



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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Bruce Nelson

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Bruce Nelson is the state executive director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) in , which assists farmers and ranchers with stabilizing income, conserving land and recovering from natural disasters. Nelson's background includes over 30 years of professional work with federal, state, and private organizations. He served as administrative assistant to Governor Tom Judge from 1975-1978 and as chief of staff to U.S. Rep. Pat Williams from 1979-1980. He was originally appointed to head the Farm Service Agency in Montana by the Clinton administration in 1993 after serving as chairman of the Montana Democratic Party from 1983 to 1991. Nelson worked as development project manager for Zoot Enterprises from 2001-2004. He subsequently served as Governor Schweitzer's chief of staff from 2005-2009. In 2009, Nelson was reappointed by the Obama Administration to serve as state executive director of FSA in Montana.

He is a fourth generation Montana wheat farmer, and a Fort Benton native. He was raised on the Fort Benton farm his grandparents homesteaded. Nelson received a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Montana. He lives in Bozeman, and is married with three children.