

# Verra Forestry Retirements Rise in Q1



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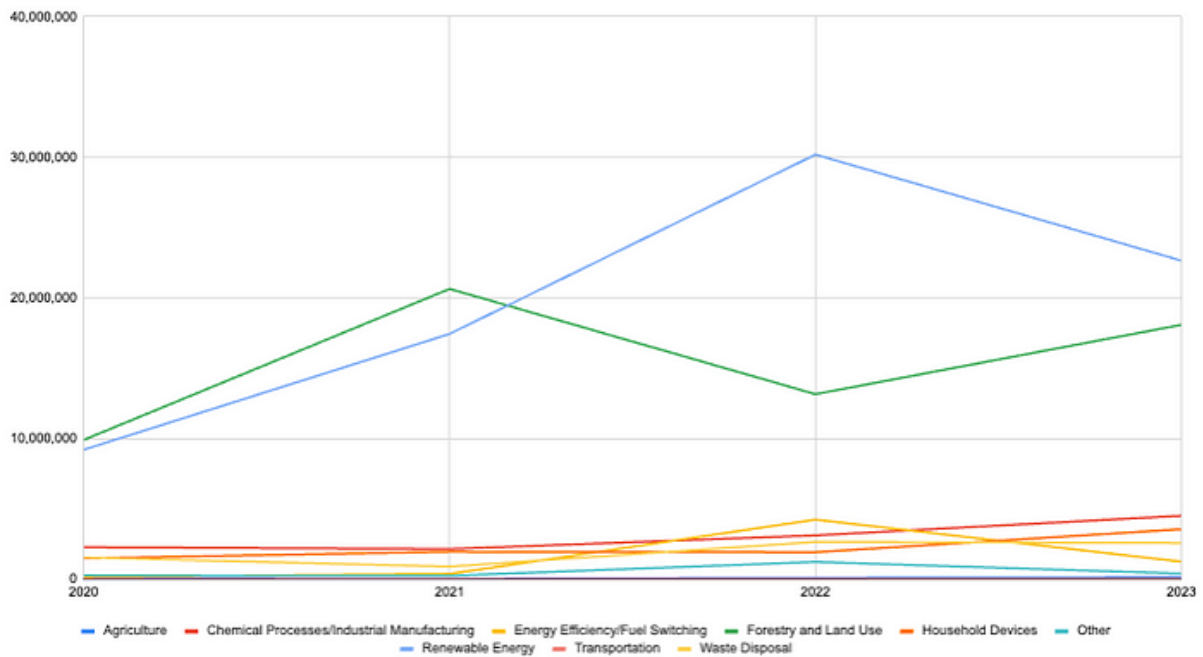
Despite the negative press around forestry projects on Verra, the most prominent carbon offsetting standard, Q1 2023 saw a 36% increase in retirements from those projects.

Retirements rose from just over 10m tCO<sub>2</sub>e to 14m tCO<sub>2</sub>e; projects that list REDD as their sole AFOLU Activity on Verra also saw a rise in retirements, from 5.8m tCO<sub>2</sub>e to 9.5m tCO<sub>2</sub>e. The 14m mark for Verra forestry was lower than 19m tCO<sub>2</sub>e retired in Q1 2021.

All data points in this article exclude credit tokenizations.

Overall activity in the market fell by 6%, with retirements falling from 57m to 54m tCO<sub>2</sub>e year on year.

