

Waste Diversion Workshop: The Organic Waste Digestion Project Protocol

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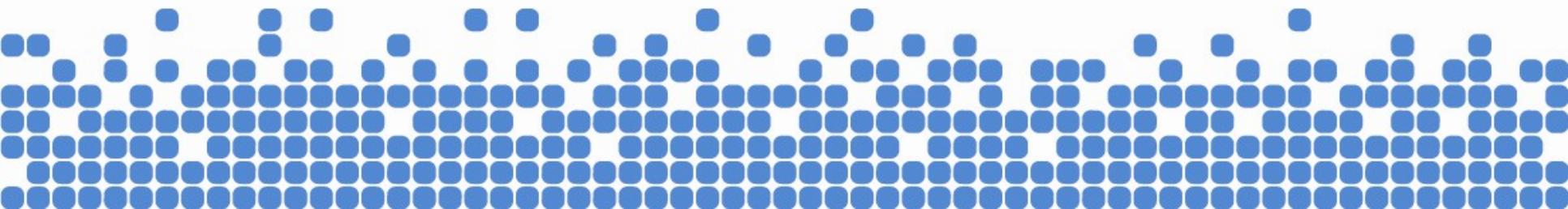


Overview



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- Background on the Climate Action Reserve (Reserve)
- What is a greenhouse gas (GHG) Reduction Project
- What is the Organic Waste Digestion (OWD) Protocol
- Project Examples
- Other Waste Sector GHG Reduction Protocols
 - Landfill Project Protocol

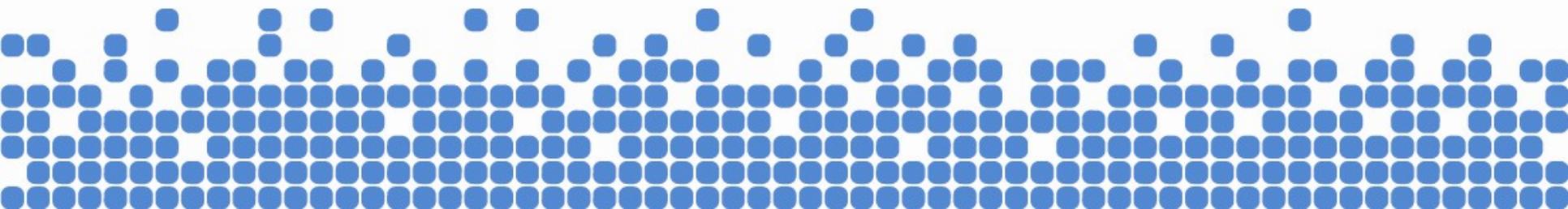


Climate Action Reserve



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- Founded as the California Climate Action Registry by state legislation in 2001
 - Encourage voluntary reporting and reductions
 - Develop protocols to track Entity GHG Footprints
- The Reserve (launched Mid 2008): a GHG Reduction Project Registry
 - Develop standardized GHG reduction project protocols through stakeholder driven process
 - Intended to be the premier place to register carbon offset projects for North America
 - Currently accepting United States-based projects only
 - Expanding to Mexico

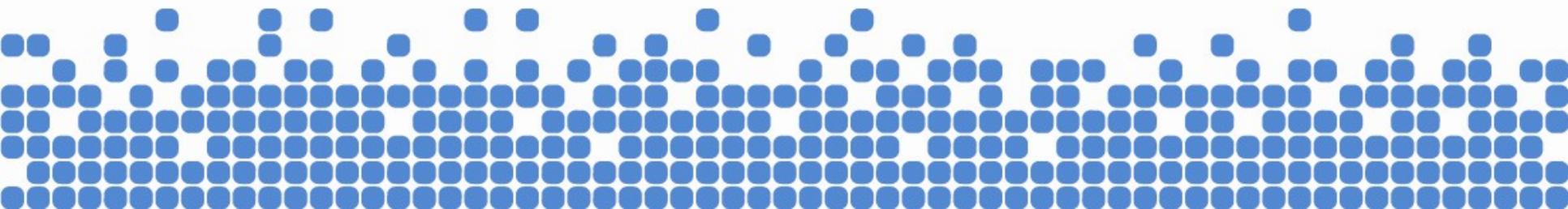


What is a GHG Reduction Project?



