

# SAVING AMERICA'S WORKING LANDS

A National Conference Hosted by American Farmland Trust

**DALLAS, TEXAS | APRIL 23-25, 2025**

## **Session: Evolving Conditions and Landscapes: Strategies for Land and Water Adaptation**

### **SPEAKERS**



#### **Ann Hayden**

Vice President, Climate Resilient Water Systems  
EDF

As vice president of Climate Resilient Water Systems, Ann drives EDF's efforts to ensure sustainable water supplies for people and nature. Ann leads a team of experts focused on advancing partnership-based, data-empowered approaches that ensure adequate water for ecosystems, agriculture, and communities on the frontlines of climate change. Ann applies her extensive experience in California to lead a growing suite of EDF initiatives across the arid West and globally that help farmers transition to a future with less fresh water while addressing the needs of disadvantaged communities and strained ecosystems. By fostering relationships with government agencies, nonprofit partners, landowners, local stakeholders and the private sector, Ann has developed an inclusive, balanced approach to resource management that mobilizes a wide array of perspectives and disciplines.



**Nancy McBrady**

Deputy Commissioner

Maine Department of Agriculture

Nancy joined the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) as its Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources Director in 2019 and transitioned to Deputy Commissioner in January 2023. At the Bureau, she led the effort to create the PFAS Response Program and continues to engage in state and federal PFAS policy development and advocacy as Deputy Commissioner. Before joining DACF, she served as the Executive Director of the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine where she helped expand wild blueberry market access to K-12 schools nationwide. Nancy also served as a Trustee of The Nature Conservancy of Maine and previously practiced environmental and land use law in Portland. Nancy is a graduate of Williams College (B.A.) and the University of Maine School of Law (J.D.).



**Stacy Cibula**

Agricultural Program Director

Vermont Housing and Conservation Board

Stacy Cibula joined Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) in October 2020 as the Agricultural Program Director. In this role, she directs VHCB's publicly-funded farmland conservation program, which has conserved nearly 180,000 acres of Vermont farmland in partnership with nonprofit land trusts. Stacy is also actively engaged with

statewide agricultural policy, including co-chairing the agricultural working group of the state's 30x30 conservation initiative. Previously, Stacy served as the Deputy Director of the Monadnock Conservancy, a regional land trust in southwestern New Hampshire, where she led the expansion of their farmland program into a statewide leader. In 2018, she was recognized by her community as a Keene Sentinel Extraordinary Woman for her achievements related to farmland conservation. She holds a bachelor's degree in urban planning from Michigan State University and a master's in public administration from the University of Maine. During her time off, she enjoys exploring Vermont's back roads from her bicycle.



*Facilitator*

**Tim Fink**

Vice President of Policy

American Farmland Trust

Tim develops AFT's overall policy direction and strategies and coordinates federal and relevant state policy work in close collaboration with AFT's national initiative leaders, regional directors, and partners. Before joining AFT, Tim was the director of research and policy analysis at the Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR) Foundation, where he advocated for increases in USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, fundraised for the National Academies' "Science Breakthroughs 2030" project, and led the development of a series of Farm Bill Research Policy Recommendations endorsed by 66 organizations. Prior to that, he was project manager for the 25x'25 Alliance where he led collaborations among government agencies, non-profits, academia, and private industry that involved agricultural adaptation to climate change and rural renewable energy policy. He was also responsible for promoting and tracking developments related to the Farm Bill Energy Title. Tim has extensive experience in politics, including five political campaigns and as a legislative assistant to the chair of the House Energy Committee for Iowa's General Assembly. Tim holds a master's degree from Harvard and a Bachelor of Arts from Luther College.