Secretary’s 73rd Honor Awards

CEREMONY

Dedication Beyond Measure: Celebrating Extraordinary Commitment to Serving the American People
A reception for the award recipients and their guests will be held on the Jamie L. Whitten Building Patio immediately following the Secretary’s Honor Awards Ceremony.

Photos from today’s ceremony will be made available for viewing and downloading at U.S. Department of Agriculture | Flickr.
Secretary’s Honor Awards

CEREMONY

Musical Prelude

Presentation of Colors .................................. Armed Forces Color Guard

National Anthem ......................................... Armed Forces Soloist

Pledge of Allegiance .................................... Led by Sharon Drumm

Welcome and Introduction of the Secretary of Agriculture .................. Xochitl Torres-Small

Secretary’s Message ................................... Thomas J. Vilsack

Presentation of Awards ................................. Secretary Vilsack

2023 Secretary’s Honor Awards

2023 Theme Awards

2023 Presidential Rank Award Recipients

Closing Remarks ....................................... Sharon Drumm
**CATEGORY 1 - Award for Combating Climate Change to Support America’s Working Lands, Natural Resources, and Communities**

**National Climate Assessment Team**  
*Office of the Chief Economist*

For empowering USDA and its stakeholders to respond to climate change with the U.S. National Climate Assessment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Member</th>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Ainsworth</td>
<td>William Gould</td>
<td>Miranda Mockrin</td>
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<td>Nora Alvarez-Berrios</td>
<td>Jessica Halofsky</td>
<td>Tischa Munoz-Erickson</td>
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<td>John Baker</td>
<td>Serra Hoagland</td>
<td>Susan O'Neill</td>
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<td>Michelle Baumflek</td>
<td>David Hoover</td>
<td>Steven Ostojda</td>
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<td>Carl Bolster</td>
<td>Coeli Hoover</td>
<td>Jacqueline Ott</td>
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<td>Amber Campbell</td>
<td>Virginia Jin</td>
<td>Dannele Peck</td>
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<td>Michael Cosh</td>
<td>Erik W. Johnson</td>
<td>David Peterson</td>
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<td>Jennifer Costanza</td>
<td>Linda Joyce</td>
<td>Jeffrey Prestemon</td>
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<td>Grant Domke</td>
<td>Erin Lane</td>
<td>Julian Reyes</td>
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<td>Emily Elias</td>
<td>David Levinson</td>
<td>Marty Schmer</td>
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<td>Tracey Farrigan</td>
<td>Charles Luce</td>
<td>Sheri Spiegali</td>
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<td>Philip Fay</td>
<td>Richard MacKenzie</td>
<td>Chris Swanston</td>
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<td>Christopher Fettig</td>
<td>Anne Marsh</td>
<td>Dennis Today</td>
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<td>Alan Franzluebbers</td>
<td>Kathleen McGinley</td>
<td>Margaret Walsh</td>
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<td>Christian Giardina</td>
<td>Steven McNulty</td>
<td>Travis Warziniack</td>
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<td>Grizelle Gonzalez</td>
<td>Cheley Miniat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Goslee</td>
<td>Rob Mitchell</td>
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**Priority Data Layers Team**  
*Farm Production and Conservation, Natural Resources Conservation Service*

For your cross-agency innovation and collaboration to develop the Priority Data Layers project for improved decision making.

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<tr>
<th>Team Member</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Carlo Altman</td>
<td>Sara M. Del Fierro</td>
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<td>Adam Chambers</td>
<td>Leslie J. Glover, II</td>
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<td>Chieh Chen</td>
<td>Aaron Pratt</td>
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<td>Denise C. Coleman</td>
<td>Mark Xu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leslie D. Deavers</td>
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</table>
**CATEGORY 1 - Award for Combating Climate Change to Support America’s Working Lands, Natural Resources, and Communities**

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**Climate Risk Viewer Team**
*Forest Service*

For developing the Climate Risk Viewer, a tool to inform decisions around climate adaptation and carbon stewardship planning.