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- A specific activity or set of activities intended to:
 - Reduce GHG emissions
 - Increase carbon storage or
 - Enhance GHG removals from atmosphere

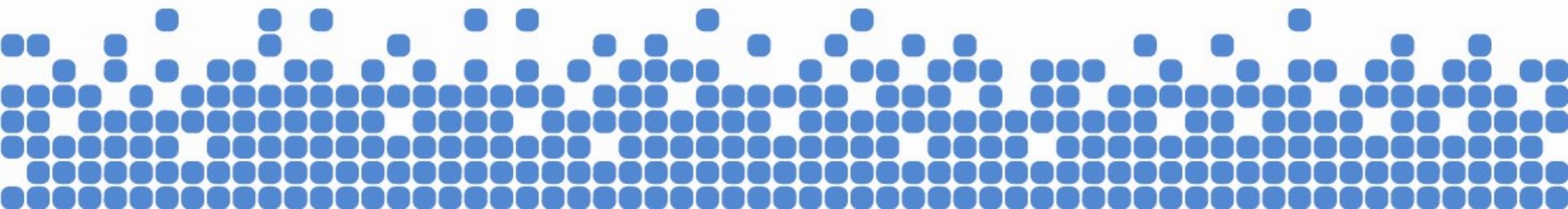


What is a GHG Reduction Project?



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- Project definition will delineate what activities are “creditable” under protocol
 - Credits issued by the Reserve are called “Climate Reserve Tons” (CRTs) – one CRT represents 1 metric tonne of CO₂e

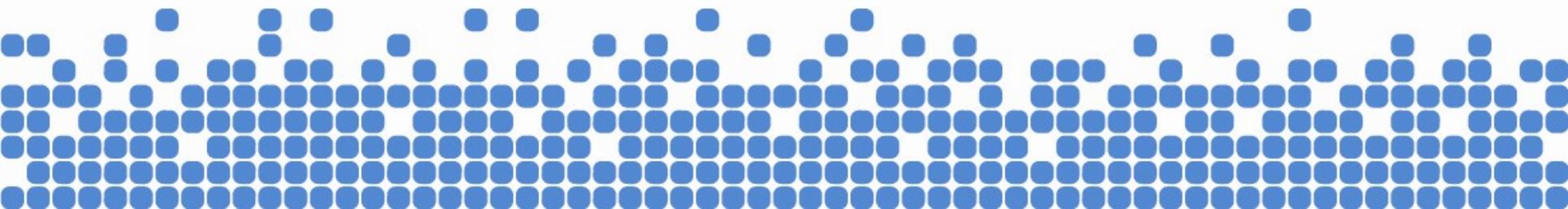


Linking Voluntary and Compliance Markets



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- For now, demand is largely from the voluntary market
- In the future, CRTs *may* be usable for compliance purposes in California, Western Climate Initiative or federally
 - Regulators have yet to make decisions on these questions

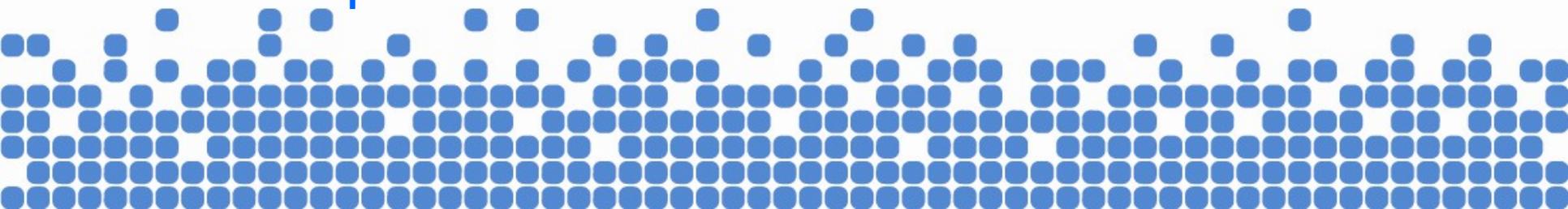




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Reserve Project Protocols

- Developed with broad stakeholder and public input
- Goal is to create a uniform standard that is widely recognized and builds on best practice
 - We incorporate the best elements of other protocols
 - We do not accept protocols from other programs (i.e. Clean Development Mechanism, Gold Standard, Voluntary Climate Standard, etc.)
- Designed as step-by-step instructions on project development

