



The National Press Club  
Washington, D.C.

All times listed below are in Eastern.

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**8:00 AM WELCOME**

- Sara Wyant, founder and editor, Agri-Pulse Communications, Inc.

**8:05 AM A CONVERSATION ABOUT FUTURE AG & FOOD POLICY WITH NEXT-GEN FARMERS**

*Moderator: Spencer Chase, managing editor, Agri-Pulse Communications, Inc.*

- Mitch Hora, founder and CEO, Continuum Ag
- Val Lavigne, herdsman/secretary, Unc Brock Inc. and Dairy Promoter at Dairy Gal Val
- Matt Fimon, chair, Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee, American Farm Bureau Federation
- Christi Bland-Miller, secretary/treasurer, National Black Growers Council
- Trenton Kisse, High Bar K Cattle Services, Muscogee (Creek) Nation

**9:00 AM SHOW US THE NUMBERS: A CLOSER LOOK AT THE FARM BILL BASELINE, INCOME OUTLOOK AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR MORE PROFIT AND PRIVATE INVESTMENTS**

*Moderator: Sara Wyant*

- John Newton, Chief Economist, U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
- Joe Outlaw, Ph.D., regents fellow, professor and extension economist, Texas A&M University
- Gary Matteson, S.V.P., Beginning Farmer Programs and Outreach, Farm Credit Council
- Audre Kapacinskas, principal, S2G Ventures

**10:00 AM BREAK**

**10:30 AM PERSPECTIVE**

*Moderator: Philip Brasher, executive editor, Agri-Pulse Communications, Inc.*

- House Ag Committee Chairman G.T. Thompson, R-Pa.

**10:45 AM HOW FOOD BANKS, FOOD COMPANIES AND FARMERS ARE BUILDING COMMON GROUND**

*Moderator: Jacqui Fatka, associate editor, Agri-Pulse Communications, Inc.*

- Erika Thiem, chief supply chain officer and interim president and COO, Feeding America
- Joby Young, executive vice president, American Farm Bureau Federation
- David Chavern, president & CEO, Consumer Brands Association

**11:30 AM PERSPECTIVE**

*Moderator: Jeff Nalley, contributing editor, Agri-Pulse Communications, Inc.*

- House Ag Committee Ranking Member David Scott, D-Ga.

**11:45 AM LUNCH**

**12:30 PM VIEW FROM THE TOP**

*Moderator: Spencer Chase*

- Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture



**1:00 PM**      **BREAK**

**1:15 PM**      **CAN THE U.S. FOOD SUPPLY BE SUSTAINED WITHOUT MORE AG RESEARCH?**

*Moderator: Philip Brasher*

- Karl Anderson, president, Supporters of Agricultural Research Foundation (SoAR)
- Andy LaVigne, president & CEO, American Seed Trade Association (ASTA)
- Wayne Watkinson, founding partner, Watkinson Miller PLLC
- Wendy Fink, associate vice president, food, agriculture & natural resources and executive director, academic programs section, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)

**2:00 PM**      **THE FUTURE FOR PRESCRIBING FOOD AS MEDICINE**

*Moderator: Sara Wyant*

- Cathy Burns, CEO, International Fresh Produce Association
- Steve Brazeel, founder, SunTerra Produce
- Josh Trautwein, co-founder and CEO, About Fresh

**2:45 PM**      **PERSPECTIVE**

*Moderator: Spencer Chase*

- Mark Nelson, vice chairman and executive vice president, Strategy, Policy & Development, Chevron

**3:00 PM**      **BREAK**

**3:30 PM**      **PERSPECTIVE**

*Moderator: Sara Wyant*

- Senate Ag Ranking Member John Boozman, R-Ark.

**3:45 PM**      **THE INTERSECTION OF CLIMATE, CONSERVATION AND CROP INSURANCE POLICIES**

*Moderator: Jeff Nalley*

- Tara Smith, deputy executive vice president, Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau, Inc. (CIRB)
- Dan Christenson, senior director of government affairs, PepsiCo
- Andrew Lentz, director of federal affairs for agriculture policy, Environmental Defense Fund
- Chuck Conner, president, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives (NCFC)

**4:45 PM**      **PERSPECTIVE**

*Moderator: Sara Wyant*

- Senate Ag Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich.

