

Ecosystem Markets. Built for Producers. Backed by Science.

ESMC is a non-profit, member-based organization launching a national scale ecosystem services market program for agriculture to recognize and reward Producers for their environmental services to society. The ESMC market program is pilot testing the entire program and will launch in 2022. ESMC's market program 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, ESMC's market program is designed to encourage sustainable agricultural production systems that create sound social, economic, and environmental outcomes that benefit producers, local communities, consumers, and society.

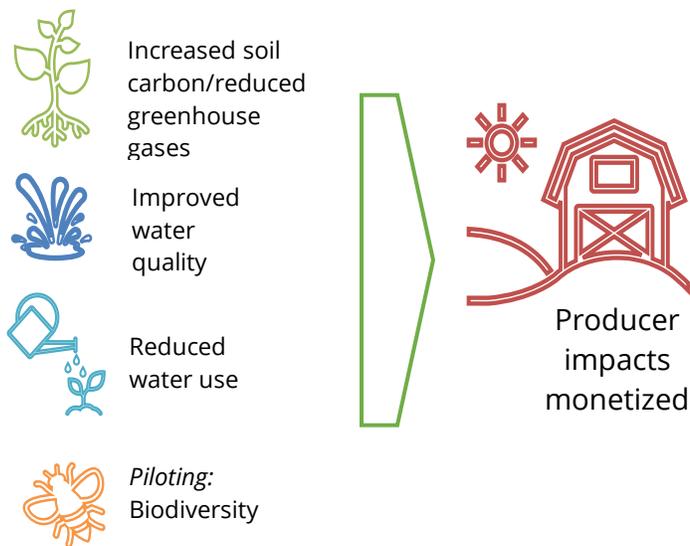
ESMC Market Program Design

ESMC's market design is innovative and unique. We operate in more than one market, and we generate multiple "stacked" credits in one program. The same land stewardship practices that impact soil carbon and greenhouse gas emissions often have additional benefits, including improved water quality and water conservation, as well as biodiversity benefits such as habitat for pollinators, insects, and birds. Our market program rewards farmers and ranchers for all these benefits.

Each producer's carbon, greenhouse gas, water quality and water quantity outcomes are quantified at a field scale simultaneously, and the credits generated can be stacked in our streamlined program. ESMC is committed to maximizing the value returned to producers while meeting multiple market needs of Buyers.

ESMC's Program is operating in a pilot phase. Pilot participants have a unique opportunity to test new innovations and provide input to ESMC to guide program development. The pilot phase allows for more flexibility and less risk for Producers, who will have an opportunity to roll into the full market when it is launched at the end of 2022.

One protocol generates stacked credits and assets.





ESMC Market Program Eligibility

ESMC's Market Program is currently in a pilot phase so early participants will have a unique opportunity to test new innovations and provide input to ESMC to guide program development. The pilot phase will also provide more flexibility and less risk for Producers, who will have an opportunity to roll into the full market when it is launched at the end of 2022.

Who is eligible to participate in the pilot program?

- Producers who are interested in adopting soil health systems and new conservation practices that benefit their agricultural operations while improving environmental impacts.
- Producers interested in implementation of improvements that exceed minimum standards set by law.
- Producers managing land that has not been deforested in the past 10 years.
- Producers with fields that are located within an approved ESMC Project region and production system.
- Producers who can provide proof of asset ownership rights.
- Producers with fields that are not enrolled in another ecosystem service program that generates credits, offsets, assets, or claims related to soil carbon sequestration and/or changes in greenhouse gases.

Enrollment specifics

- There are no minimum or maximum acreage limits. Producers are not required to enroll all their acreage either at enrollment or at any time.
- Producers can phase in more acres and/or practices over time as they see fit.
- Producers are not required to relinquish data ownership or purchase new inputs, subscriptions, etc.

Contracts

- During the 2021 and 2022 pilot years, contracts are annual with no penalty for dropping out of the program.
- Producers will have an option to roll into a 5-year contract at market launch at the end of 2022.

What Makes ESMC Distinct?

Non-profit: ESMC maximizes environmental impact and producer income by delivering as much of the value back to farmers and ranchers as possible.

Scientific rigor: ESMC protocols have the strongest scientific basis possible to provide confidence, integrity and trust for investors, buyers, and sellers of agricultural ecosystem credits in ESMC's market program.

Multiple credits: ESMC's national program pays producers for all quantifiable impacts simultaneously: carbon credits and water quality, water use conservation, and habitat and biodiversity enhancement and protection simultaneously. Land stewardship practices deliver many benefits that producers should be rewarded for, and are, in ESMC's program.

Multiple markets: ESMC's market program generates credits where demand exists, including voluntary carbon markets, compliance water markets, and separately, corporate supply chain reporting to reduce agricultural environmental footprints. That doubles the opportunities for producers to be paid for their beneficial outcomes.

Outcomes, not practices: ESMC protocols measure outcomes on farms and ranches. We do not require specific practice but allow producers flexibility to choose from among practices that can generate credits, so that producers can manage their operations in ways that work best for them.

Learn More: www.ecosystems-services-market.org