



PLANETAIR CANADA-NATURE PORTFOLIO



Location: Canada and multiple countries

Portfolio Type: Mixed Portfolio - Gold Standard Credits and Canadian projects

The Planetair Canada-Nature Portfolio has two components. The first component of the portfolio allows you to offset all your greenhouse gases through certified Gold Standard credits. In this way, you are assured that your offsetting is real, quantified and verified.

Through the second component of the portfolio, you support Canadian projects that benefit the climate. Our partner Nature Conservancy of Canada (CNC) protects more than 14 million hectares from coast to coast. CNC projects promote the protection of the habitat of more than 200 species of fauna and flora in precarious situations.

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Moreover, many of these natural environments are accessible to the public to promote the discovery and knowledge of nature.

COMPONENT 1 - GOLD STANDARD-CERTIFIED PROJECTS

Each tonne of greenhouse gases you wish to offset is compensated through a certified Gold Standard credit included in the Planetair Global Portfolio. This portfolio is made up of Gold Standard-certified projects, ensuring that your GHG emissions are compensated in a real, additional, transparent, and verified manner. Gold Standard carbon credits are the best credits available on the market for voluntary offsetting of GHG emissions.

The credits originate from various types of projects (wind, solar, energy recovery, etc.). The climate benefits of these projects are immediate, unlike those of trees, which can take up to 70 years to capture a ton of carbon. With the climate crisis accelerating, we do not have the luxury of waiting all these years to offset the greenhouse gases we emit today.

To be certified, the projects must be audited by independent evaluators against the stringent Gold Standard requirements. The Gold Standard requires projects to contribute to at least three UN Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 13, which pertains to the fight against climate change.





A table showing various Gold Standard projects to which Planetair has recently contributed can be consulted at the end of this brochure.

COMPONENT 2 - PROJECTS IN CANADA

The Canadian component of the portfolio funds nature protection projects in Canada. Your contribution thus helps support projects for the conservation and restoration of sensitive natural habitats across Canada. These are found in several regions of Canada.



British Columbia



Alberta



Saskatchewan



Manitoba



Ontario



Quebec



New Brunswick



Prince Edward Island



Nova Scotia



Newfoundland and
Labrador



The North

We donate 25% of your contribution to our partner Nature Conservancy of Canada (CNC), whose activities promote CO₂ capture and mitigate the impact of climate change on wildlife and plant species. CNC has been working to protect our most precious natural environments and the species they shelter since 1962.

As an example, here are some of the territories protected by CNC in Canada:

BRITISH COLUMBIA - Elk Valley Heritage Conservation Area

The Elk Valley Heritage Conservation Area encompasses 13,100 hectares (32,500 acres) along the Elk River near Fernie, British Columbia. These lands include low-lying wetlands, mixed grassland-forest and steep, forested uplands. These lands are high-



value linkage corridors for large carnivores moving north-south through the valley. To effectively conserve wide-ranging carnivore populations in the Canadian Rocky Mountain Ecoregion, the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) decided to prioritize the conservation of three very high-value linkage corridors in the Elk Valley.

The Elk Valley is a critically important wildlife corridor that accommodates the north-south movement of wide-ranging carnivores. Animals such as grizzly bear, wolf, wolverine and lynx pass through here. The area has undergone some development for resource extraction over the past 50 years (logging, linear corridor development and road building). However, it remains remarkably intact in terms of biological integrity. The existence of healthy populations of carnivores throughout the North American Rocky Mountains depends on the continued existence of populations in the Elk Valley.

The Elk Valley Heritage Conservation Area is connected to provincial lands by another NCC project within the Elk Valley, the Morrissey Meadows Conservation Area. This connectivity offers significant conservation benefits to the surrounding environment, as it enhances habitat security for wide-ranging mammals in the area.

MANITOBA - Yellow Quill Prairie

NCC established the Yellow Quill Prairie Preserve, south of Brandon, Manitoba, in 1998. The property is giving the few remaining species at risk in this area a better chance for survival by maintaining the last intact remnants of their natural habitats.

NCC's Yellow Quill Prairie Preserve is located 20 kilometres southeast of Brandon and two kilometres north of the junction of the Souris and Assiniboine rivers. A recent increase in cultivation and irrigation of native range in southwestern Manitoba has put new pressure on the few remnants of mixed grass prairie grasslands. At one time, these grasslands covered thousands of square kilometres. Today, less than 10 per cent remains intact. Rare plants like red three-awned grass and sand bluestem are also found here.

Wilderness enthusiasts enjoy spotting the species that roam here, including red-tailed hawk, moose, elk, deer and fox. The Yellow Quill Prairie is a preferred site for bird watchers wishing to see mountain bluebird and Sprague's pipit in their natural habitat. The latter is listed as a threatened species, as is mule deer. Endangered species such as northern prairie skink, discovered in the preserve just two years ago, also fight for survival here.

