



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**USDA Rural Development
FY 2024 Meat and Poultry
Processing Expansion Program Recipients
July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024**

States	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Description
AR	Natural State Processing	\$3,777,116	Natural State Processing is one of the very few independent, fee-for-service USDA-inspected poultry processors in the country. Established in 2016 to support pastured poultry production in Arkansas, Natural State Processing serves producers across eight states with chicken, turkey, and duck processing. They will deploy MPPEP - Phase 2 funds to purchase land and construct and equip a new facility 2.5 miles from their current location. This will allow them to nearly double their processing capacity while serving 17 new producers and hiring 28 new full-time positions.
CO	Stan's Specialty Meats	\$1,270,589	Stan's Specialty meats is a family run small-scale meat processor in northern Colorado. With support from MPPEP - Phase 2, they will construct a new USDA-inspected facility designed to increase the region's processing capacity and fill the gap in the lack of available USDA-inspected services. Stan's expects to serve 50 new producers and will be hiring 20 new full-time positions.
CO	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.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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CO	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.
GA	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.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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GA	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 Inspection.
GA	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.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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HI	Molokai Wildlife Management dba Kamuela Meat Co.	\$1,607,551	Kamuela Meat Co. is a new processor planning to build a single species cattle slaughtering and meat processing facility on the Big Island. Aligned with Hawaii's state goals and Food Self Sufficiency Strategy, Kamuela meat Co. will increase the availability of locally raised, USDA-inspected cattle, many of which are currently shipped to the continental U.S. for processing. Kamuela Meat Co. has already received reservations from 13 producers totaling more than 6500 head of cattle and expects to create 17 new jobs because of this project.
IA	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.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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ID	Sustainable Meats	\$255,000	Sustainable Meats is a new small-scale processor offering USDA-inspected and certified organic services for beef, lamb, goat, and ostrich. Support from MPPEP - Phase 2 will allow Sustainable Meats to expand their processing capacity and will diversify the value-added products they create including jerkies, sausages, and ready-to-eat items. They anticipate doubling both their staff and number of producers they serve to 18 and 88, respectively, because of this project.
ID	Walker Investments dba Rocky Mountain Prime (RMP)	\$5,240,958	Rocky Mountain Prime, LLC is a start-up enterprise designed to purchase value-added, source-verified livestock for slaughter, processing, and sale into high-value and e-commerce markets. The southeast Idaho facility will provide both USDA-inspected and organic processing services and will focus on both beef and sheep. Support from MPPEP - Phase 2 will facilitate the construction and equipping of the new facility and is expected to create 80 new full-time jobs. The facility will process 100 head of beef and 500 head of sheep per day.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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IL	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.
IN	Fisher Packing Company	\$923,864	Fisher Packing Company has been in business since 1945 and offers both fee-for-service processing and wholesale purchasing of cattle, hogs, and lamb. With support from MPPEP - Phase 2, they will expand their slaughter and value-added processing capacity at two locations: in Pennville, they will obtain inspection under the Cooperative Interstate Shipment program, and in Redkey they will expand their further processing capacity under USDA inspection. It will also help them meet the consumer request for value-added products of items such as bacon and beef sticks. These investments will lead to the creation of 20 new full-time jobs and serve an additional 1150 local producers.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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KS	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.
KS	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.
ME	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.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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MI	Damian's Craft Meats	\$4,174,935	Damian's Craft Meats is a Latinx-owned processor building a new 23,250 sq ft facility in southeastern Michigan intended to serve local livestock producers. Damian's will offer fee-for-service processing and will also purchase animals from local producers through competitive and transparent pricing. MPPEP - Phase 2 funds will help support a range of start-up costs, including land acquisition, facility construction, equipment purchasing, and initial operations. Currently, there are no federally inspected processing facilities within a 60-mile radius of Washtenaw County. This project will create 12 new jobs.
MN	Lakes Community Cooperative	\$533,471	Based in west central Minnesota, Lakes Community Cooperative is a processing facility that provides its member-owners with multi-species livestock processing services. Support from MPPEP - Phase 2 will be used to help the cooperative double their processing capacity through an addition to their current facility and new equipment purchases, resulting in the creation of 6 new full-time jobs and an estimated 100 new producers served.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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MN	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.
MN	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.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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MO	America's Heartland Packing	\$10,000,000	America's Heartland Packing, a subsidiary of American Foods Group, will be constructing a processing plant outside of Saint Louis, Missouri. With support from USDA funding, this plant will process 624,000 head of cattle per year. The plant will be LEED certified and will supply beef to both domestic and international wholesalers, retailers, pet food companies, and food manufacturers. The operation of the new facility is expected to create 1,363 full-time jobs with annual salary ranges significantly higher than the county average.
MO	Palindromes	\$3,000,000	Palindromes, a majority farmer-owned company, is a start-up poultry processor based in rural Missouri. Support from MPPEP - Phase 2 will allow Palindromes to increase processing volume in the region promoting competition in the poultry processing sector, provide for more diverse options in the market and create a more resilient food supply chain, create 32 new jobs in an underserved community, and construct an climate-smart processing facility that will assist their community in economic recovery. They anticipate serving 24 independent poultry producers through this project and will process over 570,000 birds annually.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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MT	Old Salt Meat Company	\$1,399,985	Old Salt Meat Company is a cooperatively owned livestock processor focused on driving value and return to producers while helping consumers access to locally raised beef. In addition to their processing facility, they operate a retail market and restaurant to reach more consumers with support from MPPEP - Phase 2, they will establish USDA-inspected slaughter facility, scale up their fabrication space under USDA inspection, and expand their cold storage capacity. As a result, Old Salt Meat Company anticipates serving 6 new producers and creating 29 new full-time jobs.
NC	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.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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NC	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.
NE	Borchard Custom Cut and Processing dba Dundy County Processors	\$1,160,368	Dundy County Processors is a family-owned beef and pork processing business in rural Benkelman, Nebraska. Utilizing MPPEP - Phase 2 funding, they will construct a new facility to double processing capacity, begin operating under federal inspection, and significantly increase their production of value-added products. With this new increased capacity, they will be able to work with an additional 100 local producers. These improvements will also allow Dundy County Processors to access new wholesale and value-added markets and create seven new jobs.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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NE	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.
NE	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.



