



All times are listed in Eastern.

MONDAY, MARCH 22

8:00 AM WELCOME

- Sara Wyant, Founder and Editor, Agri-Pulse

8:05 AM VIEW FROM THE TOP

Moderator: Sara Wyant

- Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

8:30 AM SPONSOR UPDATE: NUTRIEN

8:35 AM HOW WILL WE MEASURE SUCCESS WITH CARBON SEQUESTRATION & REDUCTION?

Moderator: Philip Brasher

- Debbie Reed, Executive Director, Ecosystem Services Market Consortium
- Dr. Frank Mitloehner, Professor, UC Davis
- Dr. Marty Matlock, Professor and Executive Director, University of Arkansas Resiliency Center
- Dr. Barb Glenn, CEO, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

9:30 AM PERSPECTIVE

Moderator: Spencer Chase

- Robert Kirchoff, CEO, Organic Valley

10:00 AM SPONSOR UPDATE: AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

10:05 AM BREAK

10:25 AM AGRI-PULSE UPDATE

10:30 AM PERSPECTIVE

Moderator: Sara Wyant

- David Scott, House Agriculture Committee Chairman

11:00 AM THE OPPORTUNITY, RISK & UNCERTAINTY OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE DEBATE

Moderator: Jeff Nalley

- Chuck Conner, President and CEO, National Council on Farmer Cooperatives
- Zippy Duvall, President, American Farm Bureau Federation
- Elizabeth Gore, Senior Vice President for Political Affairs, Environmental Defense Fund
- Rob Larew, President, National Farmers Union

12:10 PM SPONSOR UPDATE: CORTEVA

12:15 PM PERSPECTIVE

Moderator: Philip Brasher

- Glenn 'G.T.' Thompson, House Ag Committee Ranking Member

12:45 PM CLOSING COMMENTS

- Sara Wyant, Founder and Editor, Agri-Pulse



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TUESDAY, MARCH 23

12:00 PM OPENING COMMENTS

- Spencer Chase, Managing Editor, Agri-Pulse

12:05 PM USDA'S ROLE IN PROMOTING CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

Moderator: Spencer Chase

- Robert Bonnie, Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Climate Advisor, USDA

12:55 PM SPONSOR UPDATE: SYNGENTA

1:00 PM HOW FOOD COMPANIES AND THE SUPPLY CHAIN ARE REDUCING FOOD WASTE

Moderator: Jeff Nalley

- Leslie Sarasin, CEO, FMI

1:30 PM WHY FOREST MANAGEMENT MATTERS IN THE CLIMATE CHANGE DEBATE

Moderator: Spencer Chase

- Dave Tenny, founding President and CEO, National Alliance of Forest Owners

2:05 PM BREAK

2:20 PM SPONSOR UPDATE: EDGE DAIRY FARMER COOPERATIVE

2:25 PM PERSPECTIVE

Moderator: Sara Wyant

- Sen. John Boozman, Ranking Member, Senate Agriculture Committee

3:00 PM PERSPECTIVE

Moderator: Sara Wyant

- Chuck Magro, President and CEO, Nutrien

3:25 PM WHO WILL BUY CARBON CREDITS AND WHAT WILL THEY BE WORTH?

Moderator: Philip Brasher

- Dr. Chris Harbourt, Global Head of Carbon, Indigo Agriculture
- Ben Fargher, Managing Director of Sustainability for the Ag Supply Chain in North America, Cargill
- Jason Weller, Vice President, Land O'Lakes, Truterra

4:25 PM SPONSOR UPDATE: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF FARMER COOPS

4:30 PM COLLABORATING FOR CLIMATE IMPACT IN THE DAIRY SECTOR

Moderator: Spencer Chase

- Krysta Harden, President and CEO, U.S. Dairy Export Council
- Erik Fyrwald, CEO, Syngenta
- Lynn Scarlett, Chief External Affairs Officer, The Nature Conservancy

4:55 PM CLOSING COMMENTS

- Spencer Chase, Managing Editor, Agri-Pulse



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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

