



PROJECT PROFILE:

ASSESSING

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

BENEFITS OF

AGRICULTURAL BMPs

QUANTIFYING IMPACT AND EFFECTIVENESS

This project aims to develop an integrated assessment platform to quantify the impact and effectiveness of ecosystem services (ES) associated with agricultural beneficial management practices (BMPs).

PROJECT LEAD

Land Stewardship Centre

OVERVIEW

The goal of this project is to develop an integrated assessment platform to quantify the impact and effectiveness of ecosystem services (ES) including; water quality and quantity, carbon storage and biodiversity.

Project objectives include:

- Developing the IMWEBS (Integrated Modelling for Watershed Evaluation of BMPs) model to assess the impacts of BMPs on ES for two representative agricultural watersheds in Alberta.
- Quantifying the impacts of historic, current and future BMP programs on water quality and quantity and, where feasible, biodiversity and carbon for those watersheds.
- Developing recommendations for integrating changes in stored soil carbon and biodiversity from grassland management practices in IMWEBS.
- Linking IMWEBS outputs to sustainability and traceability initiatives emerging for the livestock sector.

- Engaging producers, land managers, government, non-government and industry stakeholders through meetings, workshops and other methods to mobilize and deepen ES market opportunities.

OUTCOMES

This project is currently underway. Project updates and outcomes will be available in 2021.

THE ESN CONNECTION

Quantifying the impact of BMP adoption on ES will help government and non-government partners target and evaluate the performance of past and current BMP programs and provide the evidence-based framework necessary to leverage and scale up private and social investment in ES on agricultural landscapes. The project will benefit producers by supporting and improving the ES incentive programs and increasing producer and public awareness of BMPs and the positive benefits for society.

LEARN MORE

About this project and the ESN at ecoservicesnetwork.ca and follow us on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn