

# Climate Change Overview



# USDA's Strategic Plan

## 5 Strategic Goals

- Goal #2: Ensure our National Forests and private working lands are conserved, restored, and made more resilient to climate change, while enhancing our water resources.
  - Improve the health of the Nation's forests, grasslands, and working lands by managing our natural resources.
  - Lead efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, drought, and extreme weather in agriculture and forestry.
  - Contribute to clean and abundant water by protecting and enhancing water resources on national forests and working lands.
  - Reduce risk of catastrophic wildfire.

# Selected USDA Climate Activities

- 20 USDA sub-agencies
  - CCPO
- USDA Regional Climate Hubs
- Adaptation Planning
- Mitigation Methods & Tools
- Adaptation & Mitigation Costs

Opportunities:  
Jobs, Fellowships, Internships,  
and Grants



# Internships/Fellowships

## USDA Pathways Programs

- Internship Program (high school, undergraduate, graduate)
- Recent Graduate Program
  - Degree within past 2 years
  - Veterans who have obtained degree within past 6 years
- Presidential Management Fellowship Program
  - 2 year fellowship

## AAAS Fellows

## University Fellowships for USG Internships

## ORISE Fellowships (K through Faculty)

# Jobs

USDA employees have expertise in a variety of fields, including IT, education, science, firefighting, etc.

## Current Listings:

- Safety and Occupational Health Specialist
- Fish Biologist
- Agricultural Economist
- Interdisciplinary Biologist/Soil Conservationist
- District/Zone Fire Management Officer
- Animal Health Technician

# Grants

- Conservation Innovation Grants (USDA NRCS)  
Development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)  
(USDA NIFA)
  - Plant Health and Production and Plant Products
  - Animal health and Production and Animal Products
  - Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health
  - Renewable Energy, Natural Resources, and Environment
  - Agriculture Systems and Technology
  - Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities

# Grants

- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)  
Foundational Program: Exploratory (USDA NIFA)
  - Food Security
  - Climate Change
  - Environment Quality and Natural Resources
  - Nutrition
  - Obesity
  - Food Safety
  - Strong Families
  - Vibrant Communities
  - Thriving Youth



# Conservation Programs

## Farm Service Agency

FSA oversees a number of voluntary conservation-related programs. These programs address a large number of farming and ranching conservation issues including:

- Drinking water protection
- Reducing soil erosion
- Wildlife habitat preservation
- Preservation and restoration of forests and wetlands
- Aiding farmers whose farms are damaged by natural disasters

## Forest Service Conservation Education Program

An education program that helps people of all ages understand and appreciate our country's natural resources and how to conserve those resources for future generations.

- Climate Change
- Kids in the Woods
- Water Resources
- Wildland Fire

# Conservation Programs

- Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS's natural resources conservation programs help reduce soil erosion, enhance water supplies, improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat, and reduce damages caused by floods and other natural disasters.

Examples:

- Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- Stewardship Programs
- Environmental Improvement Programs

# USDA Agencies

- Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)
- Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
- Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion (CNPP)
- Economic Research Service (ERS)
- Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- Food Nutrition Service (FNS)
- Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)
- Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)
- Forest Service (FS)
- Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)
- National Agricultural Library (NAL)
- National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)
- National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)
- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Risk Management Agency (RMA)
- Rural Development (RD)