U.S. Department of Agriculture

Lapse of Funding Plan

(As of September 30, 2025)

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Overview

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requires the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA or the Department) to maintain a plan for agency operations in the absence of appropriations. This plan has been developed to meet OMB requirements and has been sectioned out by the Department's Agencies and Staff Offices. This plan may be modified whenever there is a change in the source of funding for an agency program or any significant modification, expansion, or reduction in agency program activities; upon receipt of additional guidance from OMB, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), or the Department of Justice; or as circumstances otherwise warrant. At a minimum, the plan will be reviewed and updated every two years.

The Anti-Deficiency Act (ADA) prohibits agencies from incurring obligations in advance of, or that exceed, an appropriation. Thus, with certain limited exceptions, an agency cannot incur obligations when the funding source for the obligation is an appropriation that has lapsed. Any activities that would incur a new obligation must be suspended and are prohibited. Activities that are underway that would lead to a increased obligations or incurred costs must cease. Violations of the Antideficiency Act can result in administrative and criminal penalties.

In the event of a lapse in appropriations, the Department will immediately suspend regular agency operations. Certain functions and activities, however, may be continued even in the absence of an annual appropriations Act or continuing resolution. The principal guidance utilized by the Department on the types of functions and activities that may be continued during a lapse in appropriations is in the Attorney General's opinion on the continuance of Governmental functions during a temporary lapse in appropriations dated January 16, 1981, updated by an Office of Legal Counsel's memorandum dated August 16, 1995.

Accordingly, Department functions and activities that may be continued in the event of a lapse in appropriations are those that are:

1. Financed by a resource other than current year annual appropriations;
2. Expressly authorized by law to continue in the absence of appropriations;
3. Authorized by necessary implication to continue in the absence of appropriations;
4. Necessary to discharge the President's constitutional duties and powers; and
5. Related to emergencies where there is a reasonable likelihood that the safety of human life or the protection of property would be compromised, in some significant degree, by delay in performance.

USDA Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5-5
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	85,907
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	42,256
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	11,493
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	94
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	1,105
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	4
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	30,955
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse.	
The Department will continue operations related to: certain farm loan processing items, certain natural resource and conservation programs, core nutrition safety net programs, essential food safety operations (inspections and laboratory work) to protect public health, responding to and preparing for wildland fires, activities supported by user fees (including grading, assessment, inspection, import and export), animal and plant health emergency programs (including new world screwworm, highly pathogenic avian influenza, exotic fruit flies, African swine fever, and rabies), Section 521 Rental Assistance Program outlays of prior obligations, human resource policies and systems, critical IT infrastructure and cybersecurity, emergency operations, and national defense and homeland security readiness.	
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.	
The Department will cease operations related to: payment processing, disaster assistance processing, technical assistance, contracts and agreements not related to exempted programs, financial management beyond funds management, regulatory work, travel, trainings, trade negotiations, timber sales, hazardous fuels treatments, special use permits, surveys for high-risk plant pests and diseases for certain swine, cattle, and aquatic animal diseases, long-term studies and research on animal diseases, research and report publications, website updates, data products, and the majority of Risk Management Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, Food and Nutrition Service, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Economic Research Service, National Agricultural Statistical Service, Rural Development, and Staff Office activities.	

Orderly Shutdown Procedures

Approximately two business days before a potential lapse in appropriations, the Department will notify employees of the status of funding and inform employees of their work and pay status under a lapse in appropriations. After OMB has communicated to the Department that appropriations have lapsed, the Department will commence an orderly shutdown of regular agency operations.

All employees are to report to duty on their next scheduled workday. At this time, employees will again be instructed of their status – i.e., whether they are to be furloughed or excepted from furlough for a short period to perform extended orderly shutdown activities or on an intermittent or ongoing basis to perform otherwise excepted functions – and will be given instructions on performing shutdown procedures. USDA's Office of Human Resource Management (OHRM) has an Employee Frequently Asked Questions posted: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ohrm-employee-faqs-lapse-appropriations.pdf.