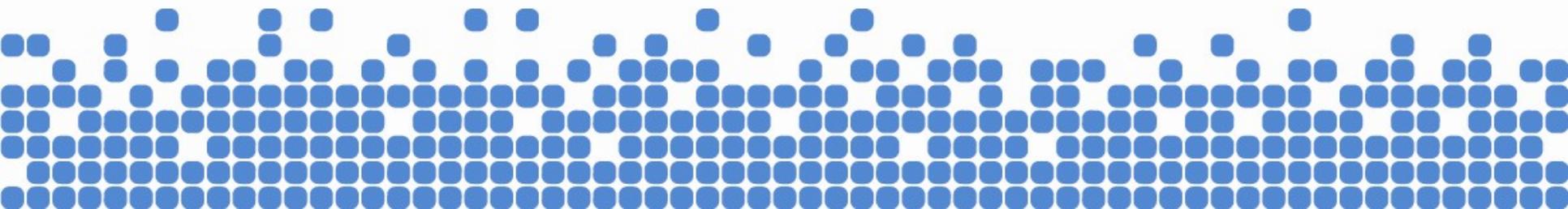


General Project Eligibility (Additionality) Guidelines



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- Reserve Standards:
 - The GHG reduction activity is not a result of regulation, and
 - The GHG Reduction activity goes above and beyond “Business as Usual” practice, as determined by the Protocol’s Performance Standard Assessment



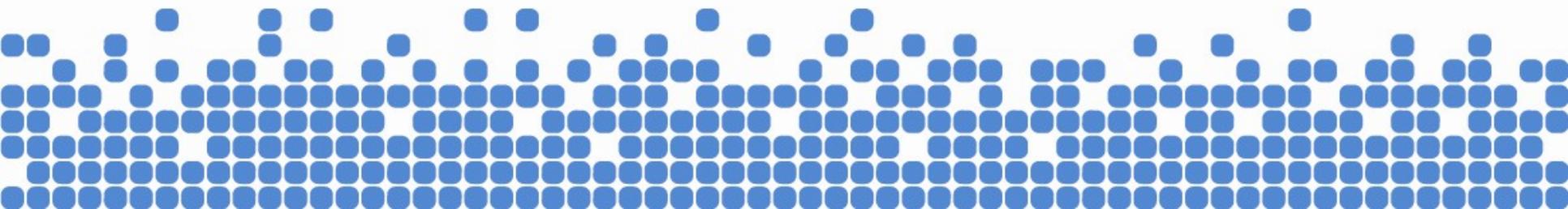
The Organic Waste Digestion Project Protocol



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- Draft protocol is going through Work Group process
- Expected Public Draft Available ~ Late July
- Adoption expected Early October

Disclaimer: Drafting process is dynamic, the final version may be substantially different than what is discussed today.



What is an OWD Project?



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- The diversion of *eligible* organic waste and/or wastewater feedstocks to Anaerobic Digestion with methane capture
- Eligible Waste: Organic Waste and wastewater that would have generated methane to the atmosphere under Business-as-Usual Waste Management:
 - i.e.*
 - **Post Consumer [Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)] Food Waste**
 - **Agro-Industrial Wastewaters previously treated in : on-site open lagoons, ponds, or tanks**
- Digester feedstocks that would not have produced methane in the “baseline” do not result with ‘methane avoidance’, and thus are not eligible to earn CRTs

What are Baseline Emissions?