12:00 PM **OPENING COMMENTS**

- Sara Wyant, Founder and Editor, Agri-Pulse

12:05 PM **PERSPECTIVE**

Moderator: Sara Wyant

- Michael Regan, EPA Administrator

12:25 PM **SPONSOR UPDATE: INDIGO AGRICULTURE**

12:30 PM **THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR ANIMAL AGRICULTURE TO IMPACT CLIMATE**

Moderator: Philip Brasher

- Sara Place, Chief Sustainability Officer, Elanco Animal Health

12:45 PM **PERSPECTIVE**

Moderator: Philip Brasher

- Udi Lazimy, Global Head of Sustainability and Sourcing, Eat Just

1:00 PM **THE ECONOMICS OF CLIMATE FARMING: CAN PRODUCERS AFFORD TO PARTICIPATE?**

Moderator: Jeff Nalley

- Dr. John Newton, Chief Economist, American Farm Bureau Federation
- A.G. Kawamura, Founding Co-Chair, Solutions from the Land
- P.J. Haynie III, Chairman of the Board, National Black Growers Council
- Mitchell Hora, Co-Founder and CEO, Continuum Ag

2:00 PM **SPONSOR UPDATE: FLM HARVEST**

2:05 PM **A CLOSER LOOK AT THE GROWING CLIMATE SOLUTIONS ACT**

Moderator: Philip Brasher

- Sen. Mike Braun

2:35 PM **BREAK**

2:55 PM **HOW DAIRIES ARE USING MULTIPLE TOOLS TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHALLENGES**

Moderator: Spencer Chase

- Paul Snyder, Executive Vice President of Stewardship, Tillamook County Creamery Association

3:10 PM **IMPROVING WATER QUALITY THROUGH CLIMATE-RESILIENT APPROACHES**

Moderator: Spencer Chase

- Moira McDonald, Environment Program Director, Walton Family Foundation

3:25 PM **THE TOP FIVE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CROP INSURANCE AND CLIMATE**

Moderator: Philip Brasher

- Dr. Thomas Worth, Chief Actuary, USDA Risk Management Agency
- Tara Smith, Executive Vice President, Michael Torrey Associates

4:10 PM **SPONSOR UPDATE: FARM CREDIT COUNCIL**

4:15 PM **PERSPECTIVE**

Moderator: Sara Wyant

- Debbie Stabenow, Senate Ag Committee Chairwoman

4:45 PM **CLOSING COMMENTS**

- Sara Wyant, Founder and Editor, Agri-Pulse

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Secretary Tom Vilsack

Thomas J. Vilsack was confirmed as the 32nd United States Secretary of Agriculture on Feb. 23, 2021, by the U.S. Senate. He was nominated by President Joe Biden to return to a role where he served for eight years under President Barack Obama.

As leader of the U.S. Department of Agriculture as the 30th Secretary of Agriculture between 2009-2017, Vilsack worked hard to strengthen the American agricultural economy, build vibrant rural communities and create new markets for innovation in rural America. Vilsack was the longest-serving member of President Obama's original Cabinet. Prior to his appointment, he served two terms as the Governor of Iowa, and served in

the Iowa State Senate and as the mayor of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. He received his bachelor's degree from Hamilton College and his law degree from Albany Law School in New York.

Prior to returning to USDA, he served as president and CEO of the U.S. Dairy Export Council from 2017 until February 2021. There, he provided strategic leadership and oversight of USDEC's global promotional and research activities, regulatory affairs and trade policy initiatives. In addition to his post at USDEC, he also served as a Strategic Advisor to Colorado State University's food and water initiatives.

A native of Pittsburgh, Penn., Vilsack was born into an orphanage and adopted in 1951. After graduating from law school, Vilsack moved to Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, his wife Christie's hometown, where he practiced law. The Vilsacks have two adult sons and two daughters-in-law — Doug, married to Janet; and Jess, married to Kate. They have five grandchildren.



Debbie Reed

Debbie Reed is the executive director of the Ecosystem Services Market Consortium (ESMC). ESMC is a member-based organization launching a national-scale ecosystem services market for agriculture to recognize and reward farmers and ranchers for their environmental services to society. ESMC members represent the spectrum of the agricultural sector supply chain with whom they are scaling sustainable agricultural sector outcomes, including increased soil carbon, reduced net greenhouse gases (GHG) and improved water quality and water use conservation. Reed's role in leading ESMC builds on decades of experience in agriculture climate change mitigation and sustainability efforts at the national and international level. Reed previously led the Coalition on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases

(C-AGG), a national multi-stakeholder coalition, supporting the development of tools, support systems, knowledge and programs to improve quantification of GHG from agriculture. She has a Bachelor of Science in nutrition and chemistry and a Masters of Science in both nutrition and communications.