Resumption of Regular Operations

Furloughed employees are expected to monitor the status of the Department's operations to determine when they are to return to duty by visiting OPM's operating status website: https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/snow-dismissal- procedures/current-status/.

Upon the enactment of appropriations and the resumption of regular operations, Departmental Staff Offices and Agencies may resume program activities consistent with all applicable Departmental operating procedures. Furloughed employees will be expected to return to duty. This will normally be the employee's next scheduled workday upon the resumption of regular operations. Supervisors may exercise flexibilities if employees have problems returning to work on the day specified, such as authorizing the use of accrued annual leave, compensatory time off, or credit hours.

Office of the Secretary (OSEC)

OSEC Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
The Secretary of Agriculture requires maximum flexibility in managing the orderly shutdown of USDA. In the event of an interruption of fund availability, all functions and resources of the Office of the Secretary (OSEC) including all Mission Area and Executive Offices would be centralized into the Immediate Office of the Secretary.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	92
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	49
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	43
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
The Secretary will assign priorities and shift resources as needed to address national concerns. The following staff will report to work each day to provide support to policy officials managing the continuation of excepted government activities: • Secretary (1) • Deputy Secretary (1) • Chief of Staff to the Secretary (1) • Deputy Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary (1) • Deputy Chief of Staff for Special Projects (1) • Senior Advisor, Immediate Office of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary (5) • Director of Scheduling (1) • Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations (1) • Senior Advisor, Office of Congressional Relations (3) • Deputy Assistant Secretary for External and Intergovernmental Affairs (1) • Chief of Staff for Congressional Relations (2) • Special Assistant (1) • Presidentially Appointed, Senate Confirmed (PAS) Under Secretary (2) • Deputy Under Secretary (5) • Mission Area Chief of Staff (8) • Mission Area Senior Advisor (8) • Director, State Operations for Rural Development (1)	
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.	
All activities will cease.	

Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
OSEC is part of the critical operations of USDA and personnel are expected to be on-call to ensure that critical missions are met.

Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC)

FPAC Business Center

FPAC Business Center Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	1
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
Supervisors notify the Business Center's HRD via email of any employees who did not receive furlough notification due to long term leave, travel outside of the country, or any other reason which prevented receipt. 19 staff for 30 minutes. Chiefs of Staff (or designee) verify the completion of shutdown activities within their agencies and report status appropriately to the Plan Coordinator who relays shutdown of the mission area to the Under Secretary's Office. 3 staff for 30 minutes	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	1037
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	774
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	90
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	173
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
Limited exempted Business Center staffing as necessary will maintain oversight of activities for programs that are approved to continue in the Mission Area which will include staff from Information Solutions, Grants and Agreement, Human Resources, Homeland Security, Budget and Financial Management will be available by using administrative funds and Agreement funds from existing obligated sources. Funds used to retain staff during a lapse are from obligated agreements with other FPAC agencies. The work associated with these agreements will utilize no more than the equivalent of 90 staff 8 hours a day for the duration of a lapse for work to be completed under those programs used to fund the agreements. Additionally, the additional 83 staff to support the programs approved to continue during a lapse that do not include obligated funding for Business Center operations, staff will be categorized as "excepted" to be able to provide the necessary support to keep those programs operational.	
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.	
The Business Center will cease all normal operations with the exception of those to ensure an orderly shutdown and the protection of life and property. Significant agency activities that will cease during the	

lapse unless required to support approved program activity of the mission area agencies will include, but are not limited to: contracts and agreements not related to programs exempted in the Mission Area will not be paid until the shutdown is over, rent and utility payments will be delayed, software platforms not utilized by programs exempted to continue will not have it support to make any updates or fixes, hiring and staffing will not be able to occur, time and attendance support, personal property access for all non exempted activities, partner use of government equipment, and travel support will not be available.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
After day 5, employees performing excepted and excepted on-call work will continue operations, as appropriate, with no more than 273 exempt and excepted staff identified above. There will be periodic communication between the agencies and the Under Secretary's Office on the status of the shutdown.