NEW BRUNSWICK - Meduxnekeag Watershed

NCC has partnered with the Meduxnekeag River Association. Together, the partners have worked to protect more than 167 hectares (400 acres) of forested land for



endangered and rare species along the shores of the Meduxnekeag River. The river is located near Woodstock, New Brunswick.

The banks of the Meduxnekeag River are one of the most significant forest areas in the Maritimes. Close to 45 percent of the province's remaining Appalachian hardwood forest sites are found here. The area also contains the highest concentration of rare Appalachian hardwood species in New Brunswick. The lands acquired by NCC and the Meduxnekeag River Association involve riverfront. They also include significant Appalachian hardwood forest – a rare type of forest that was once much more widespread. The properties provide habitat for endangered butternut trees. Several provincially rare plants such as Canada violet and showy orchis are also found here.

The watershed features 30 provincially rare plant species, including lopseed, nodding fescue, spikenard, Goldie's fern, and Seneca snakeroot and 27 species of fish have been identified in the Meduxnekeag system, including brook trout, brown trout, and Atlantic salmon.

ONTARIO - Frontenac Arch

If you look at a night image of northeastern North America from space, you see the lights of cities, towns and highways spreading like a constellation across the landscape. Yet just north of Kingston and northeast of the St. Lawrence River is an archipelago of countryside and wilderness under dark skies and bright stars. This is the Frontenac Arch – over 171,000 hectares (423,000 acres) of forests, wetlands and lakes, home to thousands of species.

Connecting the northern forests of Algonquin with the Adirondacks in New York State, the Arch forms a critical habitat linkage between the northern hardwood and mixed forests of Ontario and the Appalachian Mountain chain of eastern North America. This narrow bridge is one of the most important forest corridors east of the Rocky Mountains.

NCC has been making targeted efforts in the Frontenac Arch for over a decade, securing key properties and assisting partners in their conservation efforts. NCC currently owns and manages over 2,760 hectares (6,835 acres) here. In addition, NCC has assisted with an additional 2,985 hectares (7,376 acres) of protected habitat in the area. NCC's long-term vision for the area is to help create a connected mosaic of protected lands across the Arch, with at least 17 per cent under some form of conservation protection.



QUÉBEC - The Laurentians

At Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts and Ivry-sur-le-Lac, NCC protects a network of natural environments totalling 350 hectares (864 acres). They include the William R.-J. Oliver Reserve and the Ivry Wildlife Crossing property.

Preserving the William R.-J. Oliver and Ivry Wildlife Crossing properties contributes to the maintenance of ecological corridors. These link four major forest massifs: the Jackrabbit ecological reserve, located in the municipality of Montcalm, the Ouareau Forest regional park, the Val-David-Val-Morin regional park and the Mont-Tremblant national park.

These properties are part of a larger-scale ecological corridor project that NCC, working with many partners, aims to protect and expand across the province. An ecological corridor is a natural land or water passage linking natural areas together, allowing wildlife to move around and flora to disperse. Species with large home ranges, such as black bear, Canada lynx and white-tailed deer, require large areas to feed and reproduce.

ALL REGIONS OF CANADA

More information on the various Canadian projects supported by CNC is available on CNC's website.

ABOUT PLANETAIR

Planetair is a climate protection programme set up by the Unisfera International Centre, a non-profit organization created in 2002. Our mission is to promote sustainable development and contribute to the fight against climate change. Our funding comes from the advisory services we provide as well as from grants and carbon contributions.



Planetair's compliance with the commitments we make to you are audited every year by chartered professional accountants (CPA). Their most recent audit report can be downloaded from our home page: planetair.ca.



Moreover, Planetair is the only carbon credit supplier recommended by *Protégez-Vous* (*Protect Yourself*), the consumer protection magazine. A link to their report is posted on our home page as well (available in French only).

ProtégezVous.

Question? Comment? Write to us at info@planetair.ca

Thank you for your support!

Some of the Gold Standard projects to which Planetair has contributed

Project/technology/country	Climate solution
<p data-bbox="354 383 709 412">Efficient Cooking Ovens Project</p> <p data-bbox="415 420 648 449">Home energy efficiency</p> <p data-bbox="478 457 585 487">Nepal/Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 383 1885 488">Problem: Nepal is a mountainous country with difficult topographical and socio-economic conditions. A quarter of its population lives below the poverty line. Besides economic poverty, this population lacks modern energy services for cooking and depends on inefficient and unhealthy open fire stoves.</p> <p data-bbox="884 534 1885 680">Solution: This project distributes modern and improved stoves to socially marginalized groups in southeastern Nepal in the districts of Rautahat, Sarlahi and Mahottari. The stoves provide a clean cooking solution for households in these communities, improving health, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving local forests, and promoting gender equality.</p> <p data-bbox="884 725 1885 907">Thus, in addition to reducing emissions, the stoves allow complete combustion of the fuel, minimizing air pollution, for healthier cooking that protects the health of the inhabitants. More efficient, the stoves also require up to 50% less wood fuel, alleviating deforestation pressures on nearby ecosystems and reducing the time needed to collect wood. The project also creates jobs for local men and women, who are trained by the project promoter in the installation and construction of the stoves.</p>

Efficient Cookstoves Project

Uganda/Africa



Problem: Eighty-five percent of Ugandans rely on wood and charcoal for cooking. These fuels are burned using inefficient technologies, causing environmental challenges (deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions), health-related challenges (air quality in homes) and economic challenges (cost of firewood and / or time for collecting wood).