Dr. Frank Mitloehner

Frank Mitloehner is a professor and air quality specialist in cooperative extension in the Department of Animal Science at UC Davis. As such, he shares his knowledge and research, both domestically and abroad, with students, scientists, farmers and ranchers, policymakers, and the public at large. Mitloehner is also director of the CLEAR Center, which has two cores – research and communications. The CLEAR Center brings clarity to the intersection of animal agriculture and the environment, helping our global community understand the environmental and human health impacts of livestock to make informed decisions about the foods we eat and reduce environmental impacts.

Mitloehner is committed to making a difference for generations to come. He is passionate about understanding and mitigating air emissions from livestock operations, as well as studying the implications of these emissions on the health of farmworkers and neighboring communities. In addition, he focuses on the food production challenge that will become a global issue as the world's population grows to nearly 10 billion by 2050. Mitloehner received a Master of Science degree in animal science and agricultural engineering from the University of Leipzig, Germany, and a doctoral degree in animal science from Texas Tech University.



Dr. Marty Matlock

Marty Matlock is the executive director of the University of Arkansas Resiliency Center and a professor of ecological engineering in the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department. The UA Resiliency Center is an interdisciplinary research and outreach collaboration hosted by the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design, with the College of Engineering and Walton College of Business. His research focus is measuring and managing complex ecosystem processes at local to global scales. Matlock is the recipient of the 2018 CAST-Borlaug Agriculture Communications Award. He serves on the EPA's Science Advisory Committee for Agriculture, previously served on the Secretary of Agriculture's Committee for the 21st Century. He is also chairman of

the Cherokee Nation Environmental Protection Commission and serves as a sustainability science advisor for 12 food and agricultural product companies. Matlock received his Ph.D. in biosystems engineering from Oklahoma State University. He is a registered professional engineer, a board-certified environmental engineer and a certified ecosystem designer.



Dr. Barbara Glenn

Barbara Glenn joined the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) as CEO in 2014. Glenn is a scientist with decades of experience as a researcher, policy leader and advocate for agriculture. She previously held leadership positions with CropLife America and the Biotechnology Innovation Organization in Washington, D.C. Earlier in her career, she led governmental affairs for the Federation of Animal Science Societies. For 17 years, she conducted dairy cattle nutrition research for USDA's Agricultural Research Service. Glenn was the first woman to serve as president of the American Society of Animal Science. She holds a bachelor's degree in animal science and a Ph.D. in ruminant nutrition from the University of Kentucky.



Robert Kirchoff

Robert Kirchoff was appointed CEO of Organic Valley in 2019 after serving as chief business officer since 2016. He is also a board member of Organic Logistics. Kirchoff has been involved with the cooperative since 1993 because of his long tenure at the Schroeder Company, which was the first processor to handle the cooperative's organic milk. Kirchoff was president and CEO of Schroeder Company, and in 2008, he shepherded the sale of the company to Agropur Cooperative, a leading manufacturer of dairy products in Canada. Kirchoff continued as president of the newly established Agropur Division Natrel USA until he retired in 2014. He attended St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minnesota, studying business administration.



Chairman David Scott

Rep David Scott, D-Ga., represents Georgia's 13th Congressional District and serves as chairman of the House Ag Committee. Scott is also a senior member of the Financial Services Committee and a member of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. Scott served on numerous House Ag Committee subcommittees and secured \$80 million in funding in the 2018 Farm Bill for agriculture-focused scholarships at the 19 Historically Black 1890's Land-Grant Colleges and Universities across the country.

Scott earned his BA degree and graduated with honors in 1967 from Florida A&M University. During the summers of his junior and senior years at FAMU, David was selected to serve as a management intern in the office of the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Labor Management Relations in Washington, D.C. Upon graduation, he was awarded scholarships to the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania and he earned his MBA degree with honors in 1969. Upon earning his MBA from Wharton, Scott moved to Atlanta, Georgia, and started his own advertising business, Dayn-Mark Advertising.