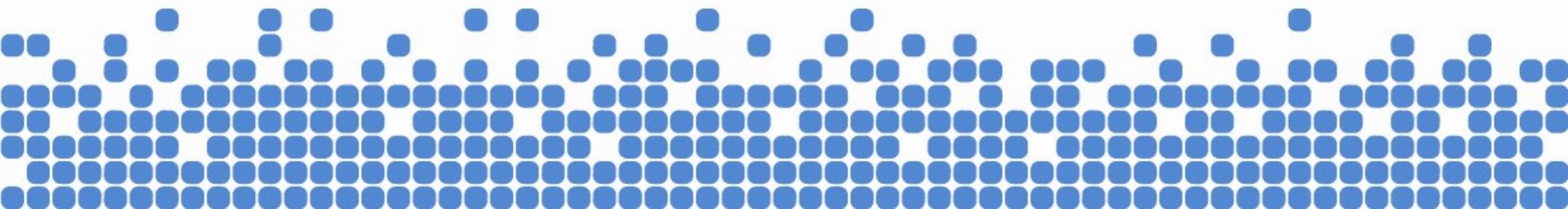


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The “Baseline” represents emissions that would have occurred if not for the GHG reduction project.

Based on:

- Continuation of current practices
 - Assuming no waste diversion
 - Assuming previous waste management system was an anaerobic system:
 - Food Waste - landfill
 - Wastewater - anaerobic lagoon, pond, pit
- Calculated for each year of the project

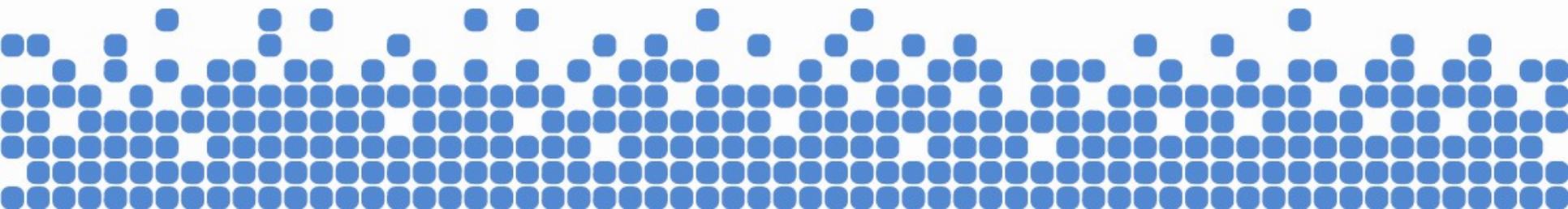


Potential OWD Projects (examples)



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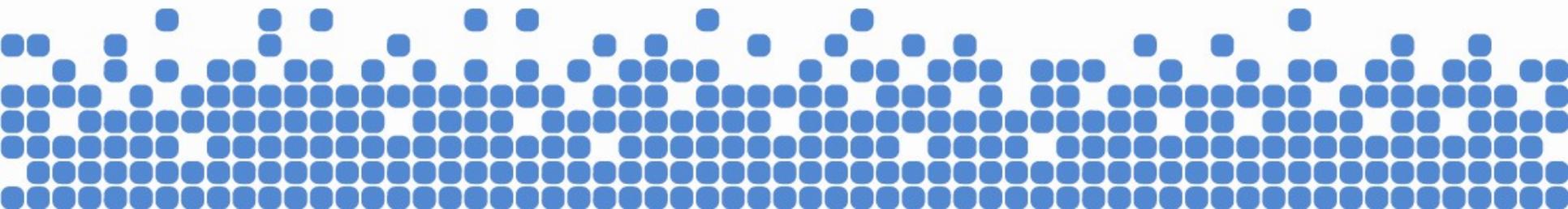
- **Municipal projects that divert and digest post-consumer (MSW) food waste**
 - Either Source Separated or Mixed MSW
- Meat/Poultry/Dairy or other agro-industrial processing plant that installs an anaerobic digester in place of a pre-existing lagoon/pond
- Centralized Co-Digesters sourcing industrial wastewater and manure for digestion from dairy farms, food processing plants etc.
 - Likely that Not ALL residues digested will be eligible for earning CRTs