Sarah Anderson  
Nicolette Balloufet  
Jamie Barbou  
Scott Barndt  
Travis Belotte  
**Erin Berryman**  
Christopher Carlson  
Joan Carlson  
John Coulston  
Shelley Crausby

Michael Cummings  
Ray Davis  
Beth Dennis  
Shannon Groff  
Healy Hamilton  
Christine Handler  
Linda Heath  
Linh Hoang  
Erik Johnson  
Aaron Kamoske

Charlie Luce  
David Lytle  
Peter Nelson  
Claire O’Dea  
Jennifer Ross  
John Rupe  
Sarah Sawyer  
Glenn Sullivan  
Christopher Swanston

Dave Theobald  
Suzanne Tracy  
Nathan Walker  
Travis Warziniak  
Kristen Weil  
Bo Wilmer  
Zack Wurtzebach

---

**Mobile Inelastic Neutron Scattering Technology Team**
*Research, Education, and Economics, Agricultural Research Service*

For outstanding technology transfer of Mobile Inelastic Neutron Scattering soil scanning system.

Aleksandr Kavetskiy  
Stephen Prior  
**Henry Torbert**  
Galina Yakubova

---

**Rural Development - Rural Utilities Service**

For the development of the Achievable Reduction Tool to rank and compare Greenhouse Gas reductions and affordability of clean energy.

Joseph Badin

---

**AIM for Climate Summit Team**
*Research, Education, and Economics, Office of the Chief Scientist*

For planning and executing the historic AIM for Climate Summit and 2nd AIM for Climate Ministerial.

Melanie Abley  
Jaime Adams  
Olutayo Akingbe  
Peter Arbuckle  
Barbara Bennett  
Hope Bigda-Peyton

Justin Bredlau  
Autumn Canaday  
Caitlin Corner-Dolloff  
Sujata Emani  
Jeffrey Galloway  
Anthony Gilbert

Linsey Haram  
Claire Henly  
Christian Man  
Katherine McBride  
Simone Passarelli  
Kim Radcliff

Perry Rainosek  
William Singer  
Davida Tengey  
Gerald Tillman  
Seshu Vaddey  
Yvette Wedderburn
**CATEGORY 2 - AWARD FOR ENSURING AMERICA’S AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM IS EQUITABLE, RESILIENT, AND PROSPEROUS**

*Finney and Lane CRP Staff*
*Farm Production and Conservation, Farm Service Agency - KANSAS*

Enrollment of more than 1/3 of the total acres across 4 states in Migratory Waterfowl SAFE CRP between LN and FI Counties

Brena Moomaw  
Stacey Foos  
Rylea Crist

*African Swine Fever Domestic Preparedness Team*
*Marketing and Regulatory Programs – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service*

For proactive action to prepare for and manage the impact of potential African Swine Fever introduction to the US on the US swine herd.

Alberto O. Alvarez Rodriguez  
Eric J Balcerzak  
Oniel Candelaria Munoz  
Jose R Ceballos  
Dana J Cole  
Phuong Nhu T Duong  
Sharon S Fisher  
Shayne P Galford  
Jeffrey G Hash  
Christina M Loiacono

Robert Miknis  
Ximena Miranda  
**Laurie M. Morales**  
Gustavo E Olivieri Cintron  
Jana K Robb  
Suelee Robbe Austerman  
**Lisa T. Rochette**  
Lori D Swiderski  
Shilo M Weir  
Jonathan T. Zack

*2023 U.S. Host Year Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Team*
*Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, Foreign Agricultural Service*

For negotiating Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Principles enabling sustainable agriculture and resilient agri-food systems across the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation region.

Wynter Carl  
Joe Hain  
Aileen Mannix  
**Melissa Schmaedick**  
Allison Thomas

BOLDED NAMES INDICATE TEAM LEAD
**CATEGORY 2 - AWARD FOR ENSURING AMERICA’S AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM IS EQUITABLE, RESILIENT, AND PROSPEROUS**

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**SARS-CoV-2 Animal Surveillance Implementation Team**  
*Marketing and Regulatory Programs – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service*

For your efforts to strengthen APHIS’ ability to detect emerging and zoonotic diseases and build an early warning system to limit or prevent future pandemics.