United States Department of Agriculture **USDA Rural Development**
FY 2024 Meat and Poultry
Processing Expansion Program Recipients
July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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NY	DeMaria's Hemlock Hill Farm	\$705,000	DeMaria's Hemlock Hill Farm is a multi-generation producer and processor of livestock and poultry. Based in the Hudson River valley just 40 miles north of Manhattan, they process their own animals as well as those of nearby producers. They specialize in selling their products direct to consumers through their own retail outlet, as well as working with local restaurants and stores. With support from USDA, DeMaria's Hemlock Hill Farm will construct a new, automated poultry processing facility, creating six new jobs and doubling the number of poultry producers they serve.
NY	Tiberio Custom Meats	\$698,488	Tiberio Custom Meats was established to provide slaughter, processing, and value-added services to local producers of cattle, hogs, sheep, and goats that direct market their meat products. Currently, they work with over 300 livestock producers within a 300-mile radius of their New York facility. To provide these services, Tiberio Custom Meats will invest MPPEP - Phase 2 funds to construct and equip a USDA-inspected facility. They anticipate creating 9.5 full-time jobs and serving 75 new producers through this project.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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NY	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.
OH	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.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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OH	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.
PA	Mark's Custom Meats	\$750,000	Mark's Custom is in central Pennsylvania, offering USDA processing for pork and lamb as well as custom livestock processing services. With support from MPPEP - Phase 2, Mark's Custom Meats will double the size of their current facility, increasing the square footage of the kill floor, coolers, and cutting rooms while improving the overall layout and process flow within the 80-year-old building and adding a retail counter. This project is expected to serve an additional 15 new producers, some of which are currently scheduled for over two years out and create four new full-time jobs.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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SC	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.
SD	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.



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development

FY 2024 Meat and Poultry

Processing Expansion Program Recipients

July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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TX	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.
WI	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.



United States Department of Agriculture
USDA Rural Development
FY 2024 Meat and Poultry
Processing Expansion Program Recipients
July 11, 2024 and September 19, 2024

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WI	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	\$118,675,032	