Feedstock Stewardship Framework

Purpose

This framework defines CarbonCore's principles and protocols for sourcing, managing, and replenishing biomass feedstock to support sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) production at commercial scale. It ensures our supply chain remains **resilient, ethical, and environmentally responsible** from day one of operations and for decades to come.

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1. Stewardship Principles

1. **Sustainability First** – All feedstock sources must be managed in ways that preserve ecological balance, prevent over-harvesting, and protect biodiversity.
2. **Continuous Regeneration** – Harvesting is paired with management practices that sustain or improve long-term biomass availability.
3. **Community Alignment** – Engagement with local partners must demonstrate clear economic, environmental, and social benefits to the region.

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2. Source Categories

CarbonCore's primary feedstock model focuses on **existing biomass resources** already in the natural or managed cycle, including:

- By-products from sustainable forestry operations.
- Residual biomass from agricultural and land management cycles.
- Material from storm-damage recovery, wildfire mitigation, and other forestry resilience programs.
- Biomass otherwise destined for open burning, decay, or landfill.

Planted Crops Policy:

Where beneficial and available, CarbonCore may incorporate planted crops, such as energy grasses or short-rotation woody crops, into its feedstock mix.

- These purchases will be opportunistic, not foundational, and will be subject to the same sustainability, cost, and performance criteria as other sources.

- Agricultural feedstock will be integrated only where it enhances the mix without introducing risk to baseline supply, protecting against crop failure, seasonal variability, and extended planting-to-harvest cycles.

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3. Partnership Model

CarbonCore partners with active forestry operators and biomass processors who manage both owned and leased forest tracts.

- Certain partnerships provide access to leased lands from major private landholders through our operators, enabling steady volumes without direct landowner negotiation.
- Agreements are structured for redundancy and flexibility, ensuring continuous supply even in the face of seasonal variability or local disruption.

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4. Supplementary Sources

On occasion, disaster recovery operations generate usable biomass from storm damage, wildfire mitigation, or similar events. Where appropriate, CarbonCore may coordinate with public agencies and licensed contractors to divert suitable material from disposal to fuel production. This is considered an opportunistic supplement, not a baseline supply source.

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5. Stewardship Protocols

Every supplier is vetted and monitored against operational standards, including:

- Compliance with regional forestry codes and conservation laws.
- Harvest methods that minimize soil disturbance and protect waterways.
- Measurable carbon accounting and traceability from source to plant.
- Verified replenishment or regeneration activities in line with agreed cycles.

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6. Compliance Alignment

Our stewardship framework is designed to meet or exceed requirements for:

- CORSIA
- U.S. Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) lifecycle GHG thresholds
- ESG and voluntary carbon accounting standards

7. Long-Term Outlook

Annual reviews will adapt protocols to reflect new science, evolving regulations, and expanding partnership networks — ensuring scalability without compromising sustainability.

Investor-Confidential Note:

Through operational partnerships, CarbonCore has indirect access to large private forest holdings in Eastern Kentucky, providing a significant and sustainable feedstock base without requiring direct contractual ties to landowners whose interests lie outside biomass supply.