

# 2026 Nature-Based Solutions RFP

## About Wren

Wren is a Public Benefit Corporation on a mission to address the climate crisis. We make climate action easy for businesses and individuals via a range of products and services. We fund diverse climate solutions that deliver maximum climate impact per dollar through the purchase of carbon credits and direct donations to non-profit organizations.

Our funding philosophy considers near-term greenhouse gas reductions, carbon dioxide removals, and durable systems change. We seek to finance solutions that are scalable, durable, cost-effective, feasible, and catalytic.

## Overview

Wren invites carbon credit project developers to apply for our 2026 Open Call for Proposals. We are seeking high-impact, nature-based reduction and removal projects. Selected organizations will receive a spot, offtake, or pre-purchase commitment from Wren, with the possibility of renewal based on verified delivery, strategic alignment, and demonstration of quality. The expected deal size is between \$100,000 and \$500,000 per project (USD) over a three to twelve month period (payment terms negotiable).

## Indicative Timeline

Initial expressions of interest are open on a rolling basis until June 30, 2026. We will review submissions as they arrive and fund organizations as soon as possible. Applicants are encouraged to apply early. August 2026 is our target date for contract closing.

## 2026 NBS Priorities

We are open to hearing from developers implementing nature-based solutions in any sub-sector. However, priority is given to projects generating emissions reduction or removal credits in the following sub-sectors:

### **Afforestation, Reforestation, and Revegetation (ARR)**

We seek tropical ARR projects with fast growth rates, community-led project design and implementation. Blue carbon projects (mangroves, tidal wetlands) are welcome. Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate:

- Use of a CCP-approved methodology, or an equivalent established methodology (e.g. ISM Reforestation, v 1.1, ACR Afforestation and Reforestation of Degraded Lands, v 1.0-1.2, VM0047) CCP approval is preferred but not required, given the limited approved pathways for blue carbon as of 2026.
- Measured seedling survival rates, with documented monitoring protocols and remote sensing or ground-truth verification, and proper accounting for the soil carbon pool.
- Native and diverse species composition appropriate to the ecosystem.
- Tenure security and legal protection.
- Measurable co-benefit outcomes alongside carbon sequestration.

## Methane Reduction in Rice Cultivation

We seek projects that reduce methane emissions from flooded rice paddies through improved water and nutrient management. Priority is given to projects that demonstrate:

- Use of a CCP-approved or equivalent established methodology (e.g., Gold Standard Methodology for Methane Emission Reduction by Adjusted Water Management Practice in Rice Cultivation v1.0, Climate Action Reserve Soil Enrichment Protocol, or VM0051).
- Yield monitoring and use of near-continuous remote sensing.
- Measurable co-benefits alongside emissions reductions.
- Alignment with host-country agricultural ministries or extension programs.

## Eligibility Criteria

Eligible projects must demonstrate:

- **Feasibility:** high probability of delivering first verified credit issuance within 3 months of contract signing for spot or pre-purchase agreements. Forward purchase agreements for ARR projects with longer timelines to first issuance are considered case-by-case where the project provides a credible pathway and milestones.
- **Cost effectiveness:** all-in cost of \$15–40/tCO<sub>2</sub>e (USD), inclusive of MRV costs and buffer pool deductions. This is a target range; projects outside this range may be considered if other quality factors are exceptional.
- **Community-led design:** documented Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and equitable revenue sharing. A minimum of 40% of net credit revenue must flow to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), Projects without FPIC or demonstrated community engagement will not be considered.
- **Credible standard and methodology:** use of an ICVCM-approved standard and a credible methodology.
- **Track record:** demonstrated experience delivering restoration and/or carbon projects with verified credit issuance and sufficient capitalization to execute.
- **Eligible geography:** projects must be located in countries at U.S. State Department Travel Advisory Levels 1, 2, or 3 at the time of contract signing. Projects in Level 4 countries are ineligible.

## We Will Prioritize Projects That

- **Scale and replicate:** the project model reduces transaction costs for similar projects in other geographies (e.g., digitized MRV methods, templated community agreements, or nursery infrastructure that lowers planting costs).
- **Generate systems feedback:** the project creates reinforcing dynamics — for example, community governance structures that advocate for expanded protection, building restoration capacity to lower future project costs, or contributing to biodiversity data that strengthens conservation policy.
- **Persist:** ecosystem protection and carbon stocks outlast the crediting period, supported by community ownership, legal protection, or economic self-sufficiency.

- **Hit peak catalytic timing:** the project is at maximum leverage. For example, degraded land is at imminent risk of conversion to a locked-in alternative use.
- **Operate outside the United States:** U.S.-based projects are eligible but deprioritized in this cycle; projects in other geographies are preferred.
- **Deliver credits reliably:** ex-post credits are strongly preferred over ex-ante. Ex-ante credits are considered on a case-by-case basis.

