

KWO-RAC

Leveraging
Environmental
Markets



RenewWest



RenewWest

What we do: RenewWest partners with landowners, businesses, and investors to restore and protect natural working lands and systems by leveraging environmental markets.

What are environmental markets? Marketplaces through which regulated, or voluntarily participating entities mitigate their compliance, corporate, or individual environmental obligations or commitments through the purchase/trading and retiring of environmental credits.

Examples:

- Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)
- Carbon Offsets or Allowances
- Wetland Mitigation Banking
- Water Quality



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Recent work:

- Developer of the largest carbon-focused reforestation project in US History.
- Announcing 3 Avoided Conversion projects and 2 reforestation projects on over 11,000 acres this year
- Featured reforestation speaker at the NACW (North American Carbon World) conference

Current Partnerships:

- US Forest Service
- Council of Western State Foresters
- SFI
- One Tree Planted



Problem...

Increased sedimentation and nutrient deposits in reservoirs are leading to decreased water supply, harmful algal blooms and overall decreased water health

Direct Causes

- Erosion from converted forests to streambank agriculture and cultivation
- Increased Nitrogen and Phosphorous from agriculture runoff

Costs?

- Direct
 - Dredging
 - Restoration
- Indirect
 - Recreation
 - Limited water use
 - Agricultural
 - Residential



Current Status

Responses

- Streambank stabilization projects – Kansas Forest Service
- \$20 million bond – John Redmond dredging
- Coordination / Education / Research
- Other examples from KWO Projects site

Current challenges

- Landowner adoption
- Conservation Easements
- Project Financing
- Existing Budget
- Enacting Policy



Proposed Solution

Leverage the existing and growing environmental markets to create a mechanism which finances the restoration and water supply needs



Examples

Soil & Water Outcomes Fund

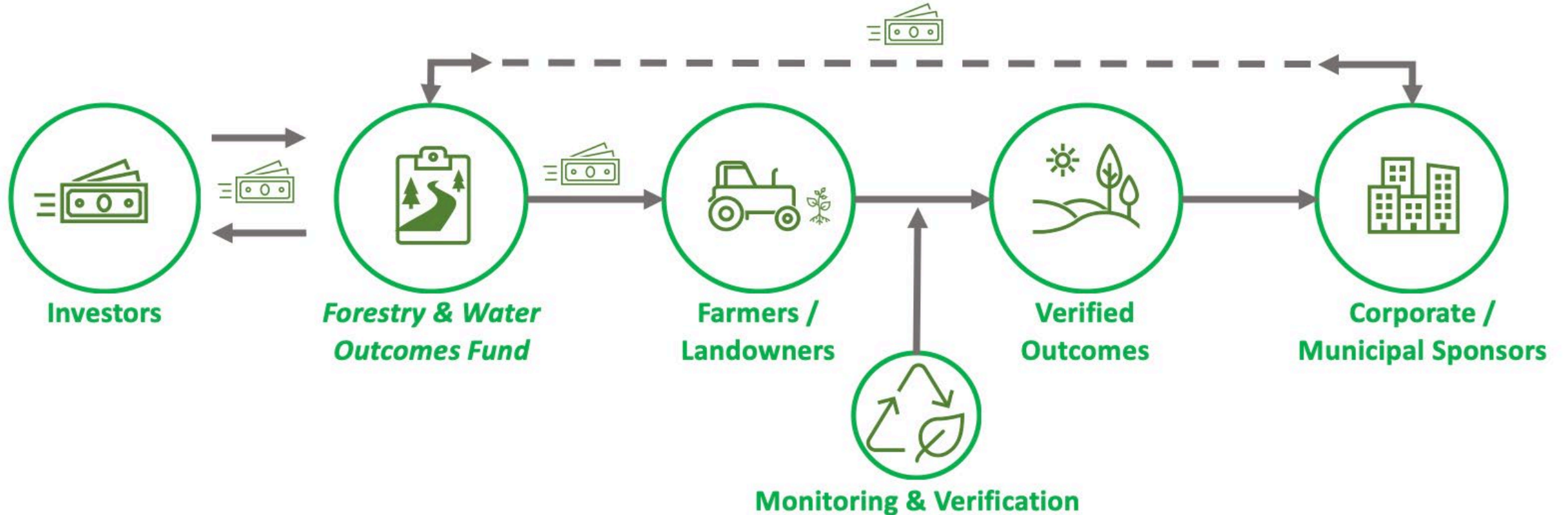
<https://www.theoutcomesfund.com/>

Central Arkansas Water (CAW) – Green Bond

<https://www.carkw.com/>



Proposed Solution – Example Process



What can RenewWest do and next steps....

Phase 1

Initial Feasibility Assessment

Quantification

- Qualify Project Area
- Carbon Metrics
- Sedimentation / Water Quality
- Biodiversity
- Wetland Health

Protocol and Credit assignment

- Forest Carbon
- Water Quality

Phase 2

Create Financial Mechanism

Develop Strategy

- Create Financial Vehicle

Identify Potential Partners / Investors

- Utilities
- Corporates
- Other Stakeholders

Deploy

- Execute offtake agreements
- Raise Capital
- Finance project development



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