Sarah Allely  
Valerie DeFeo  
Tom DeLiberto  
**Laird Draves**  
Matt Erdman  
Stephanie Flugge  
Langston Hull

Caitlin Jandegian  
Martha Keller  
Donna Lalli  
Roxanne Mullaney  
Alecia Naugle  
Alan Pearson  
Raul Ruiz

Ibrahim Shaqir  
Abby Stilwell  
Jason Suckow  
Sarah Tomlinson  
Michelle Wenberg  
Heather Wilkie

---

**National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility Standup Team**  
*Research, Education, and Economics, Agricultural Research Service*

For standing up operations of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility.

Michael Arnold  
Jeffrey Brakke  
Kenneth Burton  
Larry Chandler  
Alfonso Clavijo  
Eric Hoffman  
Freeda Isaac  
Meghan Jackson  
Elizabeth Lautner  
Karen Ratzow  
Jeffrey Silverstein  
Angela Stewart  
Sharone Washington  
Diana Whipple  
Michael Wiggett

---

**Farm Income Team**  
*Research, Education, and Economics, Economic Research Service*

For continuing to develop a farm income forecast during a period of high volatility for the agricultural economy.

Tatiana Borisova  
Monika Ghimire  
Kathy Kassel  
Jonathan Law  
**Carrie Litkowski**  
Dipak Subedi  
Christine Whitt  
David Williams

---
CATEGORY 3 - AWARD FOR FOSTERING AN EQUITABLE AND COMPETITIVE MARKETPLACE FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS

Office of the General Counsel
For outstanding representation of the Department of Agriculture as primary counsel in high profile trade negotiations and disputes.
Nancy Kao

India Market Access Team
Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, Foreign Agricultural Service
For contributing to efforts to reduce tariffs and expand market access for a range of U.S. agricultural exports to India.
Marian J. Beillard
Joan E. Hurst
Brendan A. Lynch
Ross E. Medico
Ronald P. Verdonk

Ukraine Analysis Team
Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, Foreign Agricultural Service
For outstanding teamwork and analysis of the impact of Russia’s Invasion of Ukraine on global food security and trade.
Amy Gaito
Eric Gero
Agata Kingsbury
Elizabeth Leonardi
Kevin Min
Iliana Mladenova
Denys Sobolev
Rachel Trego
### Inflation Reduction Act, Section 22006 Team

*Farm Production and Conservation Team, Farm Service Agency*

For your leadership to implement Section 22006 of the Inflation Reduction Act 22006 and keep farmers farming.

| Category 3 - Award for Fostering an Equitable and Competitive Marketplace for All Agricultural Producers |
|---|---|---|---|
| Baylee Bain | Brittany Fox | Tianpu (Tim) Liang | Jason Quintana |
| Mercedes Baker | Tina Fritts | Lisa Liska | Tim Reimer |
| Ashley Barnhart | Jamelda Fulton | Shelley Lobert | Mary Rhoades |
| Morgan Barton | Danielle Furlin | Julie Long | Nick Richburg |
| Terrick Boley | Greg Gaston | Morgan Lopez | Dana Richey |
| Verlon Matt Brown | Lisa (LeAnn) Gibbs | Bruce Mair | Matthew Richter |
| Houston Bruck | Angela Glandorf | Scott Marlow | Wesley Riley |
| Mike Buechler | Wyonia Golden | Cheryl Massey | Caleb Roberson |
| Sarah Campbell | Makayla Green | Heather Medina | Angelo Scaffido |
| Molly Carey | Donna Griswold | Lupe Mims | Jamila Scott |
| Jessica Casada | Brian W. Hall | Rebecca Minter | Gina Smith |
| Bill Cobb | Nancy Harrell | Stacy Morrison | Michaela Stiver |
| Madison Connor | Millicent Harrison | Mickelle Munnings | Megan Stone |
| Britney Cornwell | Sharilyn Hashimoto | Kara Napier | Matthew Strueby |
| Brittany Criswell | Amanda Heitkamp | Jody Nation | Jacob Thao |
| Allen Denkins | Kristen Hibbard | Lee Nault | Frank Urbanick |
| Mary DeOrnellis | Kayla Hintze | Janet Neighbors | Kenneth Ure |
| Courtney Dixon | Carol Hoyt | Kim Nguyen | Laurie Weatherly |
| Caitlin Durow | Derek Johnson | Richard Nichols | Nathaniel West |
| Steven Dusek | Dock Jones | Sarah Niensteadt | Nathan Wilson |
| Sheila Erwin | Lynn Kaiser | TJ Nii | Micki Wines |
| Carolyn Estrada | DeAnna Kartak | Sheila Oellrich | Alexis Wood |
| Marcia Evans | Heather Koester | Fernando Pineiro | Janet Wright |
| Megan Everswick | Janet Kramer | William (Bud) Prue | Jason Yarberry |
| Laura Fisher | Jaimie Lavernge | Jeff Pyle | Katherine Zachman |