**5:00 PM**      **CLOSING COMMENTS**

- Sara Wyant, founder and editor, Agri-Pulse Communications, Inc.

**5:15 –  
7:00 PM**      **CUSTOMER APPRECIATION RECEPTION**

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**HARVESTING PERSPECTIVES**  
**AG & FOOD POLICY SUMMIT**  
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## PLATINUM



## GOLD



## SILVER



## BRONZE



## Reception:





## Mitchell Hora

Mitchell Hora is a seventh-generation southeast Iowa farmer and the founder and CEO of Continuum Ag, a soil health data intelligence company. His passion for agriculture stems from his family's corn, soybean and rye farm. The Horas started no-tilling in 1978 and cover cropping in 2013. Hora launched Continuum Ag in 2015 and is on a mission to help 1 million farmers profit from improving their soil health. The company currently spans 42 states and 20 countries with the help of the soil health software, TopSoil. To increase impact, the company works through enterprise initiatives with the likes of Rabobank, CIBO, New-Ag Management Partners and Bayer.



## Val Lavigne

Val Lavigne is an Agri-Mark/Cabot dairy farmer in Schaghticoke, New York. Her family raises 200 dairy cows, 100 feeder steers, 50 goats and 1,000 turkeys. She farms alongside her parents, husband and their three young children. They also own two food trucks and a catering business. Lavigne enjoys promoting dairy online as Dairy Gal Val and is a board member of the National Dairy Board, part of National Milk Producers Federation's Dairy Voice Network and was the 2022 Chairperson of the NMPF's Young Cooperator Program. She is also president of Agri-Mark's Young Cooperator Program and is a Dairy Engaged Influencer and mentor with her regional checkoff program.



## Matt Fimon

Matt Fimon is a Virginia farmer and the newly elected chair of the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee. Fimon and his wife, Lindy, run a beef cow-calf and hay operation with her family. He also works as a human resources manager for a distribution center. Since 2018, he has served on the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers Committee with his wife. He was appointed to the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee in early 2021.





## **Christi Bland-Miller**

Christi Bland-Miller is a fourth-generation farmer in Sledge, Mississippi. Bland grew up on a farm and has been a part of the farming community her entire life. She formed her own farming corporation in 2017, CMB Farm LLC. Her family farm is currently around 1,400 acres and primarily grows soybeans and rice. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Mississippi College in 2009 and a Master of Science from Christian Brothers University in Memphis, Tennessee. Bland is a board member of the National Black Growers Council (NBGC) representing Mississippi at large and is also the Secretary/Treasurer. Bland is a volunteer for her local 4-H Club and a deputy commissioner for Tunica County Soil and Water Conservation District. She was also selected as a member of the 2023/25 Rice Leadership Development Program. Bland was named one of America's Best Farmers and Ranchers for 2021 by Progressive Farmer.



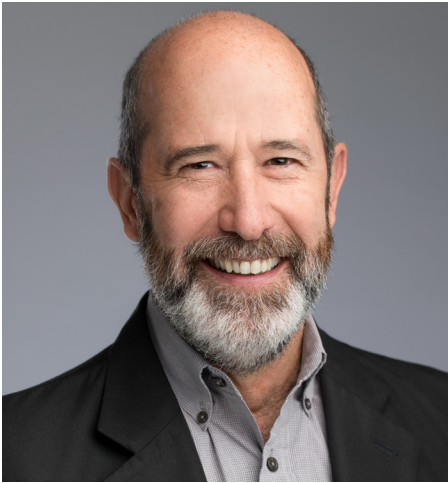
## **Trenton Kisse**

Trenton Kisse is the director of the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. He is a citizen of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe. Kisse's love of agriculture and passion for the land stems from growing up on his family's allotment land in Northeast Oklahoma, where his grandpa kept cattle, horses and bison. He is passionate about empowering tribes and tribal communities to build healthy, thriving food and agriculture systems while conserving our lands, air, water and wildlife habitat. Kisse received a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources Ecology Management from Oklahoma State University with an emphasis in Ag Education and Animal Science and a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Oklahoma with an emphasis in Public Policy and Programs.



