

**U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**  
**FY 2018 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	\$165,940.10	Arlington	VA	2/22/2018	2/23/2018	Provided 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 attended a full day of sessions explaining USDA's first agricultural commodity supply and demand projections for the coming marketing year.	652
Forest Inventory and Analysis Stakeholder Science Meeting	Forest Service	\$114,784.81	Park City	UT	10/24/2017	10/26/2017	The Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program maintains a comprehensive forest monitoring system across the country, comprising the primary source of information about our forests' status and trends. FIA is also the backbone of the National Forest System's decision support system, allowing agency land management to be based upon the most current and coherent monitoring science. Maintenance of FIA's (and by extension, the agency's) preeminent position in forest assessment requires periodic coordination among the program's nationally distributed network of scientists, analysts, partners, and peers.	80
Global Attaché Conference	Foreign Agricultural Service	\$164,981.00	Washington	DC	7/9/2018	7/13/2018	Annual global conference to bring overseas heads of posts (FSOs) to Washington, DC for annual conferences.	111
Joint Midwest-West Regional Rural Business Service Program Training	Rural Business-Cooperative Service	\$137,557.00	Milwaukee	WI	9/17/2018	9/21/2018	The training utilized a variety of training methods to address roles and opportunities of RBCS programs regarding USDA's Innovation, Partnership, and Infrastructure initiatives, the five key indicators of Taskforce on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity report, and USDA's strategic goals and objectives. Rural Development field office staff have expressed a need for better understanding of their roles and more guidance for implementation and achieving strategic impacts of these initiatives.	90
Joint Northern-Southern Regional Rural Business Service Program Training	Rural Business-Cooperative Service	\$122,241.00	Louisville	KY	9/10/2018	9/14/2018	Facilitated coordinated communications from the Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS) National Office leadership and staff to the Rural Development State Office Program Directors, senior program staff and field office staff who deliver RBCS programs.  Bolstered relationships between the National and Field Office management, illustrated innovative ways to collaborate with SBA, and exposed staff to private sector developments in renewable energy technologies, as well as developed critical knowledge capacity of state program leadership and the National Office staff identified for training.	79
Society of American Foresters National Convention	Forest Service	\$230,359.98	Albuquerque	NM	11/15/2017	11/19/2017	Participation supports Forest Service and USDA goals related to ecosystems science, fire prevention and recovery, adaption and mitigation, forest health, restoration of forest ecosystems, sustainable management of the nation's forest, and outreach and diversity.	119
Wildfire and Hurricanes Indemnity Program Training	Farm Service Agency	\$145,110.00	Orlando	FL	6/25/2018	6/29/2018	The Wildfire and Hurricanes Indemnity Program (WHIP) Training was an instructor-led training and information session for state specialists and/or backups who are responsible for WHIP. This training provided the state specialists a forum to ask specific questions, receive WHIP training, and receive skills and job aids to help with completing applicable end user training within their respective states.	90
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,080,973.89</b>						<b>1,221</b>