*Bolded names indicate team lead.*
**CATEGORY 3 - AWARD FOR FOSTERING AN EQUITABLE AND COMPETITIVE MARKETPLACE FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS**

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**Interagency Partnership for Fair Trade in Safe Food Team**

*Office of the Secretary, U.S. Codex Office*

For outstanding contributions to public health and international trade through science-based food safety standards.

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<tr>
<td>Rob Ahern</td>
<td>Kenneth Lowery</td>
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<td>Julie Chao</td>
<td>Ellen Luger</td>
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<td>Doreen Chen-Moulec</td>
<td>Marie Maratos Bhat</td>
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<td>Sean Cox</td>
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<td>Maria Espinoza</td>
<td>Brandi Robinson</td>
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<td>Alexandra Ferraro</td>
<td>Brianna Robinson-Verloop</td>
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<td>Jason Hafemeister</td>
<td>Heather Selig</td>
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<td>Mary Frances Lowe</td>
<td>Corey Watts</td>
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**Integrated Modeling Geospatial Estimation System: Modeling Team**

*Research, Education, and Economics, National Agricultural Statistics Service*

For outstanding research, development and implementation of the PCDL and an intensive cloud computing environment.

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<tr>
<td>Jonathan Abernethy</td>
<td>Lu Chen</td>
<td>Kevin Hunt</td>
<td>Luca Sartore</td>
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<td>Peter Beeson</td>
<td>Bruce Craig</td>
<td>Tara Murphy</td>
<td>Steven Wallander</td>
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<td>Valbona Bejleri</td>
<td>Andrew Dau</td>
<td>Balgobin Nandram</td>
<td>Ryan Williams</td>
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<td><strong>Claire Boryan</strong></td>
<td>Noemi Guindin-Garcia</td>
<td><strong>Anthony Prillaman</strong></td>
<td>Patrick Willis</td>
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<td>Maria Bowman</td>
<td>Christopher Hawthorn</td>
<td>Arthur Rosales</td>
<td>Grace Yoon</td>
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**Category 3 - Award for Fostering an Equitable and Competitive Marketplace for All Agricultural Producers**

Packers and Stockyards Act Fair and Competitive markets Rulemaking Team
Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service

For your dedication in crafting significant and highly complex regulations to create fair and more competitive markets.

Wayne H. Basford  Jeffrey A. Feirick  Gary J. May
Amy R. Blechinger  Peyton Ferrier  Laurel May
**William K. Brake**  Stuart D. Frank  Rebecca Nemec
Katharine Bundy  Norma (Joell) Gilham  Jaina L. Nian
Jerry Chapin  Jonathan Gordy  Steven B. Offutt
Carlynne Cockrum  Brian Hill  Kraig J. Roesch
Joseph Cooper  Troy Hillier  Julie S. Shiflett
Adam Diamond  Kelsey A. Hopkins  Kevin E. Smith
Samantha Dorsey  Elizabeth Kruman  Kole Swanser
**Thomas E. Duggan**  Jing (Janet) Liang  Patricia L. Tolle
Peter Feather  Weylin T. Lucius  Sherry Wise

Indigenous Animals Harvesting and Meat Processing Grant Program Team
Rural Development - Rural Business Cooperative Service

For developing first-in-the-nation grant program for the unique processing and cultural requirements for indigenous animals