## **John Newton**

John Newton, Ph.D., serves as chief economist for the United States Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry for Ranking Member John Boozman of Arkansas. As chief economist, Newton is responsible for advising the ranking member on economic and policy issues impacting the agricultural, nutrition and forestry sectors. He has served agriculture in a number of capacities over the last two decades, including several roles within the U.S. Department of Agriculture and as a two-time award-winning faculty member at the University of Illinois. Most recently, prior to joining the committee, Newton served as the chief economist for the American Farm Bureau Federation. In 2021, he received the distinguished alumni award from The Ohio State University. Newton holds two master's degrees and a Ph.D. from Ohio State.



## **Gary Matteson**

Gary Matteson works for Farm Credit's trade association as senior vice president of Beginning Farmer Programs and Outreach. This includes policy work on local foods, sustainable agriculture and direct-to-consumer agriculture. He is an advocate for young, beginning, small, and minority farmer outreach programs. This includes work on emerging opportunities in local foods, direct-to-consumer agriculture, and generational transition of farm businesses. Matteson specializes in making basic business concepts approachable and relevant to beginning farmers. For 30 years Matteson was a small farmer raising greenhouse wholesale cut flowers marketed in the Northeast and beef cattle for local sales. He has served on numerous boards of directors including Farm Credit, Farmer Veteran Coalition, Farmers Market Coalition and many other non-profits.



## **Joe Outlaw**

Joe Outlaw, Ph.D., is a regents fellow, professor and extension economist in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University. He also serves as the co-director of the Agricultural and Food Policy Center (AFPC) at Texas A&M. In this role, Outlaw frequently interacts with members of Congress and key agriculture committee staff, as well as stakeholders, to provide feedback on the likely consequences of agricultural policy changes. His extension education and applied research activities are focused on assessing the impacts of commodity programs, crop insurance, renewable energy and climate change legislation on U.S. agricultural operations. Outlaw received his Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, and Ph.D. degrees from Texas A&M, all in agricultural economics.



## **Audre Kapacinskas**

Audre Kapacinskas is a principal at S2G Ventures, where she leads Corporate Development across their focus sectors: food & agriculture, oceans & seafood, energy and real assets. Kapacinskas builds relationships with corporate, investor, nonprofit and government stakeholders to identify opportunities to collaborate on growth and innovation priorities. She seeks to address today's most pressing challenges by connecting dots across a diverse ecosystem of stakeholders and accelerating the adoption of new technologies. Prior to S2G, Kapacinskas was a director of sales and corporate strategy at a predictive analytics start-up delivering artificial intelligence and Internet of Things solutions to multiple industrial sectors. She is also co-founder of Fifth Star Funds, a venture philanthropy focused on investing in underrepresented tech founders in Chicago. Kapacinskas holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto (Economics, International Relations), a Master of Arts from Vilnius University, and was a Fulbright Scholar.





## Chairman Glenn “GT” Thompson

A descendant of a long line of dairy farmers and life-long resident of Howard Township, Centre County, Pennsylvania, Rep. Glenn “GT” Thompson represents Pennsylvania’s 15th District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Thompson currently serves as chairman of the House Agriculture Committee and serves on the House Education and Labor Committee. He has also served as chairman of the Subcommittees on Conservation and Forestry and Nutrition, and ranking member of the Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management. Thompson is also a senior member of the House Education and Labor Committee. Prior to being elected, he spent 28 years as a therapist, rehabilitation services manager and licensed nursing home administrator. Thompson is a proud graduate of Penn State and Temple Universities, where he earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Education, respectively.



## Erika Thiem

Erika Thiem is the chief supply chain officer of Feeding America. Her team works to innovate and build donor partnerships with food manufacturers, retailers, food service operators and agricultural food producers to meet today’s demand for healthy food and work to create a hunger-free tomorrow. Thiem began her career with General Mills, where she spent 27 years across a range of roles and diverse business units, developing broad end-to-end supply chain expertise. Most recently, Thiem was the Supply Chain Director of the North America Dairy Operating Unit for General Mills. Her early career was focused in the areas of food quality, food safety and regulatory compliance.

Thiem served as a board member for six years with The Food Group, a food banking organization based in Minnesota. Thiem earned her Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering from Iowa State University and an MBA from the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management.



