



## Regenerate America™ Intended Outcomes

Regenerate America is a coalition-driven campaign to reform the 2023 Farm Bill and shift resources in support of regeneration. Together we aim to achieve:



### Regenerated Soils

*Improving soil health and function on all US farm and range land*

**Through policy priorities 1, 5, 6 (see below)**

1. **Reversed soil loss/erosion:** Transition from ~4.6 tons per acre average loss to net gain/regeneration.
2. **Reversed desertification:** Bare ground re-covered on rangelands and covered with cover crops on all farmland.
3. **Restored soil function:** Increased water holding capacity, soil fertility, and nutrient density of the food produced.
4. **Resilience to flood, drought and fire risks:** Rebuilt “soil sponge” by increasing water infiltration rates, holding capacity and moisture; increased local rainfall; and prolonged vegetative growth.
5. **Replenished clean water sources & rain making:** Increased water absorption, allowing aquifers, springs, and rivers, and whole watersheds to be revived; increased plant cover to provide more respiration, cooling, and cloud seeding/localized rain.
6. **Reduced water pollution & dead zones:** Reduced fertilizer, runoff, and water contamination that impacts fish, bird, and insect populations.
7. **Restored biodiversity:** Farm and rangelands/grasslands as net contributors to habitat creation instead of loss, leading to the reintroduction/reappearance of species.
8. **Reversed global warming:** Drawdown of millions of tons of CO<sub>2</sub> into soil and biomass, reduced nitrous oxide emissions from fertilizer reductions, increased cooling through more land covered with living plants, reduced food waste and methane emissions.
  - a. **Soil carbon gains/sequestration** from net loss to net gains (.01 - .4% SOM annually, depending on context).
9. **Regenerative management (mindsets):** Agricultural decision making framework is based on the six principles of regenerative agriculture and/or utilizing TEK (traditional Ecological Knowledge) contexts.



### Regenerated Economics

*Reviving farmer prosperity, on-farm profitability and resilience, and regenerative supply chains*

**Through policy priorities 1, 2, 3, 6**



# REGENERATE AMERICA

## SOIL IS OUR COMMON GROUND

1. **Increased yields/stocking rates:** Adoption of regenerative practices enhancing necessary soil biology and fertility, and leading to increased production/biomass.
2. **Reduced input costs:** Better soil fertility, soil testing, and management decisions leading to reduced input and irrigation needs/costs.
3. **Reduced economic impact from weather events:** Reduced susceptibility to flooding, drought, fire, and other shocks.
4. **Increased incomes/prosperity and wellbeing of BIPOC farmers:** An overall increase in the prosperity of BIPOC farming & rural communities.
5. **Diversification:** Farmers diversifying revenue streams with integration of livestock and specialty crops.
6. **Restored domestic markets:** Increased sales of US crops and pasture-based livestock in regional and US markets.
7. **Increased competition/reduced economic consolidation:** Increased supply chain resilience and processing capacity, market access for new and innovative companies, increased market transparency, limited market consolidation and limited land purchasing consolidation to make more farmland available to beginning and socially-disadvantaged farmers and resident operators.
8. **Agricultural finance and insurance incentivize resilient soil health practices and systems:** Widespread access to flexible financing and crop insurance that reflect the reduced risk of regenerative practices and support investments in soil health/a regenerative operation.



### Regenerated Communities

*Thriving rural communities, local food systems and equity in agriculture*

**Through policy priorities 2, 4, 5**

1. **Expanded viability of family farming and ranching:** Limited corporate control, retained viable farm/range land (reduced land conversion rate by half, from 2,000 acres a day), and a legacy of fertile land for future farm families.
2. **Thriving rural communities:** Farm dollars remain in the local economy; growing farm communities; refurbished regional infrastructure (and a strong tax base that supports local schools, hospitals, etc.).
3. **Healthy urban communities:** Increased urban agriculture providing a direct connection to soil, compost and healthy food, and strengthened urban/rural synergies.
4. **Increased pathways to ownership and stewardship of land:** Support and incentives for new/beginning farmers to access land; significant increases in acreage under ownership/management by BIPOC farmers (resulting in an overall increase in the number of farmers and ranchers in the US).
5. **Maximum impact of USDA programs:** Equal quality and availability of service from USDA (quantitative and qualitative experience), and increased participation and representation in all USDA programs by BIPOC farmers and Native American tribes.
6. **Local job creation:** New and restored jobs including in processing, distribution, and localized food systems.



# REGENERATE AMERICA™

## SOIL IS OUR COMMON GROUND



### Regenerated Health

*Widespread access to affordable, nutritious, local food*

**Through policy priorities 3, 4**

1. **Decreased chronic disease:** Decreased prevalence of preventable, chronic, food-related diseases and improved overall human health.
2. **Widespread access to local/regional foods:** Reinvestment in local food procurement and access systems for all populations and demographics; access to farmers markets, restored connection between local purveyors/farmers markets/supermarkets/etc. and community members; reduced “food deserts” in low-income communities.
3. **Increased availability of healthy and culturally appropriate food:** Increased nutrient density of food, availability of less processed/unprocessed foods, and reduced food travel/miles/time.
4. **Increased access to education at all levels:** (K-12 and higher education) with regionally appropriate education materials and focus on the importance of biologically diverse, healthy food systems.
5. **SNAP dollars leveraged to bolster local, healthy, resilient food systems:** Easier access for local regenerative producers to become SNAP certified.
6. **Mitigated downstream human health impacts from environmental exposure:**
  - a. **Increased food safety:** Significant reduction in the use of toxic chemical fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and fungicides, reducing runoff and increasing food safety for children and everyone who eats.
  - b. **Universal access to clean drinking water:** Reduced contamination of waterways and sources.

**The above intended outcomes can be achieved via the six policy priorities we have identified that relate to Titles in the Farm Bill:**

**Priority 1.** Expand & Refine Education, Technical Service & Implementation Assistance (Titles II - Conservation, VII - Research, Extension, and Related Matters)

**Priority 2.** Ensure Equitable Opportunity & Access to All USDA Programs (Titles II - Conservation, V - Credit, XII - Miscellaneous)

**Priority 3.** Improve Regional Access to Infrastructure, Processing & Markets (Titles III - Trade, VI - Rural Development, X - Horticulture)

**Priority 4.** Increase Access to Healthy & Regionally Sourced Food (Titles IV - Nutrition)

**Priority 5.** Increase Farmland Preservation & Access, Including for Historically Underserved Producers (Titles II - Conservation, V - Credit, XII - Miscellaneous)

**Priority 6.** Incentivize Soil Health & Risk Mitigation through Federal Crop Insurance & Lending (Titles V - Credit, XI - Crop Insurance)

**“The Farm Bill impacts more American lives than any other government program.”**

- Eric Fuchs, soil health consultant and Regenerate America™ Steering Committee member

