

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
FY 2017 Conference Report
As required by the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum 17-08

CONFERENCE NAME	AGENCY PROVIDING SPONSORSHIP FUNDS	TOTAL USDA EXPENSES	CITY	STATE	START DATE	END DATE	EXPLANATION OF MISSION IMPACT	PARTICIPANTS
Agricultural Outlook Forum	Office of the Chief Economist	\$129,580.30	Arlington	VA	2/23/2017	2/24/2017	Provide U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) staff and stakeholders - producers, policy makers, business leaders, and government and industry analysts - the opportunity to learn about USDA programs and priorities for the coming year, as well as attend a full day of sessions explaining USDA's first agricultural commodity supply and demand projections for the coming marketing year.	660
Farm Loan Program Training	Farm Service Agency	\$290,631.00	San Diego	CA	11/28/2016	12/1/2016	Provide Farm Loan Program field office management and staff a forum to discuss issues with national office staff. Training topics include expansion of the microloan program into farm ownership and guaranteed loans making operations successful in challenging environments during times of transition for borrowers.	153
Federally Employed Women	Food Safety and Inspection Service	\$127,796.23	New Orleans	LA	7/17/2017	7/20/2017	Federally Employed Women works to end sex and gender discrimination, to encourage diversity for inclusion and equity in the workplace, and for the advancement and professional growth of women in federal service.	51
National Cooperative Soil Survey Annual Conference	Natural Resources Conservation Service	\$136,018.00	Boise	ID	6/25/2017	6/29/2017	Strategic planning and standards and procedures validation of the soil survey and ecological inventory databases collected and maintained by the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) in collaboration with the NCSS partnership. In addition, the partnership shared and consolidated vision and planning for the soils and ecosystem inventory of the United States. Soils and ecological site inventory coupled with ecosystem services is an emerging issue for the country as functioning ecosystems will impact climate change, land use, and conservation planning.	80
National Employee Development Center - National Organization of Professional Hispanic Natural Resources Conservation Service Employees - Women in Natural Resources Conservation Service - Asian Pacific Islander Organization Joint Training Series	Natural Resources Conservation Service	\$169,288.93	Grapevine	TX	3/17/2017	3/18/2017	The 2017 program built on the success of prior collaboration, drawing twice the number of attendees as in 2016, and demonstrated the value-added benefit to considering diversity and inclusion, civil rights, and partnership components of leadership. Attendees came away with valuable tools for agency program delivery to underserved communities, a renewed sense of purpose and engagement, and ways to translate leadership to every job title and situation.	150
National Silviculture Workshop - The Foundation for Restoration, Resilience, and Climate Adaptation	Forest Service	\$138,695.43	Flagstaff	AZ	7/18/2017	7/20/2017	The workshop brought together field foresters in the National Forest System, research scientists from Research & Development, and universities to share silvicultural advances that enhance existing restoration, resilience, and climate adaption efforts in the Forest Service. The meeting included a field tour to the Fort Valley Experimental Forest and the Coconino and/or Kaibab National Forests.	104
Natural Areas Conference	Forest Service	\$117,908.31	Davis	CA	10/18/2016	10/21/2016	The Natural Areas Conference is the premier gathering for natural areas professionals to share the latest advances in stewardship and connect as a community. Speakers share their cutting-edge discoveries with attendees through presentations, symposia, panel discussions, posters and workshops with a focus on an area of inquiry such as responding to climate change, or successful collaborations of crucial and timely importance to the profession. Presenters offer strategies and tactics that they've used successfully in the field, and participants learn first-hand about natural area issues in the region where the conference takes place, and explore the unique geography and biodiversity with local experts.	68

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Natural Resources Conservation Service Leadership Working Sessions and National Conservation Partnership Leadership Development Symposium	Natural Resources Conservation Service	\$210,335.12	Lincoln	NE	6/20/2017	6/22/2017	This three-day meeting included a two-day working session for 102 Natural Resources Conservation Service leaders to engage in discussions of contemporary and emerging national issues related to agency operations, customer service, performance, efficiencies, and cost reductions consistent with Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-17-22.	127
Organics Training	Farm Service Agency	\$185,902.40	Milwaukee	WI	3/7/2017	3/10/2017	Educate Farm Service Agency (FSA) field employees on the importance organic farming plays in local communities as well as provide information necessary for the administration of the Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP). Training encompassed a wide variety of organic farming topics, and educated and prepared FSA field office staff to train other FSA employees and to deliver OCCSP.	114
Society of American Foresters Convention	Forest Service	\$338,873.01	Madison	WI	11/2/2016	11/6/2016	The Society of American Foresters (SAF) sets the standard in forest management, bringing science, best practice, and the best people together to actively shape the future of the profession. The 2016 SAF National Convention explored the rich history of forestry, land stewardship, and the connections that unite all who create, manage, use, and conserve forests and associated resources to meet desired goals, needs, and values.	143
The Wildlife Society Conference	Forest Service	\$115,678.56	Albuquerque	NM	9/23/2017	9/27/2017	Excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. The Wildlife Society works to improve wildlife conservation in North America by advancing the science of wildlife management, promoting continuing education of wildlife professionals, and advocating for sound, science-based wildlife policy.	54
Total		\$1,960,707.29						1,704