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

Farm Service Agency Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
N/A	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	9,468
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	6,377
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	129
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	2,962
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
Select FSA leadership at headquarters and state offices will be excepted on call to ensure continuity of operations in the case of a natural disaster response and to ensure the security interest of CCC.If a shutdown continues past 10 days, additionally, one farm loan employee and/or one county office farm program employee per service center will be excepted on call to complete certain loan processing items to protect the security interest of the government and to prevent the loss of security or loss of value to security for the borrower. This will not include any new loan processing but will include continuing liens, processing protective advances, if needed to preserve security (including inventory properties) and reviewing a borrower's account to gather the necessary information to respond to a bankruptcy notification to identify FSA debts and assets. Because the excepted work is ongoing and intermittent throughout the day, the employee shall remain at work to be immediately available to perform the excepted function. If there are intervals of time where the employee is not performing and is not	

expected to perform excepted work, the employee may perform limited non-excepted work. That work must not interfere with the proper execution of or readiness to perform an excepted activity.

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.

Significant FSA activities that will cease during a lapse include:

- Implementation and payment processing of remaining Supplemental Disaster Assistance programs authorized in the American Relief Act (SDRP Stage 1, SDRP Stage 2, ELRP 2023 and 2024 for Flood and Wildfire, Block Grants and any outstanding ECAP payment modifications)
- Implementation and processing of disaster assistance payments in support of significant weather-related disasters
- Accepting and processing farm and commodity loan making activities which provides critical financing during (or right after) harvest
- Development and implementation of legislation authorized in H.R. 1 which includes significant changes to ARC/PLC base acres, marketing assistance loan repayment calculations, disaster assistance program policy updates, and dairy margin coverage program several other changes.
- Technical assistance and cost-share assistance related to critical farmland and forestland rehabilitation necessary to support continued agricultural and forestry related activities following widespread disaster events (hurricanes, wildfires, tornadoes, flood, etc.)
- Processing annual CRP contract payments and ARC/PLC payments
- Implementation of farm loan streamlining initiatives
- Deposit and process borrower payments or lender fees or any associated banking activities to include endorsing checks or the release of checks or proceeds from the sale of security
- Advance funds on approved loans
- Obligate or close direct loans previously approved
- Issue guarantee loan conditional commitments or loan closings
- Issue direct loan approval notification letters
- Respond to customer general or specific account inquiries,
- Correspond with customers (either via email, in-person, in writing, or phone)
- Process direct, guaranteed loan applications
- Approve direct loans subject to the availability of funding
- Schedule loan closings for any FSA loan approved and obligated prior to the shutdown
- Process direct loan servicing applications (PLS, subordination, and partial release)
- Issue satisfaction of liens
- Process or approve debt settlement applications
- Approve new advances on guaranteed lines of credit
- Approve lender's request to restructure a guaranteed loan (including those related to bankruptcy filings)
- Process or approve guaranteed loss claims
- Establish any obligations on behalf of FSA.

Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes:

- In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change,
- how many employees would be affected, and
- the legal basis for such changes.