## Joby Young

Joby Young became the executive vice president of the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) in July 2022. He leads the AFBF staff, managing across all departments to achieve the goals of the president and board of directors and fulfill AFBF’s mission. Young has more than a decade of experience in food and agriculture policy, from the halls of Congress to the Executive Branch. He served as chief of staff to Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue after serving in that same role for the deputy secretary and several USDA offices. He also previously served as chief of staff in the House of Representatives and as a consultant in the private sector. Young is a graduate of the University

of Georgia, with degrees in History and Communications, and he holds a law degree from the UGA School of Law.



## David Chavern

David Chavern is president and CEO of the Consumer Brands Association, the trade association for America's \$2.1 trillion food, beverage and consumer products industry. He joined CBA in January 2023 after a seven-year tenure as president and CEO of the News Media Alliance. Chavern also oversaw a merger with the Association of Magazine Media. He has built a career spanning 30 years in executive strategic, operational and legal roles. Before his time at the News Media Alliance, he spent a decade at the United States Chamber of Commerce. Chavern received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Pittsburgh, is a graduate of Villanova University's School of Law, and has an MBA from Georgetown.



## Representative David Scott

Rep. David Scott of Georgia was approved by the Democratic Caucus to serve as the first African-American chairman of the House Agriculture Committee during the 117th Congress and as ranking member for the 118th Congress. In his various leadership roles on the committee, Scott has chaired the subcommittees on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit as well as Livestock and Foreign Agriculture. He played a key role in ushering through the three last farm bills, including by serving as a conferee, securing critical disaster aid for our farmers, strengthening the food and nutrition programs and securing \$80 million for new scholarships for students attending 1890 African-American Land-Grant colleges and universities. Scott grew up living and working on his grandparents' farm when his parents moved north to find work. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree and graduated with honors in 1967 from Florida A&M University. Upon graduation, Scott was awarded scholarships to the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, where he earned his MBA degree with honors.



## Secretary Tom Vilsack

Thomas J. Vilsack was confirmed as the 32nd U.S. Secretary of Agriculture on Feb. 23, 2021, by the U.S. Senate. He was nominated by President Joe Biden to return to a role where he served for eight years under President Barack Obama. Under Secretary Vilsack's leadership, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is building back better by restoring the American economy, strengthening rural and historically underserved communities, responding to threats of climate change, creating good-paying jobs for American workers and the next generation of agricultural leaders, and investing in our kids and our families. Prior to returning to USDA, he served as president and CEO of the U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC) from 2017 until February 2021. There, he provided strategic leadership and oversight of USDEC's global promotional and research activities, regulatory affairs and trade policy initiatives. In addition to his post at USDEC, he also served as a strategic adviser to Colorado State University's food and water initiatives.





## **Karl Anderson**

Karl Anderson serves as the president of the Supporters of Agricultural Research Foundation (SoAR). He previously served as director of government relations for the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America, where he oversaw the three organizations' work on federal policy issues related to agriculture and food systems. Before that, he served as director of legislative affairs for the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and led the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office of Legislative Affairs. Anderson also has deep experience developing natural resources and environmental policy on Capitol Hill. He served as legislative director for Rep. George R. Nethercutt Jr., R-Wash., and as a legislative assistant to Rep. Mike Simpson, R-Wash., focusing on appropriations and natural resources policy.



## **Andy LaVigne**

Andrew LaVigne is the president and CEO of the American Seed Trade Association (ASTA). He has had a 30-year career in government relations, industry representation, public affairs advocacy, and management. His core areas of expertise include agriculture, food policy and international trade. Prior to joining ASTA, LaVigne was executive vice president/CEO of Florida Citrus Mutual, representing citrus growers on issues affecting their business. He also worked in the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He served as Legislative Director for Rep. Charles Canady, R-Fla., Agriculture Committee staffer for Rep. Tom Lewis, R-Fla., and on the staff of USDA Secretary Ed Madigan. LaVigne is a native of Florida with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, with a minor in economics, from the University of Florida.