Chuck Conner

Chuck Conner is president and CEO of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives. He brings more than 25 years of experience in national and state government and agricultural trade association leadership to the position. Prior to joining NCFC, Conner served as deputy secretary of USDA, a position that he had held since 2005. From August 2007 to January 2008, Conner served as both USDA's acting secretary and deputy secretary – helping to shape the Bush administration's agricultural, trade and immigration policies. Earlier in his career, he served as president of the Corn Refiners Association. Conner is a graduate of Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science degree and is the recipient of Purdue's Distinguished Alumni Award. He and his wife Dru have four children.



Zippy Duvall

Zippy Duvall is president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. He is a third-generation farmer from Georgia, where he owns a beef cow herd, raises broiler chickens and grows his own hay, all while continuing to restore the land he inherited.

Through his leadership as AFBF president, Duvall has helped to shape a new farm bill, defeat misguided regulations, shepherd new trade agreements and ensure farmers and ranchers are supported through natural disasters and the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to being elected AFBF president, he was president of the Georgia Farm Bureau and served on the AFBF board of directors. Duvall and his

late wife, Bonnie, were married for more than 40 years, raised four children and welcomed five grandchildren. They were honored with the national Young Farmer and Rancher Award in 1982.

[Farmers for a Sustainable Future](#)



Elizabeth Gore

As Senior Vice President for Political Affairs at the Environmental Defense Fund, Gore brings decades of experience to lead a team of lobbyists and advocates aimed at ensuring cleaner air and water, safer communities, healthier kids and a livable planet. She is also working to advance EDF's policy priorities through the political system, working with EDF's partners across the political spectrum and taking EDF policy goals and making them a reality. Prior to her time at EDF, Gore served in senior positions in the House of Representatives, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Senate, where she focused on energy and environmental policies. She also worked in the private sector, representing a range of energy and environmental interests. Gore received her Bachelor of Arts in Economics

from Swarthmore College.



Rob Larew

Rob Larew is president of the National Farmers Union, a grassroots organization representing more than 200,000 family farmers and ranchers and rural communities across the United States. Before being elected to lead the organization in 2020, Larew served as its vice president of public policy and communications.

Prior to his employment with NFU, Larew served over 22 years in Congress and USDA, working on agriculture policy and communication. Most recently, he was the staff director of the House Ag Committee, where he oversaw the committee's efforts during the 2008 and 2014 farm bills. He previously served as the director of congressional and public affairs

at USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service. He worked as an agricultural aide to Rep. Collin Peterson and the late Sen. Paul Wellstone. Larew was raised on a dairy farm in Greenville, West Virginia. He graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in Dairy Science and completed graduate work in agronomy from Penn State.



Representative Glenn "GT" Thompson

A life-long resident of Howard Township, Centre County, Pennsylvania, Rep. Glenn "GT" Thompson represents Pennsylvania's 15th District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Thompson currently serves as ranking member on the House Agriculture Committee and serves on the House Education and Labor Committee.

Prior to being elected, Thompson spent 28 years as a therapist, rehabilitation services manager and licensed nursing home administrator. He is a proud graduate of Penn State and Temple Universities, where he earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Education, respectively. He and his wife, Penny Ammerman-Thompson, have three adult sons, Parker,

Logan, and Kale.



Robert Bonnie

Robert Bonnie is the deputy chief of staff for policy and climate advisor at USDA. Prior to joining USDA, Bonnie was at Duke University, first as a Rubenstein fellow and later as an executive in residence at the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions. He worked on conservation and environmental issues in rural America. In 2020, Bonnie also worked with the Bipartisan Policy Center on its Farm and Forest Carbon Solutions Initiative. He was undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment at USDA from 2013 to 2017, and a senior advisor to Secretary Tom Vilsack from 2009 to 2013. Prior to joining USDA, Bonnie was vice president for land conservation at the Environmental Defense Fund, where he focused on developing incentives to reward stewardship on private lands. Bonnie

has master's degrees from Duke in forestry and environmental management. He lives with his wife, Julie, and daughter, Lilly, in Loudoun County, Virginia.