N/A

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

NRCS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
Not applicable	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	9,237
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	8,849
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	152
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	300
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
NRCS will continue agency operations using available funding, including FY 2026 mandatory Farm Bill programs funds, as well as prior year carryover discretionary and mandatory funding, to implement NRCS services and programs at USDA service centers and offices which include: **Emergency Watershed Protection Program** Activities associated with projects under the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) are excepted because they perform functions necessary for emergencies involving the safety of human life or the protection of property. This includes carrying out Damage Survey Assessments after an event to determine if a potential project is eligible for EWP assistance, monitoring of DamWatch (dam monitoring tool) and servicing existing and future EWP projects. **Dam Safety/Rehab** Dam Safety & Rehab activities are considered excepted because they are required to protect life and property (i.e. – 11,848 dams that protect homes, schools, roads, and public infrastructure). **Plant Materials Centers** Certain Plant Materials Centers (PMC) activities are considered excepted because they are required to protect Federal property (i.e. - facilities and the germplasm). This includes checking PMC facilities which store mission-critical germplasm, addressing critical and/or unexpected facility maintenance needed to protect Federal property, maintaining potted plant materials in greenhouses, maintaining production areas required to preserve the purity or viability of the seed or plant production and harvesting breeder and foundation seed fields required to preserve the purity of the germplasm. **National Water and Climate Center (NWCC)**	

Certain NWCC functions are considered excepted because they are required for the safety of human life or the protection of Federal property. This includes streamflow and flood forecasting, verification of weather models, water supply planning, snowpack, air temperatures, and precipitation monitoring for avalanche mitigation and fire prevention, suppression, and pre-suppression work. **National Soil Survey Center (NSSC)** Certain NSSC activities are considered excepted because they are required to protect Federal property. This includes checking the Kellogg Soil Survey Laboratory (KSSL) facility which houses sensitive lab equipment connected to gases, performing periodic facility safety reviews and maintaining Web Soil Survey (WSS).
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
Key operational activities such as processing of contract payments to farmers and ranchers, conservation planning activities, ongoing collaborative projects with key soil and conservation partners, and processing of payments for outstanding contracts and agreements.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
<u>Employee Status Determination</u> Previously mentioned programs/activities are related to the protection of life and property and will continue regardless of the availability of funding. Employee status ("exempt," "excepted", "excepted on-call" or "furloughed") will be determined based upon an assessment of each program's available carryover discretionary funding.

Risk Management Agency (RMA)

RMA Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
N/A	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	349
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	301
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	48
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	

Limited activities would continue for a period of approximately 180 days in the event of a shutdown. RMA would use mandatory program integrity funds in the amount of $10M that can be transferred to S&E and used to fund staffing.
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
Agency Compliance and oversight activities; Regional Office engagement; and new product development would largely cease in the event of a shutdown.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
In the event of an extended shutdown, RMA would re-evaluate staffing after 14 days to preserve mission critical functions. RMA has funding to operate approximately 180 days with limited staff.

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

FNS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	1
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
Most shutdown activities will be completed in the half-day timeframe. However, some Human Resources and activities to secure the building may require a full day to complete.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	1237
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	1135
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	40
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	40
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	1
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
Core programs of the nutrition safety net, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Child Nutrition (CN) programs and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) shall continue operations during a lapse in appropriations, subject to the availability of funding. These include: for the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990and Agricultural Act of 2014, FNS will designate excepted staff working on the development of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans; and forH.R. 1, FNS will designate excepted staff to work on provisions that affect changes to SNAP eligibility, benefits, and program administration. **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):**OMB's General Counsel provided a letter to USDA on May 23, 2025 stating that there is a bona fide need to obligate benefits for October – the first month of the fiscal year – during or prior to the month of September, thereby guaranteeing that benefit funds are available for program operations even in the event of a government shutdown at the beginning of a fiscal year. In addition, Congressional intent is evident that SNAP's operations should continue since the program has been provided with multi-year contingency funds that can be used for State Administrative Expenses to ensure that the State can also continue operations during a Federal Government shutdown. These multi-year contingency funds are also available to fund participant benefits in the event that a lapse occurs in the middle of the fiscal year. To fulfill this Congressional intent, it is necessary that a limited number of FNS employees be excepted from furlough to support program operations. These activities include, but are not limited to, program policy and operations, financial management, and stakeholder communications. **Child Nutrition Programs (CNP)**: Carryover funding and recoveries are available to continue to reimburse schools as well as child and adult care providers for meals served in September and October. In addition, the Child Nutrition Programs are largely funded by the Section 32 transfer from Treasury, which can be made available in advance of annual appropriations acts (7 USC 612c-6). To fulfill this Congressional intent to continue	

the program during a lapse, it is a necessary implication that a limited number of FNS employees be excepted from furlough to support program operations. These activities include, but are not limited to program policy and operations, financial management, and stakeholder communications.