## **Wayne Watkinson**

Wayne Watkinson is a founding partner of Watkinson Miller PLLC. He has expertise in commodity promotion and marketing issues. For almost two decades, he has worked with the dairy and beef industries to develop and implement their successful commodity promotion and research programs. Furthermore, he has counseled several other commodity groups on the establishment of similar programs, including honey, mushrooms, soybeans, fluid milk, watermelons and peanuts. In addition to domestic marketing activities, Watkinson serves as counsel to organizations such as the U.S. Dairy Export Council that operate programs to enhance exports of agricultural commodities. Watkinson graduated from St. Leo University with a Bachelor of Arts and a J.D. from Howard University.



## Wendy Fink

Wendy Fink is associate vice president of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources (FANR) and is also executive director of the Academic Programs Section at the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). Prior to joining APLU, Fink spent five years at the Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology (PIFB) as Manager of Science and Public Policy, assisting in development of reports and conferences that contributed to public discussion of agricultural biotechnology. She also worked as a legislative assistant for Rep. Bob Schaffer, R-Colo., providing legislative advice and handling constituent matters related to agricultural, environmental, science, energy, and transportation issues. Prior to her work in Washington, she worked for several employers, including the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Colorado Corn Growers Association, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Fink received her master's degrees in agronomy and history, and her undergraduate degree in anthropology from Kansas State University.



## Cathy Burns

Cathy Burns is CEO of the International Fresh Produce Association (IFPA). Prior to her current role with IFPA, Burns was the CEO of the Produce Marketing Association from 2013-2021. She was integral in bringing the PMA together with the United Fresh Produce Association. Under Burns' leadership, IFPA was launched to serve the global fresh produce and floral industries. With 30 years of leadership experience in the grocery industry, she led large teams and transformations across multiple retail banners. Burns holds bachelor's degrees in management and marketing from the University of Maine and completed coursework in strategic retail management at the College of William and Mary.



## Steve Brazeel

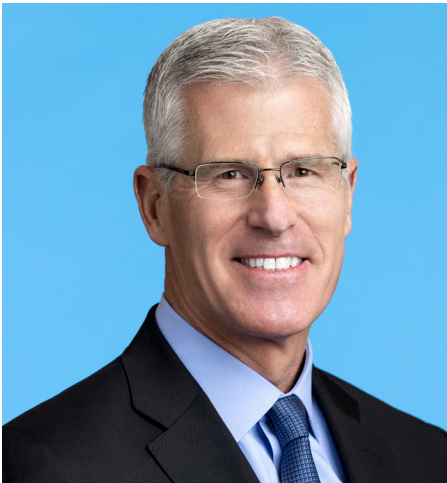
Steve Brazeel is the founder of SunTerra Produce. It is an industry-leading, full-service platform handling sales, marketing, farming, food safety, harvesting, storage and distribution activities for specialty crop producers on over 10,000 acres throughout the United States and Mexico. In 2020, Brazeel also founded Elevated Foods. It was formed to help farm operations become more sustainable and resilient through the application of new technologies and techniques. In 2022, Elevated was awarded a \$20 million grant as part of USDA's Partnerships for Climate Smart Commodities program. Brazeel also founded Project FoodBox in 2020. Born out of SunTerra's participation in the USDA's ground-breaking Farmers to Families Food Box program, Project FoodBox has delivered 4 million boxes of fresh fruits and vegetables to our most vulnerable communities through its network of health care organizations, food banks, faith-based organizations and other non-profits.





## Josh Trautwein

Josh Trautwein is the co-founder and CEO of About Fresh. The company combines food retail, technology and community-driven activism to empower people to access and afford healthy food. The About Fresh tech-enabled food prescription platform, Fresh Connect, allows healthcare organizations to administer funds through a debit card to cover the cost of healthy food for people across more than 4,000 grocers nationally and analyze related health impacts. Trautwein was inspired to start About Fresh in 2011 while serving as a community health worker and encountering food insecurity among his patients first-hand.



## Mark Nelson

Mark Nelson is vice chairman and executive vice president of Strategy, Policy & Development at Chevron. In addition to his corporate responsibilities, he leads Chevron's Strategy & Sustainability, Corporate Affairs, and Corporate Business Development. With more than 35 years of experience, Nelson has served in a number of leadership positions with increasing responsibilities within the company in retail, marketing, operations and business planning. Nelson also served on several advisory boards and councils, including Singapore's Economic Development Board and the Canadian Council of Chief Executives. A native of California, Nelson graduated from California Polytechnic

State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering.



