



CARBON FORESTRY RESOURCE

Why it makes sense to convert steep land into native or exotic forest.

Why should you consider retiring your steep land?

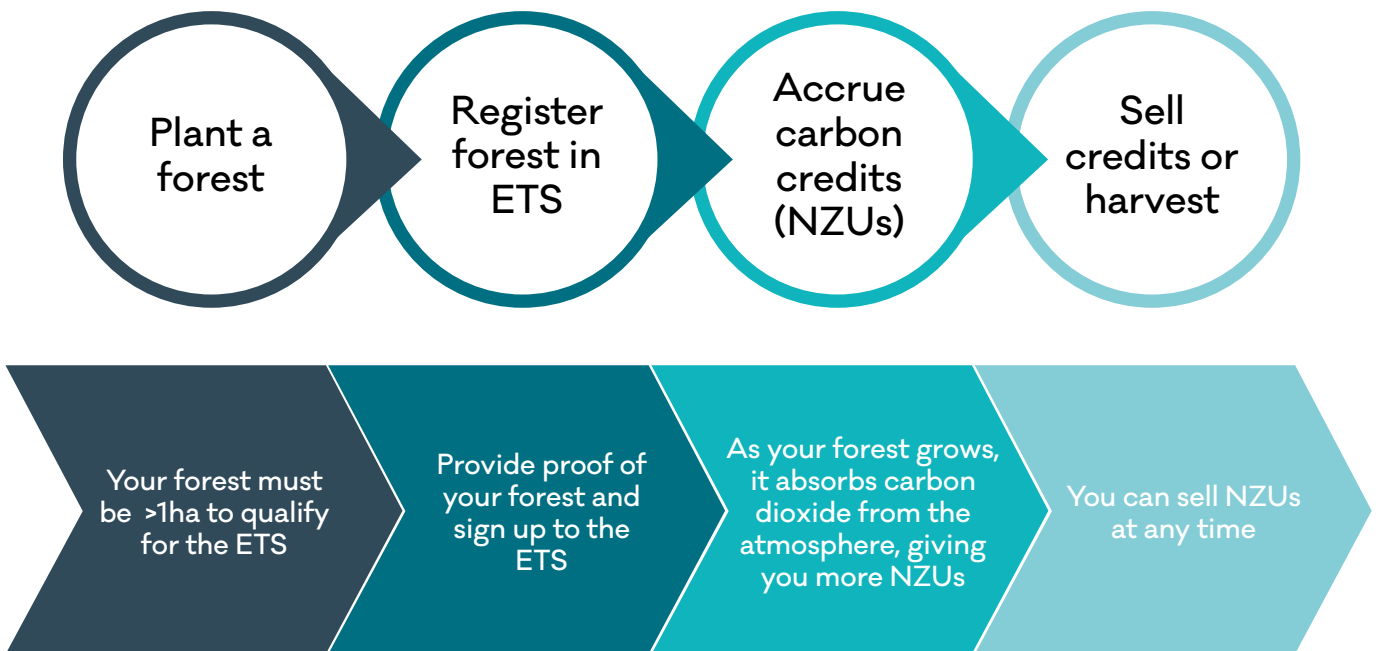
If you have a farm over 80 hectares, or a dairy farm with a milk supply number, or a cattle feedlot as defined in the [National Environmental Standards for Freshwater](#), you will need to meet the following requirements:

- By December 2022, you will need to know your farm's annual [methane](#) and [nitrous oxide](#) emissions - your greenhouse gas 'numbers'
- By January 2025, you will need to have a written plan in place to measure and manage those emissions.

These requirements are included in the climate change legislation and will be delivered through '[He Waka Eke Noa](#)', a five-year industry-Government-Māori partnership set up in late 2019 to support farmers to measure, manage and reduce agricultural greenhouse gas emissions. Check out this Ag Matters resource to [Know your numbers](#).

As the price of carbon increases, it is making more financial sense to retire marginal pastoral land into exotic or native forest for carbon sequestration. Carbon farming is a great option for improving your farm's environment, greenhouse gas profile and balance sheet - particularly when you take advantage of the funding available for land retirement projects in the Waihi Estuary catchment. We can help you with this process by assisting planning, planting and registration of your forest in the Emissions Trading Scheme.

How does the Emission Trading Scheme work?