WIC:
WIC has the ability to recover and reallocate unused grant award funds from the previous fiscal year. It is a necessary implication that a limited number of FNS employees be excepted from furlough to support program operations. These include, but are not limited to, program policy and operations, financial management, and stakeholder communications.

This plan reflects the continuation of the essential Federal activities and funding to maintain the core programs of the nutrition safety net. Additionally, other mandatory activities under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, including but not limited to Food Distribution on Indian Reservations and nutrition assistance block grants, will continue as will FNS' disaster response activities under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and the Stafford Act, to the extent permitted by multi-year and directly appropriated funds.

Staff funded by Direct Appropriations:
FNS staff funded by Child Nutrition direct appropriations will be regarded as exempt and continue in duty status during a lapse in appropriations. As a part of the preparations for any potential lapse, the Office of Financial Management will identify all staff currently in exempt status and provide that information to the Administrator, the Director of Human Resources, and the Senior Leadership team. Exempt staff will be notified of their status and its implications prior to any lapse in appropriations.

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.

All Federal activities supporting unfunded discretionary programs would cease, although State activity may continue out of inventory and previously awarded grant funds. All technical assistance and management evaluations with State or other partners will cease. New store authorization for SNAP and WIC programs will cease. In addition, the following activities will also cease: financial management beyond funds management; non-priority regulatory work; travel and conference presentation/participation.

Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes:

- In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change,
- how many employees would be affected, and
- the legal basis for such changes.

During any lapse in appropriation FNS works to keep excepted staff to the minimum necessary to support program continuation. However, it is important to note that the operational environments of FNS programs are very dynamic. It is not possible to completely anticipate the number of staff and mix of skills required to respond to every challenge which may arise in the course of a lapse. FNS will use the USDA recommended recall process to bring furloughed staff back to duty to accomplish critical tasks for programs funded through the SNAP, CNP and WIC accounts on an as needed basis. Once that task is completed, recalled staff will return to furlough status.

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

FSIS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
Shutdown activities will be completed within one-half day.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	7,614
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	533
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	14
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	3
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	7,064
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
FSIS will continue to perform mission essential food safety operations required to protect life and property, including statutorily required inspection of meat, poultry, and egg products, investigations necessary to protect public health (outbreaks, recalls, etc.) , laboratory work essential to identifying public health concerns and threats, emergency preparedness, and minimum levels of other support functions necessary to maintain these activities. Additionally, mandatory administrative work related to the shutdown will also continue. These activities are necessarily implied (Category III) and are necessary to protect life and property (Category V).	
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.	
All functions not required to directly or indirectly support the protection of life and property will cease. This includes non-essential administrative tasks, training other than mandatory training for frontline inspectors, and other support activities. **Cooperative Agreements for Inspection Services:** States may run out of funds to perform key inspection services. A total of 29 states run Meat and Poultry Inspection (MPI) programs. Policy initiatives, including those that impact small and very small plants, are stalled.	
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.	

• In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change:
  o If the lapse extends beyond 5 days, additional employees may be called back to address emerging public health threats or other critical needs.
• How many employees would be affected:
  o The number of employees affected will depend on the specific needs and circumstances at the time.	

- The legal basis for such changes:
    - Changes will be based on the necessity to protect life and property and to perform activities necessarily implied by law.

