

Carbon Coalition Against Global Warming Activity Report February 2006-February 2007

February, 2006 - Launched Carbon Coalition at Central West Conservation Farmers' Association conference.

Established blog site carboncoalitionoz.blogspot.com – posted 127 reports in 365 days

Established web site – carboncoalition.com.au – collected 600 email contacts in 12 months

April, 2006 - Recruited Coalition Council members as advisory board: David Marsh, Rick Maurice, Col Seis, Angus Maurice.

Regular press releases to national and rural media. Interviews with media.

April, 2006 - Gain support from Tim Flannery, Author, *The Weather Makers*

Add extensive “Library” of scientific papers and links to website and blogsite.

26 May, 2006 – Form alliance with Peter Andrews, Natural Sequence Farming

27 May, 2006 - Make presentation at Manning Landcare event, Gloucester NSW

2 June, 2006 - Brief NSW Farmers' Association, Jock Laurie and David Ayrs, Sydney NSW

Write “Open Letter to Soil Scientists” for Australian Farm Journal

5 July, 2006 – Brief Central West delegation to NSW Farmers' Association Conference, Wellington NSW

14 July, 2006 – Presentation for CWCMA at Mudgee Small Farm Field Day

19 July, 2006 – Make presentation to Baradine Landcare Group, Baradine, NSW

July, 2006 - Make presentation to Land Management Workshop, Cobar Field Day

15 August, 2006 - Brief National Farmers' Federation, David Crombie and Dr Vanessa Findlay, Canberra ACT

2 September, 2006 – Make presentation to Gulgong Anglican Church Men's Meeting, Gulgong NSW

USA 3 week fact finding mission

18/19 September: Washington DC – attend 2006 Global CO2 Cap-And-Trade Forum

21/22 September: Bozeman, Montana - Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership Phase 2 Project Management Plan Workshop

25 September: College Station, Texas - Professor Bruce McCarl, Department of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University

27 September: Albuquerque, New Mexico - Peter Holter, Holistic Management International

28 September: Albuquerque, New Mexico - Southwest Carbon Sequestration Partnership Phase 2 Project Management Plan Workshop

29 September: Swanton, Vermont - Address Farmers' gathering organised by Coalition member Abe Collins from Vermont.

1 October: Columbus, Ohio - Professor Rattan Lal (or colleague), Ohio State University

3 October: Chicago, Illinois – Mike Walsh, SVP, Chicago Climate Exchange

Susan Capalbo, Director, Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership.

Pamela Tomski is Associate Director responsible for outreach and education, Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership.

Dave Brown, Technical Lead, Terrestrial Sequestration with Big Sky.

Michael Bowman, Director, 25:25, a movement that aims to have 25% of America's fuel needs supplied by farmers in 25 years.

Ted Dodge, Director, National Carbon Offsets Coalition which brokered the first carbon credits paid to US farmers In Montana and Kansas.

Professor Bruce McCarl of Texas A&M University, climate economist on the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change.

Dr Rattan Lal, author of a small library of books and papers, co-author of many others, Professor of Soil Physics at the School of Natural Resources at Ohio State University, Columbus Ohio.

Dr Klaus Lorenz, Senior Research Fellow, the School of Natural Resources at Ohio State University, Columbus Ohio.

Launched Carbon Coalition in USA - Abe Collins, Carbon Farmer and Convenor, Swanton, Vermont.

Attended and addressed 2 day Phase 2 Workshop in Albuquerque, New Mexico of the Southwest Regional Partnership.

Met with Head of Partnership, Dr Brian McPherson, from the New Mexico Institute of Technology in Socorro.

Met with Dr Joel Brown and Dr Jay Angerer, the 'soil carbon sequestration' experts with the Southwest Partnership.

Met with Peter Holter, Holistic Management International.

Secured first order for 25,000 acres Australian soil (till to no till) from CCX.

23 October, 2006 – Make presentation to Kingaroy Carbon Forum, Kingaroy QLD

Submission to Commonwealth Minister for Environment, Sen. Ian Campbell via Parliamentary Secretary Greg Hunt, MP.

Coordinated 8-farm application for CWCMA Round 5 funding for carbon farming soil trials.

4 November, 2006 - Attended the “WALK AGAINST WARMING”, the International Day of Action on Climate Change on Saturday, Sydney NSW

4 November, 2006 - Briefed Federal Shadow Minister for Environment, Anthony Albanese MP

13 November, 2006 – meet with NSW President Soil Science Society re peer reviewed data for CCX and Summit of scientists and Practitioners

25 November, 2006 – Make presentation to Cobar/Nyngan Landcare group

11 December, 2006 – attend National Emissions Trading Summit, Sydney NSW

29 December, 2006 - Submissions (2) to National Emissions Trading Scheme Inquiry, Sydney NSW

Second Submission to Commonwealth Minister for Environment, Sen. Ian Campbell

22/23 November, 2006 - Speak at 2006 National Carbon Forum Canberra ACT

Organising Summit between Soil Scientists and Practitioners (March 2007)

Briefed Tony Windsor, MP, Canberra ACT (subsequently asks PM a question in Parliament)

13 December, 2006 - Briefed NSW Premier's Advisory Panel on Climate Change, Sydney NSW

19 December, 2006 - Briefed NSW Farmers' Association's Jock Laurie. Subsequently calls for soil carbon credits.

Briefed NSW National Party MPs responsible for natural resources management election platform, Sydney NSW

Stand for NSW Legislative Council elections for Climate Change Coalition as soil carbon advocate.

