



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**FY 2024 - Meat and Poultry Processing
Expansion Program (MPPEP) Recipients
July 11, 2024**

States	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
Colorado	Fitch Ranch Artisan Meat Co. LLC	\$6,995,528	Located in rural northwestern Colorado, Fitch Ranch Artisan Meat Company partners with over 500 local producers to process and sell hogs, cattle, and lamb into local direct-to-consumer and wholesale markets. USDA funding will help support the construction of a new facility adjacent to the existing one and dramatically expand Fitch Ranch's processing capacity under USDA inspection while creating 65 new jobs.
Colorado	Simla Frozen Food Locker Co. LLC	\$450,000	Simla Frozen Food Locker is a family-run facility in rural Colorado that processes, beef, hogs, chicken, turkeys, lamb, goats, and wild game. MPPEP-Phase 2 funds will allow Simla Frozen Food Locker to construct a new facility across the street from their existing location where the lack of capacity has limited their ability to grow. As a result of this project, Simla Frozen Food Locker will be able to obtain USDA inspection and sell locally-produced proteins into wholesale markets such as restaurants and grocery stores. They expect to serve 160 additional producers and create four new full-time jobs.
Georgia	Flint Packers LLC	\$1,222,302	Flint Packers is a new cattle and hog processor based in rural Georgia. Founded by livestock producers, Flint Packers expects to serve local farmers who currently have to transport their livestock out of state for processing. They will operate with an emphasis on employee training and food safety and will create 18 new full-time jobs. USDA funding will be used to support the purchase of a site, construction of a new facility, and start-up operations.
Georgia	Frontier Meat Packing LLC	\$1,518,081	Frontier Meat Packing is opening a family-owned beef processing facility located in the second-largest cattle producing county in Georgia. They will serve over 500 local, small-scale, and veteran farmers by providing a much-needed independent processing option that will focus on producing value-added product lines targeting customers in the Atlanta market. Frontier Meat Packing will create 17 new full-time positions. MPPEP - Phase 2 funding will support the construction of a new facility, equipment purchases for raw and further processing, and obtaining a Federal Grant of
Georgia	Hero Management LLC	\$2,775,600	Hero Management is a vertically-integrated producer and processor of local and regenerative meat and poultry products based in rural Georgia. With support from MPPEP-Phase 2, they will purchase and expand a facility that will result in a significant increase in their cold storage capacity and allow them to access more local wholesale and direct-to-consumer markets. They expect to double the number of producers they serve as a result of this MPPEP funding and create seven new full-time jobs.
Illinois	Korte Meat Processing Inc.	\$3,901,492	Korte Meats is a family-owned, multigeneration business in Highland, Illinois that processes beef, pork and venison. As a result of the Covid pandemic and increased demand, Korte Meats has not been able to serve a new farmer in over two years due to a lack of capacity. With support from MPPEP - Phase 2 funding, they will renovate and operate in a currently-vacant, former newspaper building in their community, ultimately helping them more than double their beef and pork production and double the number of producers they serve to 500. This investment is expected to create 15 new jobs.



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Iowa	Leonard's Locker LLC	\$855,762	Leonard's Locker, a family-owned business in Frederika, Iowa, processes beef and hogs for local producers as well as wild game. Leveraging this USDA investment, Leonard's Locker will purchase land, construct, and equip a new state-of-the-art processing facility that will allow them to grow their capacity by 50 percent, develop new value-added products, and become inspected under the Cooperative Interstate Shipment program which will allow them and their producers to access new wholesale markets. Leonard's Locker anticipates serving an additional 60 producers and creating four new full-time jobs as a result of this project.
Kansas	Top End LLC	\$2,445,654	Top End LLC dba TEAM Processing is building a new USDA-inspected beef and hog processing facility in western Kansas that will create 19 new jobs. The facility will provide fee-for-service processing to over 50 local producers, including offering Organic Certification and processing of non-amenable species such as buffalo and yak, so that producers can access new and better markets. TEAM processing will also offer on-site retail for local consumers.
Kansas	Real Kansas Meats LLC	\$6,871,380	Real Kansas Meats is a start-up red meat processor established to serve local producers in southeast Kansas and southwest Missouri while providing high-quality, affordable protein products to their community. With support from MPPEP - Phase 2, Real Kansas Meats will construct, equip, and obtain a grant of inspection for their slaughter and fabrication facility, serving an estimated 100 producers and creating 117 new full-time jobs.
Maine	Five Pillars Butchery House of Meat LLC	\$2,682,943	Five Pillars Butchery is a Muslim-owned halal slaughter and processing facility in rural Maine. Funding from MPPEP-Phase 2 will be used to construct a new solar-powered red meat and poultry processing facility that will help local producers better access processing services while expanding the availability of local halal proteins for sale into Muslim-focused retail markets and direct-to-consumer. The project will create 12 new full-time jobs and quadruple the number of producers served by Five Pillars Butchery.
Minnesota	Clean Chickens and Co. LLC	\$1,026,730	Clean Chickens and Co. operates a USDA-inspected mobile poultry processing unit specializing in both chicken and turkey processing. Using both MPPEP - Phase 2 and private financing, they will construct a brick-and mortar facility focused on lamb and goat processing that will serve halal markets and help local producers access value-added markets. The project will lead to the creation of 18 new jobs while helping train a new generation of butchers in both poultry and red meat processing.



