

PROJECT MONITORING REPORT 1

INDIGO U.S. PROJECT No.1



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1 Project summary

The Indigo U.S. Project No. 1 (hereafter the “Project”) is a greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction project, under the Soil Enrichment Protocol, Version 1.1, that aims to reduce net emissions of CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O and enhance soil organic carbon (SOC) sequestration on agricultural lands through the adoption of sustainable agricultural land management activities. Indigo Ag has designed a soil enrichment project with a complete, consistent, transparent, accurate, and conservative quantification of GHG emissions reductions. The following document displays the quantification results from the Project during the respective reporting period and the crediting period, with the inclusion of key elements to support quantification, such as the land management activities included in the Project and approved project variances.

The Project currently includes 175 enrolled growers who carry out agricultural management on 100,371 acres and, as mentioned in the Monitoring Plan v3.0, these fields are located in the Midwest and Southeast agricultural regions of the United States. The total emissions reduced by Indigo Ag’s CAR1459 Project over the course of the entire monitoring period are 22,225 tCO₂e (with tCO₂e and tCO₂e contributing to the total reductions for reversible and non-reversible emissions, respectively). Similarly, the total emissions reduced over the course of this reporting period are equivalent to those produced over the entire monitoring period (22,225 tCO₂e) because this is the first reporting period and, therefore, no credits have previously been issued to this Project.

In order to achieve credit issuance for the current and subsequent reporting periods, the project developer is required to upload quantification results into the Reserve’s data submission portal ¹ to present the total credits generated, along with credit contributions to the buffer pool for each vintage year of the Project. Table 1 summarizes these results following the format of the Reserve’s data submission portal; these results are consistent with the results found in this document and the Data Submission Package.

Table 1: Registry Project Data

Project ID - Name:	CAR1459 Project- Indigo U.S. Project No. 1		
Project Type:	Soil Enrichment		
Protocol Version:	Version 1.1		
Vintage:	2018	2019	2020
Current Reporting Period Start	03/30/2018	01/01/2019	01/01//2020
Current Reporting Period End	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	12/31/2020
Project Data			
CO₂e Emissions Reductions Credited in Current Reporting Period (Metric Tons):	2,615	10,664	8,946
Buffer Pool Contribution (Offset Credits):	360	1,537	1,394
Totals			
Total Quantity of Offset Credits Issued (per Vintage):	2,615	10,664	8,946
Quantity of Current Offset Credit Vintage to Buffer Pool:	360	1,537	1,394
Quantity of Offset Credits to be Deposited to Account:	2,255	9,127	7,552

This document serves to summarize the Project’s quantification results based on the equations listed in Section 5.4 Results of Quantification in the Monitoring Plan v3.0 and Section 5 of the Soil Enrichment Protocol, Version 1.1. To support this summary, Indigo Ag has submitted a Data Submission Package which contains the data and parameters

¹The Reserve’s “data submission portal” is Indigo Ag’s assumed term for the location where the project developer is requested to submit the crediting results for their projects; this location is the “Project Emissions/Reductions” tab under the respective listed project on the Registry.

that were necessary to enable credit generation for this Project. For any additional details or inquiries, please contact the Indigo Ag team directly as listed below.

Table 2: Project developer contact information

Organization name	Indigo Ag	Indigo Ag
Contact names	Max DuBuisson	McKenzie Walker
Title	Head of Sustainability Policy and Engagement	Manager of Project Development and Verification, Sustainability Policy and Engagement
Address	Indigo Ag. Inc. 500 Rutherford Ave. Boston, Massachusetts 02129	Indigo Ag. Inc. 500 Rutherford Ave. Boston, Massachusetts 02129
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1.1 Project activities

As detailed in Chapter 3 of the Monitoring Plan v3.0, project activities are changes in agricultural land management activities that are expected to increase SOC storage and reduce emissions of CO₂, CH₄, and/or N₂O over the crediting period of a field (listed in Table 3 below). Each project activity whose effect could be quantified through the combination of modeling and default equations, and for which the model is validated, are incentivized by a payment for a reduction in GHG emissions. These payments are quantified through the Soil Enrichment Protocol, Version 1.1 if the respective field met the eligibility requirements outlined in Section 2.2 and Section 3 of the SEP v1.1.