Solution: To address these issues, the project is supporting the manufacture and distribution of more efficient cooking stoves. These were not available in Uganda before the start of the project. The use of efficient stoves reduces consumption of firewood, which in turn limits deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions and fumes harmful to the health of the occupants.

Efficient Cookstoves and Drinking Water Project

Kenya/Africa



Problem: In Kenya's rural areas, more than 65% of the population does not have access to drinking water and households frequently use wood and charcoal to cook their food and purify their water thereby causing environmental challenges (deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions), sanitary challenges (air quality in homes) and economic challenges (cost of firewood and/or time for collecting wood).

Solution: To address these issues, the project subsidizes the production, and distribution to low-income families, of efficient stoves. The use of efficient stoves reduces the consumption of firewood by about 50%. The project also supports the installation of water treatment systems at communal water sources, which saves families the trouble of boiling water to purify their drinking water.

Efficient Cookstoves and Drinking Water Project

Rwanda/Africa



Problem: In Rwanda, households frequently use wood and charcoal to cook their food and purify their water, thus causing environmental challenges (deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions), health challenges (air quality in homes) and economic challenges (cost of firewood and/or time for wood collection).

Solution: To address these problems, the project is supporting the rehabilitation of water wells to provide safe drinking water to Rwandan communities, thus removing the need to harvest and burn wood to boil and purify water. The project also subsidizes the production and distribution of efficient stoves for low-income families. Efficient stoves reduce the consumption of firewood by about 50%.

Solar Energy Project

Thailand/Asia



Problem: Thailand is one of the largest consumers of energy in Southeast Asia and the second largest importer of oil in the region. Fossil fuels represent around 80% of the country's total energy demand.

Solution: To address this problem, the project is supporting Thailand's energy transition. The project finances 10 solar photovoltaic plants in the provinces of Kanchanaburi and Suphanburi; the agricultural center of Thailand. This project reduces GHG emissions, reduces Thailand's dependence on imported fossil fuels, and stimulates economic growth in the country and the region. In addition to meeting the energy demand of people in central Thailand, the project improves local infrastructure and provides employment for skilled and unskilled workers from adjacent communities for the manufacture, installation, operation, and maintenance of equipment.

Wind Energy Project
New Caledonia/Oceania



Problem: The Pacific Islands face increasing environmental and socio-economic pressures, heightened by climate change. The UN recognizes small island states as being particularly vulnerable to climate change. Hard hit by natural climate variability and extreme tropical weather events, they are significantly vulnerable to future regional climate changes as well as sea level rise.

Solution: Beyond replacing the use of fossil fuels with renewable energies, the project helps strengthen civil society and Kanak indigenous rights, by supporting local and regional initiatives focusing on employment, young people, and community. As New Caledonia is in a region prone to hurricanes, the entire wind farm can be folded up in a short time in the event of an extreme weather warning. The project serves as a demonstration project in the South Pacific and is an example of environmentally friendly development made in collaboration with local tribes.

Wind Energy Project
Taiwan/Asia



Problem: Despite its privileged coastal and windy location, Taiwan still depends substantially on its coal resources to fuel its economy.

Solution: The project consists in the deployment of wind turbines on the West coast of the island. In addition to its positive impact on the climate, the project creates local jobs. The project also contributes to the development of sustainable tourism through guided tours on sustainable energy development.

Landfill Gas to Energy Project

Turkey



Problem: Organic matter (i.e. food, paper, etc.) in landfills decompose and release methane gas (a very potent greenhouse gas) into the atmosphere contributing to climate change.

Solution: The project aims at avoiding greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from an existing landfill by collecting biogas to generate electricity. In addition to the direct avoidance of GHG emissions, further indirect emission reductions are achieved through the CO₂-neutral replacement of fossil fuels used for power generation. The activity includes the installation of a landfill gas extraction system, an enclosed flare as well as a biogas driven genset for electricity production. The biogas power project is built near the Molu village of Koca in the province of Kayseri in Turkey.

Wastewater Treatment Project

Thailand/Asia



Problem: The wastewater treatment facility uses fossil fuels to operate. The former operation of the plant also led to unpleasant smells, impacting people in the surrounding communities.

Solution: Thanks to the project, methane generated by the process is now captured, preventing it from contributing to climate change. In addition, it is used to generate energy and thus limits the need to resort to additional fossil fuels. Moreover, the project generates jobs for the local population, and it supports social and educational activities in the community.