Leslie Sarasin

Leslie G. Sarasin is the president and CEO of FMI – The Food Industry Association. Under her leadership, FMI has emerged as a member-centered organization helping food retailing venues find new and future-facing ways of feeding families and enriching lives. Prior to joining FMI a decade ago, Sarasin spent 19 years at the American Frozen Food Institute, serving as president and CEO for the last nine of those years. She also held positions at the National Food Brokers Association, Crest International Corporation and Salomon Brothers.

Sarasin has been recognized multiple times among Supermarket News' "Power Fifty," Progressive Grocer's list of "Top Women in Grocery" and Mass Market Retailer's "Most Influential Women." The Boy Scouts of America awarded her the prestigious Hospitality Good Scout Award in 2019. In 2012, Sarasin was named by CEO Update among the year's 10 "Top Association CEO's." Sarasin holds a J.D. from the University of San Diego and a B.A. in economics from Smith College. She is admitted to practice law in California and the District of Columbia.



Dave Tenny

Dave Tenny is the founding president and CEO of the National Alliance of Forest Owners. Under his leadership, NAFO has grown from 14 initial members in 2008 to 49 member companies that own and manage 46 million acres of private working forests and 31 state and national associations representing tens of millions of additional acres. Tenny previously served as vice president for forestry and wood products for the American Forest and Paper Association (AF&PA) and as deputy undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment at USDA, where he had responsibility for the U.S. Forest Service. He got his start in the House of Representatives, where he served as counsel and natural resources policy advisor for the House Ag Committee and as counsel for Rep. Wally Herger, R-Calif. A native of

Boise, Idaho, Tenny earned a bachelor's degree in American studies from Brigham Young University and a law degree from George Washington University.



Senator John Boozman

First elected to the Senate in 2010, John Boozman was sworn in for a second term on January 3, 2017. Prior to serving in the Senate, he represented the people of the 3rd District of Arkansas in the House of Representatives. Boozman serves as the ranking member of the Senate Ag Committee in the 117th Congress. He will also continue to serve on the Committee on Appropriations, which is responsible for allocating federal funds, and the Committee on the Environment and Public Works, where much of the nation's infrastructure policy is developed.

He graduated from the Southern College of Optometry in 1977. Boozman entered private practice that same year, co-founding a family business with his brother to ultimately become a major eye care provider to Northwest Arkansas. Boozman is married to the former Cathy Marley and they currently reside in Rogers. The couple has three daughters and four grandchildren.



Chuck Magro

Chuck Magro is president and CEO of Nutrien. He was previously president and CEO of Agrium, which he joined in 2009. Magro plays an active role on the boards of the Business Council of Canada, Business Council of Alberta and the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board. He is also vice-chairman of the International Fertilizer Association and past chair and current board member of The Fertilizer Institute. Magro also served as chair of Canpotex Limited. He was on the boards of the International Plant Nutrition Institute and the Nutrients for Life Foundation.

Most recently, Magro joined the World Economic Forum's Food Systems Initiative as a board steward. Magro holds a Bachelor of Applied Science in chemical engineering from the University of Waterloo and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Windsor.



Dr. Chris Harbourt

Chris Harbourt leads Indigo Agriculture's efforts to develop a trusted and scientifically rigorous carbon credit program for farmers. He first joined Indigo in 2019 as vice president. Today, as global head of carbon, Harbourt oversees all aspects of the Indigo Carbon program – from scientific collaborations to corporate buyer partnerships, grower resources to business strategy – with the aim of establishing agricultural carbon credits as an indispensable resource for increasing grower profitability and environmental sustainability.

Harbourt holds a B.S. in biological systems engineering from Virginia Tech and a master's and Ph.D. in agricultural engineering from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign where, since 2009, he has served as adjunct faculty for the Crop Science and Ag & Bio Engineering departments and is the assistant director of the Center for Digital Ag.



Ben Fargher

Ben Fargher is the managing director of sustainability for the Cargill Agricultural Supply Chain in North America. In this role, he is responsible for a sustainability portfolio, including carbon and water projects for this part of Cargill's business. In November 2018, Fargher moved to the U.S. from Australia. He was the general manager for customers, grain origination and storage and handling in the Cargill Australia grain and oilseed business.

Prior to Cargill, Fargher worked as the general manager of operations for a publicly listed cotton and grain agribusiness. He was also previously the CEO of the National Farmers' Federation, the national farm lobby group in Australia. Fargher, who grew up on a farm in Australia, has a Bachelor of Agricultural Science from the University of Adelaide and a master's degree in economics from the University of New England.