Project activities for currently enrolled fields in the Project resulted in one or more changes to crop planting and harvesting (e.g., crop rotations and cover crops), tillage or residue management, and/or fertilizer (organic or inorganic) application. Grazing and fossil fuel reduction have not yet been included in the Project - due to the absence of grazing on the project fields and a de minimis demonstration for fossil fuel usage - but both are planned for future submissions. For each of the broad practice categories that were included in the Project, specific practice changes were defined (Table 3) to more accurately reflect the agricultural land management activities on each field, while staying within the requirements of the protocol.

Table 3: List of Project Activities

Practice category	Practice
Crop planting and harvesting	New cover crop adoption Adding a legume species to existing cover crop Longer duration of cover crops through delayed termination Longer duration of cover crops through earlier planting New crops in rotation
Tillage and residue management	Tillage reduction through number of passes Tillage reduction through delayed tilling Tillage change to a lower disturbance class instrument
Nitrogen application	Nitrogen reduction Change in synthetic nitrogen product with form of N Substitute synthetic N with organic amendments

Indigo Ag used these practice changes to enable more effective communication with the growers in the Project, and to accurately establish additionality and conduct quantification. Throughout the project documentation, specifically the Data Submission Package, these practice changes (listed in Table 3) will be referenced to indicate the additional grower management practices on each field.

2 Project Deviations and Modifications

Each reporting period may have variation between how the Project was conducted by Indigo Ag and how the SEP v1.1 outlined the methodology. To provide full transparency into this process, Indigo Ag described and justified each scenario where a deviation occurred which included specific guidance in relation to the current reporting period. Further, modifications that have been made to the documentation, quantification or infrastructure supporting the Project are reported below.

2.1 Methodology Deviations

Recall from the Monitoring Plan v3.0, Indigo Ag has not sought approval from the Climate Action Reserve (CAR) for any variances under the Soil Enrichment Protocol, Version 1.1 (SEP v1.1). However, Indigo Ag has submitted proposals to receive written guidance from CAR to clarify protocol language or allow flexibility to accommodate realistic agronomic circumstances that impact this Project. Any proposal that was approved is detailed in IndigoCarbon_US-1.2020_0067 (as referenced in Section 3.11 Project Deviations and Modifications of the Monitoring Plan v3.0).

2.2 Reporting Modifications

Each reporting period may require modifications to the Project documentation, quantification or infrastructure to align with the current best practices and successfully generate verifiable carbon credits under the Soil Enrichment Protocol, Version 1.1 in an efficient and cost-effective manner. Indigo Ag intends to detail how each component changed between reporting periods (if applicable) to support full transparency in the process for external parties.

As this is the initial reporting period, there have been no modifications made to date.

3 Quantification Results

Quantification for each source included in the Project (as defined in Section 4.0 Project Boundary of the Monitoring Plan v3.0) was completed through the use of default equations and biogeochemical modeling.

The data inputs and parameters for the equations used in quantification were collected and derived from multiple sources, namely, direct soil measurements based on random sampling designs. Where initial SOC measurements were available to run the model, the biogeochemical model was used, while non-modeled GHG sources were filtered through the default equations. All equations and parameters used to conduct quantification for this Project are listed in Section 5.4 Results of Quantification of the Monitoring Plan v3.0, while all quantification results, including leakage and uncertainty deductions, are provided in the following sections. Specifically, Table 1 and 4 display the final emissions reductions (credits) achieved by this Project and the remaining tables represent the intermediate (stratum) results following the requirements of the SEP v1.1. In the tables below, the stratum results may not sum to the total results of the Project due to rounding ².

3.1 Reporting Period Quantification Results

The table below (Table 4) replicates Table 1.1 in Section 1.2 Summary Description of the Project of the Monitoring Plan v3.0 which summarizes the results of the Project by listing the number of growers and fields included, along with the total credit results and buffer contribution. All results displayed in this document and the Data Submission Package were required to achieve the total credit result listed of 22,225.