Presented at Managing Under Changed Climactic Conditions Conference, Bathurst NSW

9 February, 2007 - Address South Australian No Till Farmers' Association, Tanunda, SA

13 February, 2007 – Met with Peter Holter and Judy Earl, Holistic Management International

14 February, 2007 - Briefed NSW Department of Primary Industries Farm Management Climate Change Risk Management Steering Committee, Orange NSW

Carbon Coalition Blogsites

- Carbon Coalition Against Global Warming

<http://carboncoalitionoz.blogspot.com/>

The best way to combat Global Warming short term is to reward farmers for cultivating deep-rooted perennial grass species and crops that can lock up vast amounts of carbon in the soil.

- Carbon Credits Government Watch

<http://carboncreditsgovernmentwatch.blogspot.com/>

A shift in the Bush Administration's attitude to Carbon Credits is the key to the Australian farmers getting access to carbon credits for carbon sequestered in agricultural soils. As the pressure builds on President Bush, so the possibility of soil carbon credits comes closer to reality for Australian farmers. And with it, the possibility of regenerating our natural resources and saving the nation billions of dollars.

- FAQ Soil Carbon

<http://faqsoilcarbon.blogspot.com/>

Basic facts and frequently asked questions about carbon in soil, soil carbon sequestration and carbon credits

- Buy Carbon Credits from Carbon•Farmers

<http://carbonfarmers.blogspot.com/>

Soil Carbon Credits are the only weapon the world has to defeat Global Warming. Only soil can do the job. Soil Carbon Credits encourage "Carbon•Farmers" to farm for maximum Carbon lockdown.

Carbon•Farming is in harmony with nature. An Australian Farm Soil Credit from a Carbon•Farmer is so much more than a carbon credit.

- Diary of a Carbon Farmer

<http://envirofarming.blogspot.com/>

This is the diary of an Australian family who escaped from the city, joined a farming community, and learned to love soil. Carbon Farming is about growing soil carbon - the first link in our food chain. The topsoil is where God's creation is taking place, at every moment. Carbon is the building block of life. By growing it we can restore ecosystems to health. At the same time we can remove Carbon Dioxide from the atmosphere and store it as Carbon in the soil.

- Soil Scientists Can Save The World

<http://soilsscientistscansavetheworld.blogspot.com/>

How soils and the scientists who study them are the key to meeting the challenge of Climate Change and reversing environmental degradation over most of the Earth's surface.

- Soil Carbon Submission

<http://soilcarbonsubmission.blogspot.com/>

NATIONAL EMISSIONS TRADING TASKFORCE - Submission written by Rod Rush on behalf of the Carbon Coalition Against Global Warming. A Response to the Discussion Paper on a Possible Design for a National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme

- Forests kill communities

<http://forestskillcommunities.blogspot.com/>

Plantation tree farms - misnamed "forests" - are sucking the life out of rural communities and devastating local economies while damaging the biological communities they invade and robbing wildlife of habitat. Tax- and carbon credit-driven schemes for making city investors rich are threatening to create ghost towns in diversity deserts.

- John Howard On Carbon Credits

<http://howardoncredits.blogspot.com/>

This speech appears here in full until we can produce an edited version. It is valuable because it gives the reader an insight into the Prime Minister's strategy and could provide clues to achieving the Carbon Coalition's Vision by means other than a frontal attack on an immovable object.

SOIL CARBON CAN BE MEASURED FOR TRADING

The Case for Averaging Soil C Sample Values to Enable Trading

Flux and soil variability are commonly used by opponents to trading in soil carbon. But one important US scientist argues for sanity to prevail: "It is often pointed out that soils have a large amount of variability, but with knowledge of soil sciences and landscapes, variability can be described and sampling protocols can be developed to deal with this," writes Dr John Kimble in a paper published this year*. "One reason I feel people say that soils vary and SOC cannot be measured is that we soil scientists focus on showing variability, not on showing what we know about the variability. In soils we can go to a 100m² field and sample every square meter and look at the differences we find. But if you sample every tree in a large area you would see a similar variability." Dr Kimble works for the US Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service, National Soil Survey Centre, Lincoln, Nebraska. "We too often focus on this [variability], worry about laboratory precision and field variation and do not look at the real world where most things are based on averages and estimated data. We tend to focus on finding variation and not on using our knowledge of soil science to describe what we know. All systems vary, but in soils we focus on a level of precision and accuracy that may not have any relevance to the real world because we can take so many samples and look at the variation."

*Kimble, J., "Advances In Models To Measure Soil Carbon: Can Soil Carbon Really Be Measured?", in Lal, R., Cerri, C., Bernoux, M., Etchevers, J., and Cerri, E., eds., Carbon Sequestration in Soils in Latin America, Food Products Press, Birmingham, NY, 2006