Jason Weller

Jason Weller is vice president of Truterra LLC, the sustainability business of Land O'Lakes Inc. Weller joined Land O'Lakes in 2017 as senior director of sustainability, where he leads the team providing natural resource sustainability and agricultural production solutions for the cooperative's members and owners. Weller previously served as chief of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Prior to serving as chief, Weller held various agriculture and natural resource conservation leadership positions, including the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture; on the House Budget Committee; and the White House Office of Management and Budget. Weller earned a bachelor's degree from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, and a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of Michigan.



Krysta Harden

As president and CEO of the U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC), Krysta Harden leverages experience with agriculture, sustainability, food policy and the federal government to help fulfill USDEC's mission to promote dairy exports and enrich the well-being of people, communities, and the planet. In February 2021, Harden became the third president and CEO to lead USDEC since its founding by Dairy Management Inc. (DMI) in 1995. She is the first woman to lead the organization. Harden succeeds former USDEC President and CEO Tom Vilsack.

Before joining DMI, Harden served as chief sustainability officer with Corteva and DuPont. Harden also spent seven years working with Vilsack at USDA, nearly three of those years as deputy secretary, following posts as Vilsack's USDA chief of staff and assistant secretary for congressional relations. At USDA, Harden helped shape agriculture policy and led the implementation of the 2014 Farm Bill. Harden received her B.A. in journalism from the University of Georgia.



Erik Fyrwald

J. Erik Fyrwald joined the Syngenta Group in June 2016 as Chief Executive Officer. Previously, Fyrwald served as chief executive officer of Univar, a leading distributor of chemistry and related services, from May 2012 until May 2016. In 2008, he joined the Nalco Company, a leading water treatment products and services company, serving as chairman and chief executive officer until December 2011, when Nalco merged with Ecolab Inc. Following the merger, Fyrwald served as president of Ecolab, a global water, hygiene, and energy technology provider. From 2003 to 2008, he served as group vice president of the agriculture and nutrition division at the DuPont Company.

Fyrwald serves on the boards of directors of Syngenta Group, Bunge, CropLife International, Eli Lilly, the Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce and the UN World Food Program Farm to Market Initiative. He is also chairman of the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture. Fyrwald attended the University of Delaware, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering in 1981. He also completed the advanced management program at Harvard Business School.



Lynn Scarlett

Lynn Scarlett is chief external affairs officer at The Nature Conservancy. In this role, she influences climate and conservation policy in the United States and the 79 countries and territories in which TNC operates and, with TNC's corporate engagement team, advances private-sector partnerships to support sustainability and enhance ambitious actions to address climate change. Prior to her role at the Conservancy, Scarlett was the deputy secretary and chief operating officer of the U.S. Department of the Interior, where she also served as Acting Secretary of the Interior in 2006.

Scarlett chaired the Science Advisory Board of NOAA from 2014-2020 and is a member of the National Academy of Sciences Sustainability

Roundtable. She is on the Dean's Advisory Council of the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She serves on the advisory board of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, is on the board of trustees of the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, and board emeritus of the National Wildlife Refuge Association. Scarlett received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in political science from the UC-Santa Barbara, where she also completed her Ph.D. coursework and exams in political science and political economy.



Administrator Michael Regan

Michael S. Regan was sworn in as the 16th Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency on March 11, 2021, becoming the first Black man and second person of color to lead the U.S. EPA.

Administrator Regan is a native of Goldsboro, North Carolina, where he developed a passion for the environment while hunting and fishing with his father and grandfather and exploring the vast lands, waters, and inner Coastal Plain of North Carolina.

Prior to his nomination as EPA Administrator, Regan served as the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). As secretary, he spearheaded the development and implementation of North Carolina's seminal plan to address climate change and transition the state to a clean energy economy. Under his leadership, he secured the largest coal ash clean-up in United States history. He led complex negotiations regarding the clean-up of the Cape Fear River, which had been contaminated for years by toxic chemicals, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). In addition, he established North Carolina's first-of-its-kind Environmental Justice and Equity Advisory Board to better align social inequities, environmental protection, and community empowerment.