PRICE HISTORY

SPOT NZUS

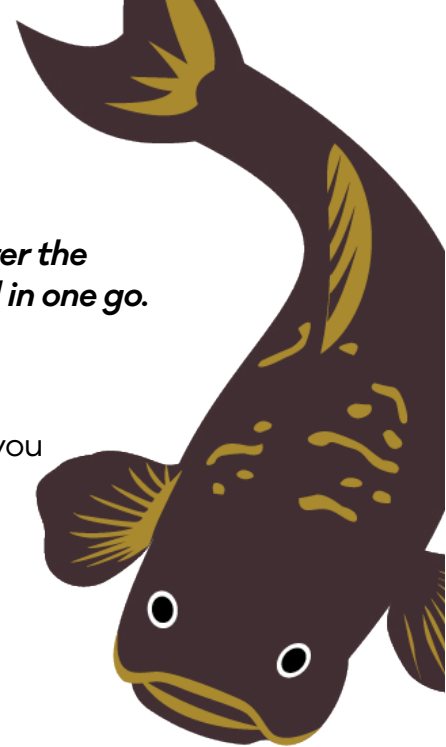


Figure 1 - The price of carbon has doubled in the past two years

Reasons to consider retiring your steep, erosion-prone land into forestry:

1. It's potentially more profitable to receive income from carbon credits than to farm steep, marginal land. As the world transitions to a low-carbon economy, the price per unit of carbon is rising making the decision to plant trees more compelling.
2. Steep hillsides produce low pasture dry-matter, are a risk to stock health, prone to weed infestation and are a key source of sediment loss.
3. Retirement of steep land into trees has numerous benefits such as slowing water's overland flow during rain events, stabilizing topsoil, providing shade and shelter for stock, reducing workload and simplifying your farming operation.
4. Native forest retirement attracts native birds and biodiversity to the farm which can improve property aesthetic value and your wellbeing.

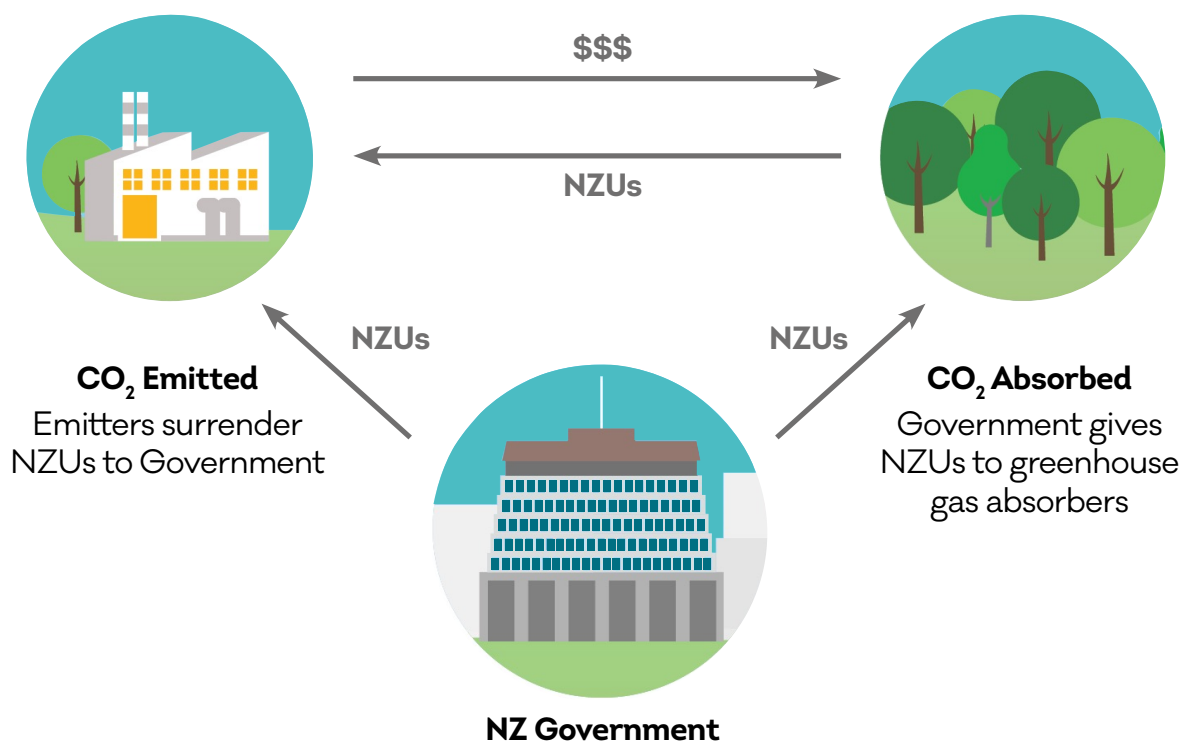
Start by planting a small retirement area to get a taste of what is required and see the benefits. There is a good chance that you'll be hooked on wanting to do more! The sense of well-being landowners get from planting trees can't be underestimated – you're looking after the environment, your well-being, your farm, and your grandchildren, all in one go.



How Wai Kokopu can help:

1. We can assist you to plan and cost your land retirement, and help you access planting subsidies to reduce your set up costs.
2. We can help you co-ordinate the works required for retirement spraying, planting and fencing.
3. We can assist you to register your retired land in the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), so you can earn carbon credits from your plantings.

Emissions Trading Scheme



NZUs = NZ Units (carbon credits)

Source: MFE 2018. Improvements to the NZ Emissions Trading Scheme: Consultation document



To find out more, contact:

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