

PUNGO RIVER AVOIDED FOREST CONVERSION PROJECT GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

704

ACRES
PROTECTED

1

PERMANENT
EASEMENT

2

NEARBY
WATERWAYS

Project Type: Avoided Forest Conversion

Standard: [Climate Action Reserve](#)

Pungo River Forest Conservation Project comprises 704 acres of forested land in the Atlantic Coastal Plains of North Carolina. Due to the rich and diverse ecosystem, the property owner was keen to retain the natural state of the forest. Over 40 years ago, the project was ditched, drained, and cleared. It was subsequently allowed to naturally regenerate as forest and has been safely placed under a conservation easement with the USDA to ensure the perpetuity of its natural state. If this land was not placed under an easement, the forest would alternatively have been harvested, burned on site, and then converted to agricultural land for corn or wheat crop production, as has been done on neighboring properties.

Sustainable Development Impacts



Forest conservation plays a vital role in protecting the freshwater systems of the Pamlico River and Pamlico Sound, waterways that are currently impaired due to land conversion and undergoing restoration. The forests around the river act as natural water filters, purifying the water for all who use it.



The Pungo River project aids emission reductions through enhanced sequestration relative to baseline forest management and reduces emissions by 1,000 tCO₂e annually. The project creates a unique forest environment surrounded by cropland, protecting essential habitat for mammals that rely on the forest and the adjacent Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge.



The project provides a sustainable and protected habitat for the species that need a large range. The protected land is near the Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge Habitat, providing a corridor for animals. The project also supports healthy populations of red wolf, bald eagle, and black bear.

