





# One protocol generates stacked outcomes.

ESMC's national scale ecosystem services market program, Eco-Harvest, rewards agricultural producers for beneficial environmental outcomes from regenerative agriculture. Eco-Harvest is science- and outcomes- focused and not practice specific, meaning producers have autonomy to decide which practice changes are best suited to their operation based on a menu of specific practices/systems.

Focusing first and foremost on farmers and ranchers, Eco-Harvest is designed to encourage regenerative agricultural production systems that create sound social, economic, and environmental outcomes that benefit producers, local communities, consumers, and society.





Increased soil carbon/reduced GHGs



Improved water quality



Reduced water use



Piloting: Biodiversity

## What Makes ESMC Distinct?

## **Passion not Profit:**

Our mission, vision, and passion is to transform food and agricultural systems to achieve more resilient, sustainable, and equitable outcomes for people and the planet. As a non-profit, public-private partnership, ESMC has taken great care in creating an ecosystem services market program with integrity that puts producers first.

#### **Cutting Edge Technology:**

ESMC has developed a best-in-class proprietary Monitoring, Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MMRV) platform to manage, track, and generate Scope 3 outcomes across the United States and Canada.

## Community of Leaders in Regenerative Agriculture:

ESMC and our members are recognized industry thought leaders and innovators driving necessary change and understanding of the complexities of transforming food and agricultural systems for good.

#### Underpinned by R&D:

Our research arm, ESMRC, brings a wealth of experience and skills to guide our research and development work. The vision and scientific rigor of Eco-Harvest sets it apart, reflecting years of meticulous work and dedication to the highest standards of environmental accountability.

## Fully Verified:

Our science-based program is the first in North America to achieve full accreditation by <u>SustainCERT</u>, which validates ESMC's protocols and verifies our Scope 3 outcomes. Eco-Harvest achieved <u>Ag Data Transparent Certification</u>, ensuring that producer data remains private.











# ESMC, General Mills and Kansas Department of Health and Environment

This project provides Kansas farmers in General Mills' supply shed the opportunity to participate in an ESMC pilot to test protocols for carbon removals, net greenhouse gas reductions. The producers grow a diversity of crops including wheat, corn, soy, sorghum, canola, and sunflowers, and some have integrated livestock into their cropping systems.

By working collaboratively, ESMC, General Mills, Ag Growth International and National Association of Conservation Districts are demonstrating how agricultural solutions can deliver results that meet corporate and societal demands. This pilot is open to Kansas producers participating in General Mill's regenerative agriculture program. It's a full-support project:

- ESMC is quantifying, monitoring, and verifying outcomes from the project to certify the credits and the protocols, and selling the credits to pay farmers.
   The verified outcomes allow the benefits to be claimed by corporations in the agricultural supply chain who invested in interventions to reduce their supply chain impacts.
- General Mills is utilizing the greenhouse gas reductions in their sustainability reporting.



## **Project Details**

**Project Launch Year: 2020** 

**Project Location:** Kansas

**Credits Generated:** Carbon removals, Greenhouse Gas reductions,

Water Quality improvements

**Production Systems:** Wheat

Targeted Acreage: 10,000

Project Partners and Funders: General Mills; Ag Growth

International and the National Association of Conservation Districts

**Interventions:** Cover crops, tillage reduction (conservation

tillage or no till) and nutrient management

**Learn More:** www.ecosystemservicesmarket.org



"Providing funds to farmers for their outcomes through an ecosystem payment is cutting edge and an important part in the future of agriculture," said Brandon Kaufman, Kansas farmer, co-founder of Sustain-A-Grain, and partner in the ESMC program.

"Instead of reacting to issues created by mainstream, traditional agriculture, this payment approach aims to eliminate them before they could even become a problem.

Monoculture systems may need to become a thing of the past – perennials, polycultures and intercroppings are what I believe can create a future that is both sustainable and profitable."