## Out of Scope

We will not consider:

- Projects in countries at U.S. State Department Travel Advisory Level 4 (we have learned that verification in conflict or coup environments is unreliable).
- Projects without documented FPIC or with unresolved land-tenure disputes.
- Commercial plantation forestry projects.
- Projects with adverse media findings related to land-grabbing, forced displacement, or systematic over-crediting.
- MRV providers, marketplaces, digital tools, or intermediary platforms. *If you are developing enabling infrastructure or technology, we welcome submissions via our General RFP application.*

## How to Apply

Submit your Stage 1 expression of interest via [this link](#). Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis through June 30, 2026; we encourage early submission. We aim to acknowledge receipt within 3 business days and to respond with a decision (advance to Stage 2, request more information, or decline) within 4 weeks of receipt.

All dollar amounts in this RFP are in U.S. dollars (USD). Wren treats all submissions as confidential and uses the information solely for evaluation purposes. Applicants not selected in this cycle are welcome to reapply in future Wren open calls.

### Stage 1: Expression of Interest (2–4 pages)

- **Project overview:** location, ecosystem type, area (hectares), methodology, standard, and registration status.
- **Additionality summary:** counterfactual scenario, regulatory analysis, and financial additionality.
- **Volume and timeline:** price per tCO<sub>2</sub>e, expected tonnes over the contract period, and issuance dates (expected or completed), vintages.
- **Baseline approach:** dynamic or static, with justification.
- **Community engagement:** summary of FPIC status and benefit-sharing model, including the share of revenue flowing to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs).
- **Third-party ratings or quality assessments:** if available (e.g., BeZero, Sylvera, Calyx Global, MSCI, CCP-label status).
- **Scaling potential:** expected project growth and replication pathway.
- **Organizational track record:** previous projects, credits issued, and team experience.

- **Project documentation:** links to public PDD, validation, and verification reports (where available).

**Due:** Rolling. Final expressions of interest due June 30, 2026.

## **Stage 2: Full Diligence Package (invited applicants only, 10 pages maximum)**

*Note: additional questions and discovery calls may be requested.*

- **Detailed additionality and baseline documentation:** with satellite data, concession maps, and historical land-use change analysis.
- **Financial model:** cost per tCO<sub>2</sub>e, annual issuance projections, cost trajectory, and percentage of economics from credit revenue.
- **FPIC and community engagement documentation:** consent records, meeting minutes, community agreements, grievance mechanism, and benefit-sharing and governance structures (e.g., financial flows to communities and monitoring of benefit delivery).
- **Risk assessment:** regulatory cliff risk, reversal risk, counterparty risk, and proposed mitigants such as buffer pool contributions, fire and storm management, and early termination provisions.
- **Scaling plan:** number of current and planned component projects, and per-project cost reduction from replication.
- **Commercial terms:** proposed contract structure, volume commitment, vintage, and pricing.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How do I submit?**

Submit via [this link](#).

### **When will I hear back?**

We aim to provide a decision (advance, request more info, or decline) within 4 weeks of receipt.

### **Are my materials confidential?**

Yes. Wren treats all submissions as confidential and uses them solely for evaluation. We will not share your materials externally without your consent.

### **What currency are amounts in?**

All dollar amounts in this RFP and in your application should be in USD.

### **Can I reapply if not selected?**

Yes. Applicants not selected in this cycle are welcome to reapply in future Wren open calls. Given the large number of applications expected, we cannot guarantee feedback on proposals.

### **What does “possibility of renewal” mean?**

Renewals depend on three things: (1) verified delivery against agreed milestones or volumes, (2) continued strategic alignment with Wren's evolving priorities, and (3) demonstrated quality (e.g., third-party ratings, audit results, community outcomes). Renewal is not guaranteed.

## **Glossary**

- **FPIC** — Free, Prior, and Informed Consent — a process ensuring affected communities give documented, voluntary consent before a project proceeds.
- **ICVCM** — Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market — issues the Core Carbon Principles and assesses standards/methodologies.
- **CCP** — Core Carbon Principles — ICVCM's quality threshold for credits.
- **MRV** — Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification — the systems used to quantify and verify climate outcomes.
- **PDD** — Project Design Document — the foundational document filed with a registry that describes a carbon project.
- **tCO<sub>2</sub>e** — Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent — the standard unit for greenhouse gas reductions or removals.
- **IPLC** — Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.
- **ARR** — Afforestation, Reforestation, and Revegetation.
- **VM0051** — Verra methodology for improved rice cultivation practices.

## Contact

Questions about this RFP can be sent to [rfp@wren.co](mailto:rfp@wren.co) with the subject line “NBS RFP 2026”.