagement strategy exceeds industry requirements through comprehensive community consultation that begins before land acquisition and continues throughout project lifecycles. We conduct annual stakeholder meetings facilitated by neutral third-party mediators, ensuring diverse voices are heard, and community concerns are addressed. Our approach includes targeted outreach to marginalized communities and underrepresented groups, recognizing that environmental justice requires proactive inclusion of those most affected by land use changes.

Indigenous Partnerships and Local Integration

When our projects intersect with areas of tribal significance, we engage directly with Indigenous communities through informal consultation processes that respect sovereignty and cultural protocols. For example, we have consulted with the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma on properties within their reservation boundaries, ensuring that restoration plans honor traditional land management practices and cultural values.

Our local integration extends to membership with forestry organizations and chambers of commerce in rural communities like Morrilton, Arkansas, where we participate as active business members committed to long-term regional development. We offer hunting and fishing leases on our properties to allow further community access and benefits.

Economic Opportunities and Social Impact Accountability

We create meaningful employment opportunities by hiring local contractors, foresters, and community members for planting, monitoring, and land management activities. Our projects generate revenue for local nurseries, equipment suppliers, and service providers, creating economic multiplier effects throughout rural economies. Through our comprehensive social impact measurement framework, guided by environmental justice principles and EPA EJScreen assessments, we track community benefits and address potential negative impacts. We maintain transparent grievance response procedures with 30-day response commitments and publish annual community impact reports that document our progress toward social and environmental goals.



The Chestnut team demonstrated a thoughtful and proactive approach to integrating traditional land stewardship in their project design. Their collaboration with us ensured that restoration efforts on private lands were carried out with respect for cultural resources and Indigenous values.

Kimberly Hinson
Tribal Archaeologist,
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma



Partnering with Landowners for Conservation and Value Creation

Chestnut works with landowners to generate income while restoring and sustaining their land’s biodiversity for future generations.

Forest Carbon Works:
Conservation with Income

Through our Forest Carbon Works program, private forest landowners across the country can access carbon credit markets while maintaining ownership and stewardship of their land. Our approach provides landowners with annual payments through a revenue-sharing model that grows along with carbon credit prices. Unlike traditional timber sales that require harvesting trees, our program generates income from forest conservation, allowing landowners to preserve their forests for legacy management while meeting immediate financial needs.



Forest Carbon Works aligns with our long-term stewardship philosophy — prioritizing ecological health over short-term gain. Carbon payments provide predictable revenue that helps offset taxes, maintenance, and management planning while reducing our dependence on volatile timber markets. We weren’t interested in locking up the land — we still wanted to manage the forest. Forest Carbon Works’ program gives us that flexibility. To us, this land is more than a timber asset — it’s a family heirloom that can be both productive and protected for generations to come.

Richard Carbonetti
Black Hills Timber, LLC | Vermont

IFM Program Results

185,000+

acres enrolled in long-term conservation

37

U.S. states with landowners participating in our program

60

duration in years of contracts providing multi-generational forest protection

155,000+

tons of carbon removal credits issued

Program Benefits

	Annual payments within 30 days of enrollment
	Revenue-share model with upside potential as carbon prices increase
	No out-of-pocket costs or financial commitment required
	Flexible harvest allowance policy supporting long-term forest health
	60-year conservation commitments providing multi-generational income
	Expert forestry management and carbon verification handled by our team

Improved Forest Management Through Expert Partnership

After recognizing Chestnut’s expertise and integrity in the market, a family-owned forest operation managing tens of thousands of acres chose to partner with Forest Carbon Works. Already using excellent stewardship practices focused on long-term forest health over timber income, they saw an opportunity to enhance their conservation efforts while generating carbon revenue and increasing long-term carbon storage and sequestration.

Our partnership provided immediate access to specialized resources typically unavailable to private landowners. Prior to our engagement, the land didn’t have forest management plans on at least a third of the property — a Forest Stewardship Council requirement. We expedited this process by drafting plans for nearly 20,000 acres and secured FSC certification — a \$20,000+ value delivered at no cost — generating access to new premium markets for their sustainably harvested wood products. Our team developed comprehensive management plans for previously undocumented property areas and established systematic documentation processes that preserve decades of forest knowledge and legacy management for future generations.

Throughout the property, wildlife populations, chaga mushrooms, and pure maple syrup are all abundant, while groves of hard maple, ash, birch, black walnut, and hickory are thriving. Our collaboration demonstrates how Forest Carbon Works enhances existing good practices rather than imposing restrictions. Through rigorous documentation, annual FSC audits, access to advanced modeling technology, and best management practices, the landowner now operates at the highest industry standards. Their enhanced management practices promote carbon storage and sequestration while maintaining their forest-first philosophy across a 60-year conservation commitment.



Chestnut assists hundreds of landowners across the country to execute improved forest management best practices, increasing their forest value and climate outcomes.

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Preservation of my cultural heritage of hunting, fishing, and camping is extremely important to me and my ability to pass those traditions to my grandchildren is paramount. With neighbors and stewards of the land like Chestnut, I'm optimistic that my family's traditions will live on.

Greg Monier

Resident, Ville Platte, Louisiana



About this Report

Chestnut Carbon's inaugural Impact Report was published in October 2025. You can read the full report [here](#).

This report highlights the environmental, economic, and social outcomes of Chestnut's nature-based carbon removal projects and operations to date.

To learn more please visit chestnutcarbon.com or email us at info@chestnutcarbon.com.



Chestnut Carbon
2025 Community Report

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