Previously, Regan served as associate vice president of U.S. climate and energy, and as Southeast regional director of the Environmental Defense Fund, where he convened energy companies, business leaders, environmental and industry groups, and elected officials across the country to achieve pragmatic solutions to the climate crisis.

Regan is a graduate of the North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University, making him the first EPA administrator to have graduated from a Historically Black College and University. He earned a master's degree in Public Administration from The George Washington University. He and his wife Melvina are proud parents to their son, Matthew.



Dr. Sara Place

Sara Place is the chief sustainability officer at Elanco, where she provides technical expertise on sustainability issues to customers and supports Elanco's Healthy Purpose. Prior to Elanco, she was the senior director for sustainable beef production research at the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and an assistant professor in sustainable beef cattle systems at Oklahoma State University. Place received her Ph.D. in animal biology from the University of California, Davis, a B.S. in animal science from Cornell University, and an A.A.S. in agriculture business from Morrisville State College.



Udi Lazimy

Udi Lazimy is the global head of sustainability and sourcing of Eat Just. Lazimy is a highly skilled international operations, sustainability and business strategy director with 15 years' experience leading sustainability, sourcing, agricultural, environmental, and social justice operations at the national and international levels in both the private and nonprofit sectors. In addition, he co-founded and/or coordinated multiple community-based organizations and has over a decade of experience instructing international service, leadership development and outdoor adventure travel programs.

Lazimy received his B.A. from the University of Wisconsin, a master's degree from the University of Colorado and his MBA from Presidio

Graduate School.



Dr. John Newton

John Newton has been American Farm Bureau Federation's chief economist since 2018. He manages Farm Bureau's five-person economics department and is responsible for AFBF's economic policy analysis. In this role, he advises Farm Bureau grassroots members, state staff, AFBF staff and AFBF leadership on the economic implications of agricultural policy issues and proposals to help advance the organization's advocacy efforts.

Newton also serves on the American Farm Bureau Insurance Services Inc. Advisory Committee, both USDA's Agricultural Trade Advisory Committee for Trade in Animals and Animal Products and Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, and the National Business Economics Issues Council. Before joining AFBF, Newton's nearly 20-year career in agriculture includes more than ten years at USDA, and service on the

Senate Agriculture Committee and for USDA's Office of the Chief Economist. Newton is a Kentucky native and holds two master's and a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University.



A.G. Kawamura

A.G. Kawamura is a third-generation fruit and vegetable grower and shipper from Orange County. He is the former secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (2003-2010). He is a founding co-chair of Solutions from the Land. This nationally recognized non-profit organization collaborates with farmers, ranchers, foresters and stakeholders to implement climate-smart land management practices and strategies. He currently serves on several boards and committees, including the Farm Foundation, the Ag Advisory Committee for the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, Chico State University's Ag Research Institute and the Southern California Water Coalition. He is a former chair and current board member of the Western Growers Association. As a progressive urban farmer, Kawamura has a lifetime of experience working

within the shrinking rural and urban boundaries of Southern California. Through his company, Orange County Produce LLC, he is engaged in building an exciting, interactive 21st-century urban agricultural showcase at the Orange County Great Park in Irvine, California.



P.J. Haynie III

Philip J. Haynie, III, more commonly known as P.J. Haynie, is a fifth-generation farmer who currently owns and operates Haynie Farms, LLC, a grain farming business, producing corn, wheat, soybeans and canola throughout four counties in Virginia. Haynie and his family also own and operate a transportation company specializing in food-grade liquid bulk and dry bulk transportation, a timber harvesting company, and a landscaping and excavating company. Haynie graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural and applied economics in May 1999. Haynie currently serves as Chairman of the National Black Growers' Council. Haynie and his wife, Lisa, reside in Reedville, Va., with their three children, Colette, age 18; Philip, IV, age 17; and Trevor, age 12.



Mitchell Hora

Mitchell Hora is a 7th generation Iowa farmer and the founder and CEO of Continuum Ag. His farm has stressed the importance of no-till since 1978. It has become a hub for innovation in adopting diverse cover crops, interseeded covers, relay cropping, small grains, and other soil health practices. Hora started Continuum Ag while attending Iowa State University and has built its footprint to 40 states and 11 countries. The company launched the first soil health data tool, TopSoil, in 2020 and has amassed the largest private soil health dataset. Today, Hora and his team are working with farmers, consultants, and sustainability-focused organizations to improve the on-farm monetization of soil health.



