



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

P.O. Box 42560 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2560 • (360) 902-1800

January 8th, 2024

Re: WSDA Climate Resilience Survey

To support the continued viability and vitality of Washington agriculture, the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) has launched an 18-month climate resilience planning process, in partnership with Washington State University. The Climate Resilience Plan will summarize recent climate science, identify vulnerabilities, highlight opportunities, and include newly developed resources. We intend for this work to be informed by the needs and experiences of Washington producers. It is essential that your voice is heard.

Please fill out this [agricultural climate resilience survey](#) by February 23rd, 2024.



Your responses will help us understand the on-farm impacts of climate change, resources in use, and current agricultural needs. We want to hear from small and large producers from every crop and animal operation in every part of the state. This information will help us communicate the nuances of climate change in agriculture to industry stakeholders and policymakers, and to build programs that are in direct response to your feedback. Your input is valued and appreciated.

Background

Rich soils, diverse climates, and large-scale irrigation infrastructure make Washington one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world. Washington farmlands and farmers are of global importance, moving more than \$17 billion per year in food and agricultural products through Washington's ports, producing over 300 different crops, and generating \$12.8 billion per year in agricultural production value for the state economy. These activities are critical to urban and rural communities alike, providing food security, nutrition, and thriving livelihoods in Washington and beyond.

Extreme weather, invasive pests and disease, and declining water availability are daily impacting agricultural production in Washington. Managing the wide range of potential climate risks and costs moving forward has made livestock and crop production—already challenging and volatile industries—even more challenging. However, with the right support and innovation, Washington farmers are poised to lead the way in building a more economically viable and climate-resilient future. The WSDA Climate Resilience Plan is one important step towards that goal. We thank you for your participation in this effort.

Sincerely,

Derek I. Sandison
Director

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