Ted Buelow  Melissa Nicks
Rachel Cerruti  Nancy Pletcher
Nicholas Chiumenti  Matthew Russell
Chrystel Cornelius  Sara Stapleton
Margaret Haidet  Melissa Sturdivant
Ventana Harding  Gail Thuner
Christine Kimball  Emily West
Shannon Moon

Bolded names indicate team lead
CATEGORY 3 - AWARD FOR FOSTERING AN EQUITABLE AND COMPETITIVE MARKETPLACE FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS

Rural Business Development Grant Tribal Equity Regulation Team
Rural Development - Rural Development Innovation Center

For reducing barriers to program access Rural Business Development Grants for Tribal nations and businesses, supporting Tribal communities’ economic goals.

Tedd Buelow
Lauren Cusick
Will Dods
Josiah Griffin
Cindy Mason
Katherine Anne Mathis
Melissa Sturdivant
Heather Dawn Thompson

Single Family Housing Tribal Champions Team
Rural Development - Rural Housing Service

For creating access to affordable housing in Tribal communities through a non-profit relending pilot program.

Brooke Baumann Dana Kleinsasser
Tedd Buelow Laurie Mohr
David Corwin Ingrid Ripley
Trish Cousins Melissa Sturdivant
Julie Czappa Sara Theileke
Andria Hively Joaquin Tremols
Brian Hudson Ticia Weare
CATEGORY 4 - AWARD FOR PROVIDING ALL AMERICANS SAFE, NUTRITIOUS FOOD

New State MPI Program Onboarding Team
Food Safety and Inspection Service

For development of updated procedures for adding States to State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program, providing additional slaughter and processing capacity for farmers and ranchers.

Leslye Beswick  Amanda Krot
Terry Black       Marvin Lykes
Scott Coker      Jeanetta Tankson
Jonathan Coleman Luca Thompson
Ugo Emeaba       Cynthia Whitley
Brian Fong

Healthy Meal Incentives Initiative Team
Food and Nutrition Service

Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative improves school meals by transforming food systems and school food authority recognition.

Sara Bennett
Jeewon Chang
Sheldon Gordon
Brittany Gorman
Kaushalya Heendeniya
Nancy Katz
Amy Mazerall
Waleska Medina-Cannon
Kaylyn Padovani
Carrie Scheidel
Bethany Showell
Kimberly Visioni
Alicia White

BOLDED NAMES INDICATE TEAM LEAD
**CATEGORY 4 - AWARD FOR PROVIDING ALL AMERICANS SAFE, NUTRITIOUS FOOD**

*WIC Infant Formula Resiliency Team*
*Food and Nutrition Service*

Response to an unprecedented supply chain disruption ensuring that millions of WIC babies had access to safe infant formula.

| Patricia Bailey | Kiley Larson |
| Shenique Bridges | Sara Olson |
| **Clarissa (Claire) Brown** | Daniel Perez-Lopez |
| Riley Carbonneau | Allison Post |
| Cheryl Funanich | Nancy Ranieri |
| Gregory French | Dana Rasmussen |
| Kristin Garcia | Latisha Savoy |
| Anna Gordon | Valery Soto |
| Amy Herring | Andrea Whitley |
| Melanie Hymes | Sarah Widor |
| Emma Kingsbury | |

*GusNIP Team*
*Research, Education, and Economics, National Institute of Food and Agriculture*

For implementing GusNIP, to advance food and nutrition security within historically underserved communities

| Matthew Browning | Stephanie Morriss |
| Maria Crespo Seshompo | Yamilis Ocasio |
| Sheila Fleischhacker | Marga Ortiz |
| Heather Garcia | Gabriel Sandler |
| **Pascale Jean** | Shakeeva Shepherd |
| Cierrah Kassetas | Stephanie Smith |
| Elizabeth Kerling | Suzanne Stluka |
| **Mallory Koenings** | Shoushan Zeng |
| Ryan Kornegay | |
CATEGORY 5 - AWARD FOR EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN RURAL AND TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program and Fertilizer Production Expansion Program Teams