## Senator John Boozman

John Boozman represents Arkansas and serves as the ranking member of the Senate Ag Committee. This position enables him to play a key role in influencing policy that relates to the agriculture economy, nutrition programs and quality of life in rural America. He also serves on the Committee on Appropriations, which is responsible for allocating federal funds, and the Committee on the Environment and Public Works, where much of the nation's infrastructure policy is developed. In addition, Boozman also serves as one of six Congressional Regents on the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents, which governs and administers the organization. He graduated from the Southern College

of Optometry in 1977. Boozman entered private practice that same year, co-founding a family business with his brother to ultimately become a major eye care provider to Northwest Arkansas. Boozman is married to the former Cathy Marley and they currently reside in Rogers. The couple has three daughters and four grandchildren.





## Tara Smith

Tara Smith is executive vice president for the Torrey Advisory Group. She leads a team of talented staff focused on developing and implementing legislative and regulatory strategies, building coalitions and informing policymakers on client priorities, including work for the Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau (CIRB). Before joining Michael Torrey Associates in August 2013, Smith worked as a senior professional staff member for the Senate Agriculture Committee under Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan. She covered commodity programs, crop insurance and disaster assistance. She was also previously director of government affairs for the American Farm Bureau Federation, where she handled the farm bill and commodity issues. Smith grew up on a corn and soybean farm in central Illinois. She has a bachelor's degree in political science from Davidson College in North Carolina and an MBA from the University of Michigan.



## Dan Christenson

Dan Christenson is the senior director for government affairs for PepsiCo. In this role, Christenson leads PepsiCo's policy engagement with the federal government. Previously, he served at the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2011 to 2016, where he was Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy to Secretary Tom Vilsack from 2014 to 2016. Before joining USDA, Christenson served for several years as a Senior Professional Staff Member on the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee – first under Chairman Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, and later for Chairwoman Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark. Christenson is a magna cum laude graduate of Luther College, and received his M.A. from Iowa State University.



## Andrew Lentz

Andrew Lentz is director of federal affairs for agriculture policy for the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). He leads their engagement with policymakers at the federal level to advance climate-smart agriculture and shape proposals in the upcoming farm bill. He works closely with the Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance (FACA), which brings together environmental and agricultural stakeholders to jointly advocate for climate-smart agriculture legislation, and for which EDF serves as co-chair. Most recently, Lentz served as the policy director for the Ecosystem Services Market Consortium (ESMC). Prior to his service with ESMC, Lentz held various positions in the public and private sectors, including for USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service where he worked to build agricultural markets in post-conflict regions such as Iraq, Afghanistan and throughout sub-Saharan Africa. Lentz received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Villanova University and a Master of Arts in Government and a MBA from Johns Hopkins University.



## **Chuck Conner**

Chuck Conner is president and CEO of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives. He brings more than 25 years of experience in national and state government and agricultural trade association leadership to the position. Prior to joining NCFC, Conner served as deputy secretary of USDA, a position that he had held since 2005. From August 2007 to January 2008, Conner served as both USDA's acting secretary and deputy secretary – helping to shape the Bush administration's agricultural, trade and immigration policies. Earlier in his career, he served as president of the Corn Refiners Association. Conner is a graduate of Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science degree and is the recipient of Purdue's Distinguished Alumni Award. He and his wife Dru have four children.



## **Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow**

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow is the senior senator from Michigan and Chairwoman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. She also serves as a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and is a senior member of the Finance Committee and Budget Committee. As author of the 2014 Farm Bill, Stabenow helped make historic investments in land and water conservation, clean energy, food access, and rural development. In the bipartisan 2018 Farm Bill, she worked across the aisle to provide certainty for farmers, expand the diversity of American agriculture, and create new opportunities for climate-smart agriculture, with the most advanced climate-smart agriculture policies to date. She continues that work as co-author of the bipartisan Growing Climate Solutions Act, which passed the Senate 92-8 and helps farmers tap into new economic opportunities through voluntary carbon markets. Stabenow received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Michigan State University.