



Worldwide Office
The Nature Conservancy
4245 N. Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203-1606

nature.org
Tel (703) 841-4229
Fax (703) 841-7400

April 13, 2026

Chief Aubrey Bettencourt
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, DC 20250

Re: Information Collection Request; Advancing Markets for Producers (Formerly Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities) [Docket ID: NRCS-2025-0236]

Submitted via [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov)

Dear Chief Bettencourt,

The Nature Conservancy (TNC or the Conservancy) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) revision of the currently approved information collection request associated with the Advancing Markets for Producers (AMP) grant activity.

We deeply value our longtime partnerships with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to advance conservation solutions on working lands. AMP represents a significant opportunity to develop new markets, strengthen supply chains, and promote economic resilience for American farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners—all while implementing crucial conservation practices. TNC is currently the lead partner for one AMP award (Expanding Agroforestry Project Agreement #NR233A750004G005) and is currently in the negotiations phase for another, which we hope to finalize soon. Collectively, these two TNC-led projects will deliver more than \$39 million in financial assistance directly to producers.

TNC thanks NRCS for the steps it has already taken to reduce the burden of reporting requirements on partners and producers. In particular, we appreciate the removal of the baseline yield data elements and your changes to make several marketing fields optional, including value sold, price premiums, and names of buyers. These important changes will reduce producer reporting burden and respect producer privacy preferences.

In response to USDA's notice and request for comments, we recommend that all data elements in the Marketing Activities Worksheet, with the exception of commodity type, should be made optional. Many producers who will enroll in our Agroforestry AMP project will be establishing agroforestry practices during the project period. However, these perennial crops will often not be ready for harvest and marketing during the project period of performance. Therefore, there will often be limited practical utility in collecting marketing data from recently installed agroforestry practices.

Again, we sincerely appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback. We look forward to continuing to work with you and the agency to make AMP a successful investment in improving producers' economic resilience and in conserving our nation's resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kris Johnson', with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

Kris Johnson, Ph.D.
Director, North America Agriculture Program
The Nature Conservancy
kjohnson@tnc.org