Senator Mike Braun

Sen. Mike Braun is honored to represent the state of Indiana in the U.S. Senate. He serves on Committees on Aging, Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, Appropriations, Budget and Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP).

Braun graduated from Wabash College, where he earned an economics degree, graduating summa cum laude, and earned his MBA in 1978 from Harvard Business School. After graduation, he co-founded Crystal Farms Inc., which later became one of the largest turkey operations in the Midwest. After starting at Meyer Body Company in 1981 and eventually acquiring full ownership, Braun transitioned from the manufacturing sector to the distribution markets, forming Meyer Distributing.



Paul Snyder

Paul Snyder joined the Tillamook County Creamery Association (TCCA) in 2019 as executive vice president of stewardship. In this role, Snyder leads several functions, including corporate responsibility, sustainability, community engagement, corporate communications, government affairs, farm services, and co-op member relations. In addition to his role at TCCA, Snyder currently serves on the board of directors for Newtrient, an organization that partners with dairy farmers, technology providers and other stakeholders to help them make informed decisions regarding manure management opportunities and challenges. Additionally, he serves on the advisory committee of Oregon's Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Program 2021 Rulemaking — a new climate protection program to limit greenhouse gas emissions from some of the most significant sources in Oregon.

Before joining TCCA, Snyder served as global vice president for corporate responsibility at InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG), based in Atlanta, Georgia. Snyder earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature at Lawrence University and an MBA at Cornell University's Johnson Graduate School of Management.

[2019 Stewardship Report](#)



Moira McDonald

Moira McDonald is director of the environment program at the Walton Family Foundation. For the last 11 years, she led the foundation's Mississippi River and coastal initiatives. McDonald has more than 20 years' experience in wetlands and freshwater conservation and previously managed Mississippi River and Great Lakes programs at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

McDonald received her undergraduate degree in environmental science and Russian studies from Brown University and has a master's and a Ph.D. in geography from the University of Minnesota.

[2025 Strategy](#) [Agri-Pulse op-ed](#)



Thomas Worth

Thomas Worth is the chief actuary at USDA's Risk Management Agency. He has primary responsibility for establishing premium rates for the U.S. crop insurance program. He serves as a technical expert for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Board on actuarial and operational issues. He also works on economic, policy analysis, and forecasting models.

Before joining RMA, Worth was an economist at USDA's Economic Research Service, where he did research and publications on international trade, market structure, and risk. Worth has a Ph.D. in international economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a B.A. in

economics from Grinnell College.



Tara Smith

As Executive Vice President for Michael Torrey Associates, Tara Smith leads a team of talented staff focused on developing and implementing legislative and regulatory strategies, building coalitions and informing policymakers on client priorities, including work for the Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau (CIRB). Before joining Michael Torrey Associates in August 2013, Smith worked as a senior professional staff member for the Senate Agriculture Committee under Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan. She covered commodity programs, crop insurance and disaster assistance.

Smith was also previously director of government affairs for the American Farm Bureau Federation, where she handled the farm bill and commodity issues. She formerly worked for Monsanto Company and Promar International, an agribusiness consulting firm. Smith grew up on a corn and soybean farm in central Illinois. She has a bachelor's degree in political science from Davidson College in North Carolina and an MBA from the University of Michigan.



Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow

Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., is the senior senator from Michigan and Chairwoman of the Senate Ag Committee. Stabenow also serves as a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and a senior member of the Finance Committee and Budget Committee.

In the 2018 Farm Bill, Stabenow authored the most advanced climate-smart agriculture policies to date. Building on that progress, she is leading the effort to help agriculture be part of the solution to the climate crisis through voluntary, producer-led, and bipartisan policies. She partnered with Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind., to introduce the bipartisan Growing Climate Solutions Act, which helps farmers and foresters scale up sustainable practices and tap into new economic opportunities through voluntary carbon markets.

Stabenow received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Michigan State University. She worked with youth in the public schools before running for public office. Her home is in Lansing. She has two grown children, Todd and Michelle; a daughter-in-law, Sara; a son-in-law, Scott; and five beautiful grandchildren.