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Minnesota	Farmers Union Foundation	\$603,582	The Minnesota Farmers Union Foundation, a nonprofit established to advance the educational and cooperative mission of its family farmer members, will invest MPPEP - Phase 2 funding to develop a modular red meat processing facility in north-central Minnesota. The new facility is expected to employ 15 full-time staff while also providing training to and apprenticeships in collaboration with Central Lakes College's meat cutting program. The new facility will join an ecosystem of other businesses owned by Farmers Union Industries, including rendering plants in southern Minnesota and a restaurant in Minneapolis.
Nebraska	ASC Lockers LLC	\$1,062,155	ASC Lockers is a small red meat processor that has been in business since 2012. Located in Cumin County, one of the top five counties nationally in terms of cattle production, ASC Lockers will double their processing capacity as well as their staff, adding 12 new full-time staff as a part of this project. With the expanded capacity, ASC Lockers will offer significantly more processing availability and services to local producers selling directly to consumers and into local schools, restaurants and grocery stores.
Nebraska	Noah's Ark Processors LLC	\$10,000,000	Noah's Ark Processors is a based in Hastings, Nebraska and is one of three Kosher beef distributors in the country. With support from MPPEP - Phase 2, they will double their cattle slaughter and processing capacity by expanding their facility and its processing floor. This expansion will allow Noah's Ark Processors to serve an additional 54 producers while fully meeting the domestic and international demand for Kosher beef. This project is expected to create 40 new jobs.
New York	McRez Packing International MPI LLC	\$390,000	McRez Packing International is a new small processor of cattle, hogs, chicken, turkey, sheep, and goats whose target customers are local, underserved farmers and dairy and beef producers. They are leveraging MPPEP - Phase 2 funds to refurbish a previously mothballed light industrial facility and to purchase the equipment needed to conduct slaughter and further processing across multiple species. This project is expected to serve up to 2,500 new producers and create 110 full-time jobs.
North Carolina	Greene Grain and Cattle LLC	\$585,679	Greene Grain and Cattle is a start-up processor based in eastern North Carolina whose focus is on serving small-scale cattle, hog, lamb, and goat producers so that they can better access processing services and better develop their own branded products. They expect to partner with 640 producers while creating 25 new full-time jobs. MPPEP - Phase 2 funding will be invested in new equipment for both primary and further processing as well as staff training.
North Carolina	North State Processing LLC	\$10,000,000	North State Processing is a new processing company created by local and experienced North Carolina producers aimed at providing processing capacity to small and medium independent producers. Utilizing MPPEP - Phase 2 funds, North State Processing will construct a new USDA-inspected facility focused on cattle as well as ostrich, emu, water buffalo, and alpaca processing in Hamlet, North Carolina. They anticipate serving 37 producers and creating 54 new full-time jobs as a result of this project.



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Ohio	Case Custom Meats LLC	\$642,857	Case Custom Meats will use public and private funding to construct a new USDA-inspected facility capable of processing cattle, hogs, lamb, and goat. Case Custom Meats will specialize in offering processing services to local producers who sell into direct and wholesale markets. They will also purchase beef and hogs from local producers for sale into their retail shop. This investment is expected to create seven new jobs at the facility.
Ohio	Whitewater Processing LLC	\$8,176,838	Whitewater Processing is a family-owned company that slaughters and processes turkeys in Harrison, Ohio. They purchase spent breeder turkeys and young antibiotic free turkeys and provide key raw materials for further processors to make lunch meat, turkey bacon, sausage and jerky. with support from MPPEP, Whitewater Processing will construct a new processing facility that will employ an additional 80 full-time positions and serve 4 new turkey producers.
South Carolina	Tomahawk Processing LLC	\$2,369,586	Tomahawk Processing is a new beef slaughter, processing, and cold storage business based in rural South Carolina. They were established in 2023 to serve local producers who lack consistent processing options, including underserved producers, and will provide USDA-inspected and value-added capabilities for those producers looking to sell their own beef. As a result of this MPPEP - Phase 2 investment, Tomahawk Processing expects to serve 12 new producers and create 9 full-time jobs.
South Dakota	Midwestern Meat Locker LLC	\$5,697,500	Midwestern Meat Locker is a full service butcher shop that harvests, processes, and further processes cattle, hogs, sheep and bison for local producers in Newell, South Dakota. Currently operating in a facility built in 1911, Midwestern Meat Locker will use MPPEP - Phase 2 funds to purchase land, construct, and equip a new facility that will allow them to begin operating under USDA inspection while increasing their capacity by 300%. As a result of this project, Midwestern Meat Locker will double the number of producers they serve while creating five new full-time jobs.
Texas	Producer Owned Beef LLC	\$10,000,000	Producer Owned Beef is a new producer-owned beef harvest and processing plant near Amarillo, Texas. Their goal is to increase cattle processing capacity and competition and distribute plant profits to producer owners, who will reinvest in their businesses and communities. POB will primarily serve the region of Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico, which ranks number one national in cattle on feed capacity but third largest in fed cattle processing capacity. MPPEP-2 funds will be used to support the purchase of the facility's equipment as part of Producer Owned Beef's effort to significantly increase regional processing capacity by 15 percent and national capacity by three percent. They expect to serve 250 cattle producers and create more than 1500 new full-time jobs.
Wisconsin	JM Watkins LLC	\$1,520,213	JM Watkins is a multigeneration red meat processing facility based in rural Wisconsin. With support from MPPEP - Phase 2, they will purchase and equip a new facility that will allow them to triple their processing capacity while expanding their product offerings available for wholesale and retail sales to include bison in addition to cattle, hogs, sheep, and goats. This project will create 16 new full-time jobs and serve an estimated 36 new producers.



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Wisconsin	NF Packing Inc.	\$1,383,825	NF Packing is a start-up business located in Walworth County, Wisconsin. With support from MPPEP - Phase 2, they will construct a new USDA-inspected red meat processing facility with investments being made toward site preparation, construction, equipment purchasing, and initial operations. NF Packing anticipates serving 75 producers and creating 20 new full-time jobs as a result of this project.
	Total	\$83,177,707	