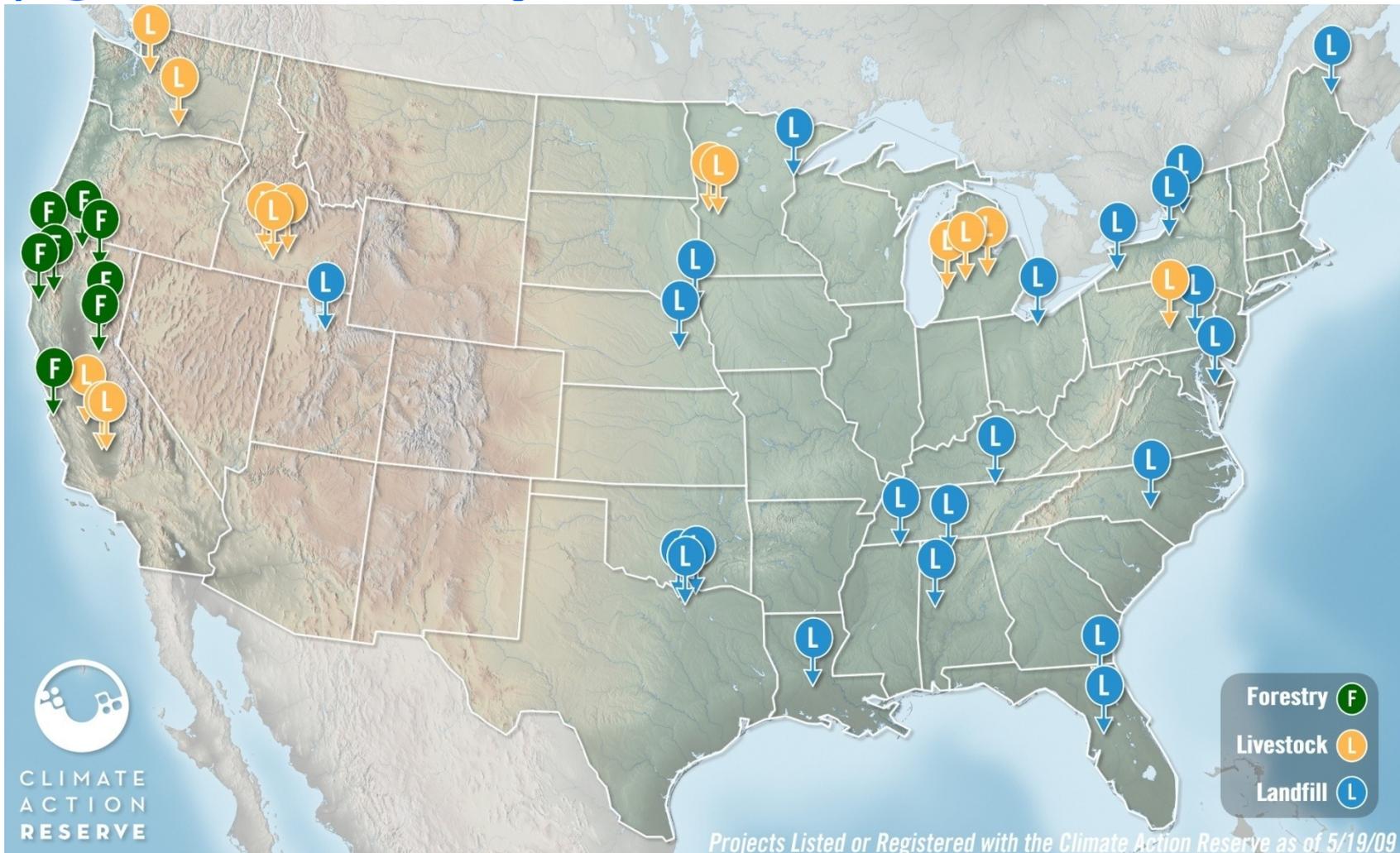
Other Waste Sector Protocols

- Landfill Project Reporting Protocol
 - Provides guidelines for Landfill Gas (LFG) Collection and Destruction Projects
 - Not very applicable in California due to AB32 Discrete Early Action
- Future Protocols *may* address other Waste Diversion Projects
 - Composting ?
 - Thermal Conversion?



Thank You!

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Projects Listed or Registered with the Climate Action Reserve as of 5/19/09



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To comply with accessibility requirements, this slide has been added to the original presentation to describe the graphic on the previous slide.

The previous slide is a United States map identifying locations of forestry, livestock, and landfill projects listed or registered with the Climate Action Reserve as of May 19, 2009.