Rural Development - Rural Business Cooperative Service

For work on the HBIIP and FPEP Grants to increase production of biofuels, reduce production costs, and create better markets

Kelly Bogle
Jonathan Burns
Anthony Crooks
**Jeff Carpenter**
Rachel Cerruti
Kacy Elkins
Lisa Noty
Nancy Pletcher
Kasey Watson

Single Family Housing Direct Disaster Team

Rural Development - Rural Housing Service

For innovative and responsive use of program authorities to maximize impacts of the rural home repair program

Blaine Barnes
Brooke Baumann
Tom Carew
Rachel Chambers
Caroline Evans

*Bolded names indicate team lead*
**CATEGORY 5 - AWARD FOR EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN RURAL AND TRIBAL COMMUNITIES**

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**Procurement Forecast Automation Team**  
*Departmental Administration – Office of Contracting Procurement*

For the implementation of the Procurement Forecast Tool that increased small business engagement in contracting opportunities.

**Donald W. Baker Jr.**  
George A. Sears  
Richard Toothman  
Michelle Warren

---

**Forest Service Inaugural Equity Team**  
*Forest Service*

In recognition of a ground-breaking all-agency summit to advance the journey to becoming an equity-centered Forest Service.

| Patricia Ballard | Tasha Lo Porto | Surina Singh  
| Rebecca Buxton | Chris Manning | Gabrielle “Gabe” Snider  
| Amber Carillo | Ashley Miller | Hunt Spear  
| Brad Fuller | Belinda Mollard | **Shandra Terry**  
| Michael Hill | Valencia Morris | Jessica Torres  
| Erica Hupp | Georgia Ortega-Cox | Dora Tovar  
| Gina Ikeda | Romeo Pereles | Sherrri Wormstead  
| Chalonda Jasper | Diana Perez  

**BOLDED NAMES INDICATE TEAM LEAD**
**CATEGORY 6 - AWARD FOR ATTRACTING, INSPIRING, AND RETAINING AN ENGAGED AND MOTIVATED WORKFORCE THAT'S PROUD TO REPRESENT USDA**

---

**Child Nutrition Racial and Cultural Awareness Workgroup**  
*Food and Nutrition Service*

For nurturing a DEIA program to increase racial and cultural awareness for a more inclusive and respectful workplace.

- **Darrick Butler**  
- **Ivette Del Torro**  
- **Suzanne Diggs**  
- **Anne Fiala**  
- **Steven Gaither**  
- **Sheldon Gordon**

- **Talitha Jordan**  
- **Wanda McNeil**  
- **Debra Nigri**  
- **Jessica Saracino**  
- **Stacey Sheffey**  
- **Bethany Showell**

- **Sarah Smith-Holmes**  
- **Shawnee Sweeney**  
- **Mydina Thabet**  
- **Shawnee Sweeney**  
- **Timothy Wepplo**

---

**Southeast Regional Office, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**  
*Food and Nutrition Service*

Ensuring program compliance, providing excellent customer service, and supporting professional development for regional staff.

- **Gwen Daniels**

---

**Personnel Document Security Division Programs Team**  
*Departmental Administration – Office of Homeland Security*

Winning with Teamwork

- **Craig A. Aughe**  
- **Tammy Colburn-Smith**  
- **Karen F. Maguire**  
- **Megan Moses**

- **Ivette Del Torro**  
- **Wanda McNeil**  
- **Debra Nigri**  
- **Jessica Saracino**  
- **Stacey Sheffey**  
- **Bethany Showell**

- **Sarah Smith-Holmes**  
- **Shawnee Sweeney**  
- **Mydina Thabet**  
- **Shawnee Sweeney**  
- **Timothy Wepplo**

---

**Farm Production and Conservation**

For an innovative approach to constantly evolving business practices resulting in exceeding the Small Business goals.

- **Sheryl C. Welch**
**Departmental Administration – Office of Operations**

For unwavering commitment, innovation, and exceptional contributions in the Central Mail Unit to support USDA offices.

Paul Washington

**Mobile Security Migration Team**

*Office of the Chief Information Officer*

For the successful migration of 50,000 USDA mobile devices to secure, capable, and cost-effective management services.