Forest Service (FS)

FS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
There may be instances where orderly shutdown activities will last beyond a half day and some will take up to five days. The Agency will be shutting down activities on over 193 million acres of land across 46 states with over 154 national forests and 500 plus ranger districts in some of the most remote places in the country. This includes closing hundreds of remote recreational sites and other facilities potentially pausing complex operations such as timber sales, and contractor, partner or workforce-led restoration projects which will be made on a case-by-case basis. The agency will work as expeditiously as possible but based on the scale of work and capacity there are instances where it could take up to five days.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	32,390
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	12,744
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	3,569
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	433
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	15,644
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
Category 1: Employees already financed from other available funds will continue to work as deemed appropriate to support life and property. This includes employees financed by: • Job Corps (transfer funds from Department of Labor). • Permanent and trust fund accounts (mandatory appropriations). • Cost recovery funds (mandatory appropriations and reimbursable funding) • Supplemental and Emergency Supplemental Funding (GAOA, IIJA, IRA, Disaster). Category 3: Business functions necessary to support continuing work and the exempt and excepted employees. Category 5: This includes but is not limited to: • Responding and preparing for wildland fires • Law Enforcement • Emergency and Natural Disasters Response or Preparation and defense preparedness • Implementation of Executive Order (EO) 14225, Immediate Expansion of American Timber Production to increase domestic timber production to protect our national and economic security. • Protection of Federal lands, infrastructure to ensure health and safety of the public such as buildings, waterways, equipment and other property including pack and saddle stock and	

investments owned by the United States when the suspension of such activities would cause an imminent threat to human life and property.

- Contracts in support of cyber security and infrastructure operations to support key positions and essential personnel.
- Management and maintenance of National Forest System lands for their sustained safety and use, including agency contract and permitted activities and public activities that do not require consistent employee oversight.
- Protection of studies where lack of continuation measurements or maintenance would destroy or endanger validity of research findings.
- Agency leadership to ensure alignment of activities.

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.

For the period of a lapse decisions on maintaining public accessibility, including special use permits and other activities are reserved for the Chief of the Forest Service (i.e. not delegated):

- Law Enforcement and Investigations Reimbursements may be delayed for more than 500 state, local and tribal law enforcement partners.
- Hazardous Fuels Treatments to reduce fire risk, including prescribed fire, would be reduced.
- Public access to recreation sites would be reduced.
- Special Use Permits processing would be delayed.
- Mineral Regulatory Reform would be delayed.
- Statewide forest inventories would be delayed.
- State Grants for Forest Management and Wildland Fire Preparedness may be delayed. State and local fire departments' ability to train firefighters and acquire necessary equipment may be delayed and states and other cooperators will not receive reimbursement for ongoing forest management work on non-federal lands.
- Applied science including scenario planning for priority fuels treatments and timber market analyses as well as experiments that are timed with prescribed fire/weather timing can be severely impacted.

Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes:

- In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change,
- how many employees would be affected; and
- the legal basis for such changes.

The Agency will review activities continued and paused during a lapse in appropriation and will make necessary adjustments to the employees exempted/excepted/furloughed to protect life and property or continue agency priorities where other available funds exist.

The Agency also reserves the ability to adjust activities between categories, including between those furloughed and exempted/excepted, if it is deemed in the best interest of the Federal government and there is funding availability from sources other than annual appropriations. For example, the activities listed in Category III and V are typically funded by annual appropriations. If it is determined that it is in the best interest of the Department/Agency to sustain critical functions and there are resources other than annual appropriations available, the Agency reserves the flexibility to work the Department and Office of Management and Budget to adjust the Categories for these employees. The Agency may also change the number of employees financed by supplemental funding where appropriate.

If these adjustments are needed, they will be discussed with the Department and Office of Management and Budget to ensure compliance with policy and direction.