Table 4: Project summary results for the current reporting period

	Total Growers	Total Fields	Total Field Area (acres)	Total Credits (tCO ₂ e)	Buffer Contribution (tCO ₂ e)	Pool	Start Date	End Date
1 st Reporting Period	175	1,184	100,371	22,225	3,291		March 30, 2018	December 31, 2020

3.1.1 Reversible and Non-Reversible Emission Reductions

This section follows the equations listed in Section 5.4.1 Reversible and Non-Reversible Emission Reductions of the Monitoring Plan v3.0.

The results for both reversible and non-reversible emissions reductions, as indicated in SEP Equations 5.2 and 5.6, can be found in Table 5 below. The results in this table require the use of key parameters such leakage and uncertainty deductions; these results are established for the Project and can be found in [Subsubsection 3.1.5 Uncertainty and Leakage Deductions](#).

3.1.2 Soil Organic Carbon Stock Change

This section follows the equations listed in Section 5.4.2 Soil Organic Carbon Stock Change of the Monitoring Plan v3.0.

The results for the soil organic carbon stock change, as indicated in SEP Equation 5.3, can be found in Table 6 below. The results in this table require stratum areas (as listed in Table 5) and use a key parameter: the uncertainty

²Indigo Ag rounded both the stratum-level and project-level (total) results down to the nearest integer in the tables in [Section 3 Quantification Results](#); however, the Data Submission Package only rounds once the final project-level (total) results have been quantified. At this point all values are rounded down, except for the buffer pool contribution, which is rounded up to err on the side of conservatism. Note the only reported value in [Section 3 Quantification Results](#) that is not rounded to an integer is the uncertainty deduction; we report the uncertainty deduction to four significant figures, though additional significant figures were used in calculations.

Table 5: Summary table of reversible and non-reversible emission reductions across the entire project

	ER_{Rev} (tCO ₂ e)	ER_{NonRev} (tCO ₂ e)	$\Delta CO2_{soil}_t$ (tCO ₂ e)	$\overline{\Delta CH4}_{s,t}$ (tCO ₂ e/acre)	$\overline{\Delta N2O}_{s,t}$ (tCO ₂ e/acre)	$A_{s,t}$ (acres)
Stratum A	4,291	-552	4,291	0	-3.47×10^{-2}	25,454
Stratum B	12,550	48	12,550	-5.92×10^{-4}	2.14×10^{-3}	49,968
Stratum C	1,344	1	1,344	0	6.45×10^{-4}	4,680
Stratum D	4,508	33	4,508	-8.51×10^{-4}	3.50×10^{-3}	20,267
Total	22,694	-469	22,694	-47	-704	100,371

deduction, which is established for the Project and can be found in [Subsubsection 3.1.5 Uncertainty and Leakage Deductions](#). Note that soil organic carbon was quantified through the use of biogeochemical modeling initialized by the DayCent-CR model. The first column of table 6 shows the quantity that appears inside the sum in Equation 5.3 of the SEP v1.1:

$$\Delta CO2_{soil}_{s,t} := (\overline{\Delta SOC}_{s,t} - \overline{\Delta SOC}_{bsl,s,t}) \times A_{s,t} \times (1 - UNC_t). \quad (MR-1)$$

Table 6: Summary of the soil organic carbon stock change for the Project

	$\Delta CO2_{soil}_{s,t}$ (tCO ₂ e)	$\overline{\Delta SOC}_{s,t}$ (tCO ₂ e/acre)	$\overline{\Delta SOC}_{bsl,s,t}$ (tCO ₂ e/acre)
Stratum A	3,990	0.94	0.69
Stratum B	11,275	1.03	0.67
Stratum C	1,637	1.42	0.86
Stratum D	5,793	1.21	0.75

To attribute SOC emission reductions to fields for the purposes of allocating credits to growers and tracking reversals, Indigo Ag developed an emulator of DayCent-CR that could be applied both to fields that were selected for soil sampling (and thus had DayCent-CR results) as well as fields that were not selected for soil sampling (and thus did not have DayCent-CR results) as allowed by SEP v1.1. In particular, Indigo Ag fit a linear regression model that uses practice changes to predict DayCent-CR SOC emission reductions. For consistency, Indigo Ag used emulator predictions of SOC emission reductions for all fields in the Project to make field attributions.

