

**U.S. Department of Agriculture**  
**FY 2016 Conference Report**  
**As required by the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum 17-08**

CONFERENCE NAME	SPONSORING AGENCY	TOTAL EXPENSES	LOCATION	DATE	EXPLANATION OF MISSION IMPACT	PARTICIPANTS
Acreage Reporting and Geographic Information System Training	Farm Service Agency	\$413,052.00	Charlotte, NC	3/14/2016-3/18/2016	The Acreage Reporting and Geographic Information System (GIS) Training included instructor-led training and information sessions for all state compliance and GIS specialists and/or backups, who are responsible for compliance, GIS, and Global Positioning System (GPS) activities. Farm Service Agency (FSA) specialists had a forum from which to ask specific questions, receive hands-on experience and training (such as acreage reporting policy, CARS software, GIS related policy, GIS data management procedure and tools, GIS software, GPS software and/or hardware), and receive skills and job aids to help with completing applicable end user training within their respective states.	222
Administrative Leadership Training	Farm Service Agency	\$476,468.50	Omaha, NE	10/19/2015-10/23/2015	<p>The Agricultural Act of 2014 (Farm Bill) changed numerous provisions impacting the implementation of multiple program policies and procedures, and their administration and oversight. Since the last administrative officer leadership training in 2008, there have been significant changes to departmental and Office of Personnel Management regulations effecting various management issues.</p> <p>The national office conducted training to provide field staff with current information about these provisions and a forum to discuss them with national office staff, ask specific questions, share best practices, and provide insight on provisions still being developed.</p> <p>The training agenda covered a range of topics including specific policies, procedures, and exercises. The topics covered provided an understanding of program requirements, procedures, and a general overview of processes. The results of the training were field staff who are better informed about administrative responsibilities and resources to support program delivery more efficiently and effectively. This assisted the field staff with aligning to departmental and FSA strategic and operational objectives.</p>	275
Collaborative Restoration Workshop	Forest Service	\$232,587.91	Denver, CO	4/26/2016-4/28/2016	The 2016 Collaborative Restoration Workshop was a forum for sharing innovative approaches to collaborative restoration, tools, and lessons about planning, implementing, and monitoring restoration efforts on and around National Forest System lands. Through a series of plenary sessions and five breakout tracks, participants engaged deeply in discussing the successes, challenges, and critical questions facing community partners, the U.S. Forest Service, and others working on collaborative efforts. Through the lenses of science, collaboration, planning, and monitoring, participants thought critically about amplifying restoration and working together towards success in the future.	135

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Environmental Compliance Training	Farm Service Agency	\$248,070.23	Rochester, NY	7/18/2016-7/22/2016	The National Environmental Compliance Training was an instructor-led training and information session for all state environmental coordinators (SEC) who will be responsible for training other field office employees in all aspects of environmental compliance. The training will provide FSA SECs a forum to ask specific questions, receive hands-on experience and training (that is, wetlands and cultural resources), provide feedback on the included wetlands training package, and receive skills and job aids to help with completing end user training within their respective states.	143
Farm Loan Program Training	Farm Service Agency	\$399,663.76	Albuquerque, NM	11/30/2015-12/4/2015	Comprehensive delivery of Farm Loan Program policy and procedure training to a core group of staff to fully equip them to serve as trainers in their respective states.	254
Financial Management Training	Office of the Chief Financial Officer	\$212,169.89	Washington, DC	6/6/2016-6/8/2016	A forum for enhanced training and educational opportunities, at minimal cost per employee, to communicate and share proven methods of reducing operating costs and increasing program efficiencies and to enhance awareness and understanding of improved government accounting techniques.	95
Forest Inventory and Analysis Science Symposium	Forest Service	\$105,846.70	Portland, OR	12/7/2015-12/10/2015	The theme of the 12th biennial Science Symposium was Pushing Boundaries - New Directions in Inventory Techniques & Applications, emphasizing the development of innovative approaches to incorporating non-traditional approaches and uses of inventory information. The Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Science Symposium brought together international forest scientists, managers, and stakeholders to share insights on a wide variety of topics, including contemporary issues, science policy, mensuration, geospatial products, and inventory methods. As the only comprehensive and continuous census of the forests in the United States, FIA provides strategic information needed to evaluate sustainability of current forest management practices across all ownerships.	69
National Convention Society of American Foresters Convention and National Silviculture Workshop	Forest Service	\$206,192.15	Baton Rouge, LA	11/3/2015-11/7/2015	The convention highlighted contemporary forest resource management issues in the second decade of the 21st century and the trends, influences, and technologies that are facilitating the profession's progress toward the future. Plenary sessions provided forward-thinking ideas and addressed what needed to be known about trends in science, society, technology, and education to remain relevant and effective to maintain credibility, effect continuous improvement, and strengthen communities.  Scientific and technical session presentations included themes on recreating forestry through science, society, technology, and education and outreach, among others.	137

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Single Family Housing Policy Meeting	Rural Development	\$168,696.44	St. Louis, MO	7/26/2016-7/28/2016	National office staff provided information and guidance to Single Family Housing program directors and other specialists who provide leadership in state and field offices. The meeting focused on recent policy guidance, certified loan packagers, loss claims and other CSC roles/responsibilities; self help, direct-US, foreclosures, REOs, risk management, electronic customer files and other process improvements; GUS red flags, lender approval, and more. An understanding of these areas of specialized knowledge was needed to fulfill mission goals of increasing mortgage credit access for limited income homeowners in rural communities, and revitalizing local rural economies.	195
Water and Environmental Training	Rural Development	\$261,582.00	Philadelphia, PA	8/29/2016-9/2/2016	Training for staff members, engineers and program directors that are new to Water and Environmental Programs (WEP) in all of the states. WEP provides funding for the construction of water and waste facilities in rural communities and is proud to be the only Federal program exclusively focused on rural water and waste infrastructure needs of rural communities with populations of 10,000 or less. Through WEP, rural communities obtain the technical assistance and financing necessary to develop drinking water and waste disposal systems.	146
TOTAL		\$2,724,329.58				1,671