Shawn Bjorgaard  
Dan Boss  
Ann Brandt  
Matthew Cox  
Frank Feustel  
Zachary Freeman  
Gerald Gonzales  
Vinod Gulati  
Victor Hankinson  
Jeff Harriss  
Michael Houseworth  
David Kwong  
Rebecca Lading  
Vatrina Mardre  
Robert Meredith  
Marshawny Moore  
Phil Mosley  
Kim Neely  
Stephen Ong-Hay  
Dewayne Potts  
Randy Rhyne  
David Salaman  
Emma Schnepf  
Trina Tuttle  
Mark Warren  
Gerald Washington

**Control Correspondence Team**

*Forest Service*

For improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Controlled Correspondence process and quality of responses.

Elizabeth Cooper  
Debbie Cress  
Karen Middleton  
Laurie Montgomery  
Angelica Quintana  
Anthony Scardina  
**Patricia Suchodolski**
**THEMED AWARDS**

*DEDICATION BEYOND MEASURE: CELEBRATING EXTRAORDINARY COMMITMENT TO SERVING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE*

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**Dr. Rebecca Schmidt-Jeffris**  
*Research, Education, and Economics, Agricultural Research Service*

Samuel J. Heyman, or SAMMIES, Emerging Leaders finalist for engaging in pioneering work that deploys insects as natural predators against other bugs that damage crops such as apples and pears, limiting the use of harmful pesticides, saving farmers money and protecting the environment.

---

**Dr. J. Vincent Edwards**  
*Mission Area, Staff Office*

Samuel J. Heyman, or SAMMIES, Science, Technology and Environment finalist for developing innovative and highly effective new cotton-based medical gauze and dressings for trauma and chronic wound patients that are now in use by hospitals and first responders.

---

**SNAP Online Purchasing Team**  
*Food and Nutrition Service*

Samuel J. Heyman, or SAMMIES, represented by Lisa Gifaldi, Shelly Pierce and Andrea Gold-O’Conner, Management Excellence finalist for creating a system that has allowed millions of low-income urban and rural residents lacking access to supermarkets and healthy food choices to use Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits to purchase food.
2023 Presidential Rank Awards
Distinguished Executive Award

Cathy Glover
Deputy Administrator
Single Family Housing
Rural Development
2023 Presidential Rank Awards
Meritorious Executive Award

Stuart A. Bender
Director
Office of Ethics
USDA
Laurence D. Chandler

USDA ARS
Director, Plains Area
Ft. Collins, CO
2023 Presidential Rank Awards

Meritorious Executive Award

Christopher B. French
Deputy Chief, National Forest System, USFS
2023 Presidental Rank Awards
Meritorious Executive Award

Roger W. Glendenning
Chief Operating Officer
Rural Development
2023 Presidential Rank Awards
Meritorious Executive Award

Tameka Owens
Assistant Administrator
Food and Nutrition Service
2023 Presidential Rank Awards
Meritorious Executive Award

Kevin Shea
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary, USDA
2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE AWARD

Jeffrey Silverstein
Deputy Administrator
Office of National Programs
Animal Production and Protection
Agricultural Research Service
Pamela Starke-Reed
Deputy Administrator
Nutrition, Food Safety and Product Quality/New Uses
ARS Ethics & Scientific Integrity Officer
Agricultural Research Service, USDA
2023 Presidential Rank Awards
Meritorious Executive Award

Soumaya M. Tohamy
Assistant Administrator
OEED, FSIS, USDA
2023 Presidential Rank Awards
Meritorious Senior Professional

William P. Kustas
USDA-ARS Hydrology & Remote Sensing Lab
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Office the Executive Secretariat
Office of Executive Services
Office of Communications
Office of Operations
Office of Contracting and Procurement
2023 Honor Awards Review Panel

Special thanks are also extended to the dozens of people who contributed to the Secretary’s 73rd Honor Award Program in myriad ways behind the scenes, from shepherding nomination packages through the approval process, to serving as ushers for the ceremony, and arranging travel for this year’s honorees. All of your collaborative and engaged efforts have come together in this celebration of some of the finest achievements of The People’s Department.

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