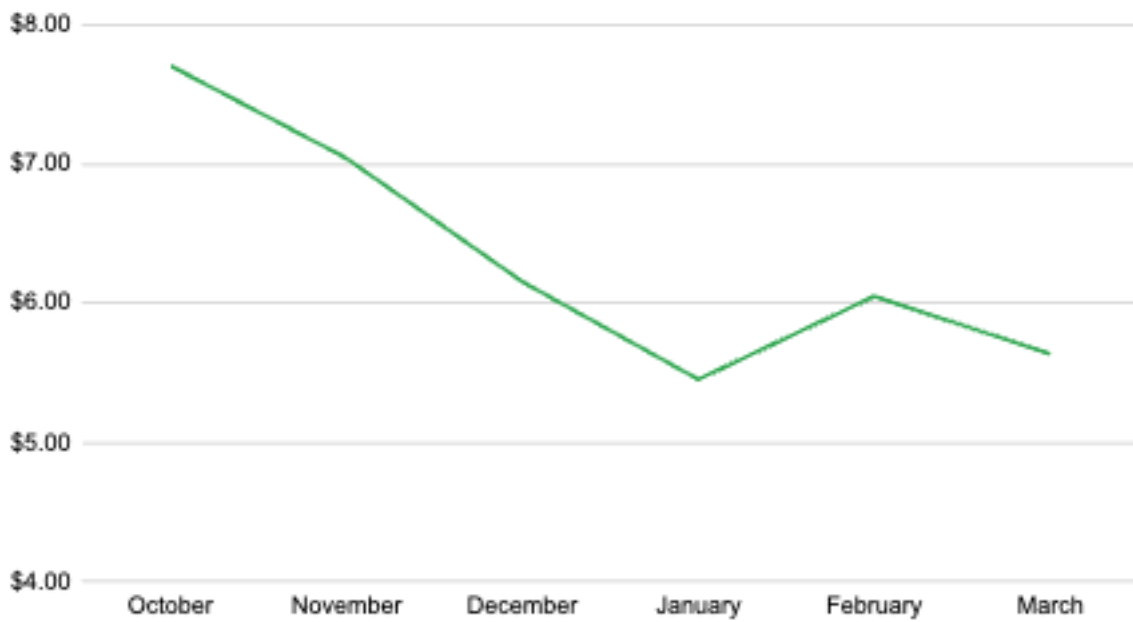
Q1 Activity 2020-23



Renewable energy credits saw a big fall since last year, though the number of retired credits was still higher than in 2021.

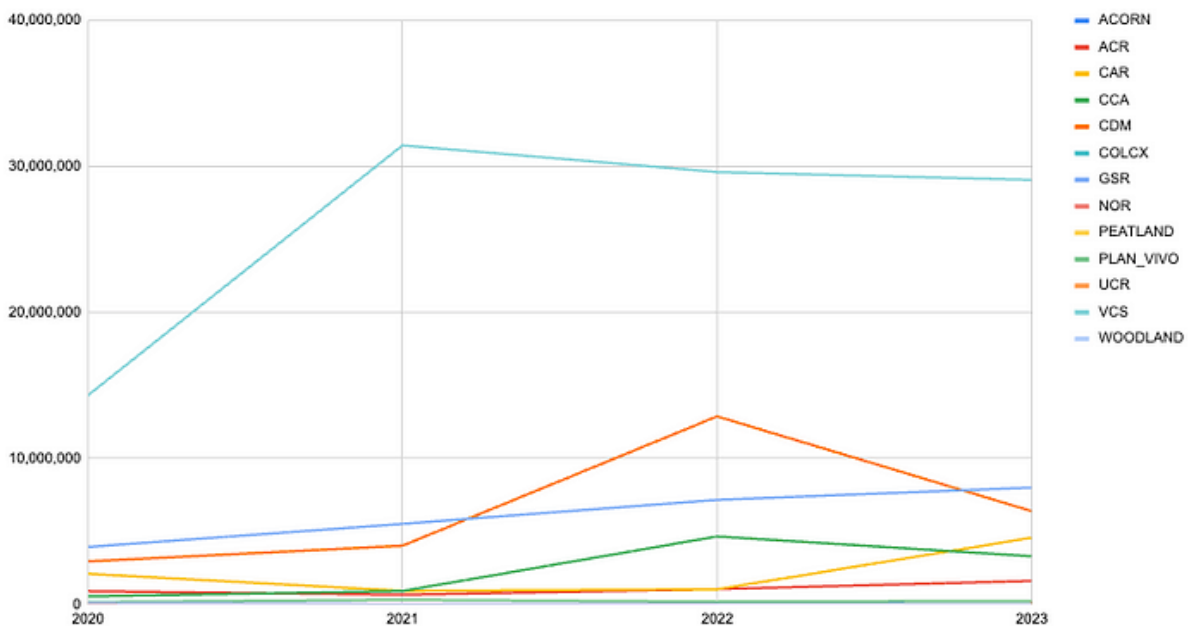
Prices have fallen quite a bit in the last two quarters: they sat at around \$7 per ton in Q4 2022, and have come down to \$5.70 in Q1 this year. (This pricing data attempts to capture an “average” retirement in the market, based on market activity, with credits from certain sectors or registries commanding a lower or higher price.)

## Price per tCO2e



At a registry level, nearly all registries have either mostly kept up with their previous year's total, or saw a gain. The major exception here was CDM, which saw the number of credits voluntarily retired on its platform fall in half, from over 12m to 6m tCO2e.

Q1 Activity 2020-23



The relatively healthy offsetting activity may be explained by a few factors, including:

- companies are brushing off concerns raised by the press,
- companies are taking advantage of the lower prices in the market, or
- retirements are taking place after budget had already been allocated in the previous year — suggesting future quarters may be less robust.

Our subscribers can log in to see more data [here](#); our dashboard demo is [here](#).