To compute field attributions, attributions to management zones and cultivation cycles were scaled to sum to the total SOC emission reductions estimated per the statistical sample designs (which use DayCent-CR results as input). These attributions were pro-rated to calendar years and summed at the annual level to compute vintage-level credit totals. Indigo Ag rounded these vintage-level totals (by rounding down for reversible credits and irreversible credits and by rounding to the nearest integer for buffer pool contributions, and those results are reflected in Table 1). Finally, the management zone and cultivation cycle attributions were scaled a second time so that they sum to the vintage credit totals, and these attributions were then used to generate field attributions. The right-hand column of Table 7 shows the stratum-level results of those attributions. As a result of rounding credits down at the vintage level, the total of the right-hand column of Table 7 is slightly smaller than the total of the left-hand column, which is erring on conservatism. Note that the variance of the total SOC emissions reduction, and thus the uncertainty deduction, was calculated with the statistical sample design estimates and not the field attributions.

Table 7: Soil organic carbon stock change: Statistical sample design estimates versus field attributions

	Statistical sample design estimate (Eq. (MR-1) and Eq. 5.3 of the SEP) (tCO ₂ e)	Field attribution (tCO ₂ e)
Stratum A	3,990	4,291
Stratum B	11,275	12,550
Stratum C	1,637	1,344
Stratum D	5,793	4,508
Total	22,695	22,694

3.1.3 Methane Emission Reductions

This section follows the equations listed in Section 5.4.3 Methane Emission Reductions of the Monitoring Plan v3.0.

The results for methane emission reductions, as indicated in SEP Equation 5.7, can be found in Table 8 below. Note that methane emissions reductions were quantified through the use of default equations for this reporting period. Note that burning due to crop residue management contributed to these emissions with a resultant 604 acres burned within the project area during this reporting period.

Table 8: Summary of the methane emission reductions for the Project

	$\overline{\Delta CH4_{s,t}}$ (tCO2e/acre)	$\overline{\Delta CH4_{md,s,t}}$ (tCO2e/acre)	$\overline{\Delta CH4_{ent,s,t}}$ (tCO2e/acre)	$\overline{\Delta CH4_{bb,s,t}}$ (tCO2e/acre)
Stratum A	0	n/a	n/a	0
Stratum B	-5.92×10^{-4}	n/a	n/a	-5.92×10^{-4}
Stratum C	0	n/a	n/a	0
Stratum D	-8.51×10^{-4}	n/a	n/a	-8.51×10^{-4}

3.1.4 Nitrous Oxide Emission Reductions

This section follows the equations listed in Section 5.4.4 Nitrous Oxide Emission Reductions of the Monitoring Plan v3.0.

The results for nitrous oxide emission reductions, as indicated in SEP Equation 5.16, can be found in Table 9 below. Note that nitrous oxide emissions reductions were quantified through the use of default equations for this reporting period.

Table 9: Summary of the nitrous oxide emission reductions for the Project

	$\overline{\Delta N2O_{s,t}}$ (tCO2e/acre)	$\overline{\Delta N2O_{input,s,t}}$ (tCO2e/acre)	$\overline{\Delta N2O_{bb,s,t}}$ (tCO2e/acre)
Stratum A	-3.47×10^{-2}	-3.47×10^{-2}	0
Stratum B	2.14×10^{-3}	2.32×10^{-3}	-1.83×10^{-4}
Stratum C	6.45×10^{-4}	6.45×10^{-4}	0
Stratum D	3.50×10^{-3}	3.76×10^{-3}	-2.63×10^{-4}

3.1.5 Uncertainty and Leakage Deductions

This section follows the equations listed in Section 5.4.6 Uncertainty and Section 5.5 Leakage of the Monitoring Plan v3.0.

Table 10 provides the results for the both the leakage and uncertainty deduction of the Project. These results are required by SEP Equations 5.2, 5.3 and 5.6 (as referenced above in Subsubsection 3.1.1 Reversible and Non-Reversible Emission Reductions and Subsubsection 3.1.2 Soil Organic Carbon Stock Change).

Table 10: Summary of uncertainty and leakage deductions

Parameter	Value
Uncertainty deduction (UNC_t)	37.64%
Leakage deduction (LE_t)	0%

3.2 Historic Quantification Results

No historic data has been compiled as this is the first reporting period for CAR1459.