



SYLVIS provided guidance to Metro Vancouver on implementing field sampling to track carbon gains in biosolids application sites.

GUIDANCE FOR CARBON TRACKING

Client: Metro Vancouver

Metro Vancouver requested guidance on approaches to tracking gains in carbon storage in land applied with biosolids. SYLVIS reviewed techniques reported in scientific studies and required under formal offset trading protocols to produce actionable guidance for tracking carbon gains in land applied under Metro Vancouver's biosolids management program.

Metro Vancouver has pledged to lower the greenhouse gas impact of their routine operations, including biosolids management. To meet their goal, Metro Vancouver is seeking means of reducing emissions and accounting for offsets, including offsets resulting from increased carbon storage in land as a result of beneficial land application of biosolids generated by Metro Vancouver.

Techniques for accounting for land-based carbon storage increases due to biosolids application are evolving and are not a routine aspect of pre- and post-application site monitoring. However, without a clear and directed program of data gathering, later accounting of carbon offsets due to biosolids management is difficult.

To allow Metro Vancouver to assess the carbon storage in land applied under its biosolids management program, SYLVIS compiled information from available scientific research and techniques recommended by formal offset markets. These sources were synthesized to develop broadly applicable and recognized guidelines for tracking carbon storage increases resulting from Metro Vancouver's biosolids application program.

Using the tracking guidelines provided by SYLVIS, Metro Vancouver can account for the carbon storage increases within its biosolids management activities. Accounting for these carbon increases will advance Metro Vancouver's understanding of carbon dynamics within their biosolids management program and assist in achieving their organizational goal of carbon neutrality.

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