Marketing and Regulatory Programs (MRP)

Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)

AMS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
AMS employees will primarily need ½ of a day to complete shutdown activities.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	3,987
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	348
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	3,367
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	147
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	125
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	

Funded by User Fees & Assessments

- ☐ Cotton Classing
- ☐ Dairy Grading
- ☐ Poultry Grading
- ☐ Meat Grading
- ☐ Laboratory Operations
- ☐ Quality Assessments and Audits
- ☐ Tobacco Grading
- ☐ Seed Inspection
- ☐ Cattles Futures
- ☐ Plant Variety Protection Program
- ☐ Perishable Agricultural Commodities (PACA)
- ☐ Specialty Crop Inspections
- ☐ Fee-funded Warehouse Examinations
- ☐ Federal Grain Inspection Service (user fee funded activities only)

Funded by Mandatory Appropriations

- ☐ Farm Bill-funded Activities
- ☐ Commodity Purchase Services
- ☐ Marketing Agreements & Orders
- ☐ Grant programs – no-year funds

Funded by Non-federal Reimbursements

- ☐ Research and Promotion Programs

Offices Identified as Partially Funded to Operate During Shutdown ☐ Office of the Administrator and its associated Staff Offices ☐ Deputy Administrators whose programs include exempt and excepted activities and associated staff **Category 5: Excepted to Protect Life and Property** ☐ Market News information, as required for commodities and agricultural markets
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
Activities Identified to Not Operate During Shutdown ☐ Country of Origin Labeling ☐ Federal Seed ☐ Transportation Services ☐ Grant programs funded by annual appropriation ☐ Grain Regulatory ☐ International Food Procurement ☐ National Organic Program ☐ Packers and Stockyards Program ☐ Pesticide Data Program ☐ Shell Egg Surveillance ☐ US Warehouse-appropriated ☐ Wholesale & Alternative Markets ☐ Standardization ☐ National Bioengineered Food Disclosure ☐ Hemp Production Program
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
Commodity grading and other fee-based services operate year-round, but shutdown of operations will have a major impact on producers (farmers/ranchers) when agricultural commodities are ready to move into the marketplace. Suspension of regulatory and oversight activities for longer than a few days will impact the organic industry (National Organic Program). State cooperators that support the Pesticide Data, Country of Origin Labeling, and Federal Seed Act programs will be impacted by suspended operations and halted Federal reimbursements. Reporting on agricultural transportation and market development activities that strongly support communities and smaller farmers/ranchers will not be available. As the timeframe expands, the suspension of appropriated marketing support activities will negatively affect marketing for all agricultural sectors served by AMS.

Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

APHIS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
N/A	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	6,967
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	1,233

Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	3,249
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	2,485

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.

Cat. 1 - APHIS will continue carrying out activities that are supported by user fees, including services provided outside business hours (such as Agricultural Quarantine Inspection, animal import and export services, and issuing phytosanitary certifications), reimbursable agreements with States and other cooperators (largely for wildlife damage management activities), trust funds (offshore certification and preclearance inspection), and reimbursable agreements with States and other cooperators.

Cat. 1 – No-year carryover balances from prior-year appropriations will support Animal Health, Plant Health, and Wildlife Damage Management and Methods Development activities. Buildings and Facility and IT funding will allow for projects where contracts have already been awarded but wont support staff costs. APHIS also has overseas operations that fall under U.S. State Department authorities and host country labor laws, which require APHIS Locally Employed Staff to be paid during a lapse in appropriation using available balances.

Cat. 1 – No-year emergency funding balances will support continuation of animal and plant health emergency programs including new world screwworm, highly pathogenic avian influenza, exotic fruit flies, African swine fever, bovine tuberculosis, and rabies (7. U.S.C 8316 and 7 U.S.C 7772).

Cat. 1 – No-year balances from Farm Bill programs will support continued operations of the Animal Disease Prevention and Management Program and the Feral Swine Eradication and Control Pilot Program.

Cat 5 - APHIS conducts the following essential activities to the extent that they protect life and property, including: 1. Activities essential to ensure continued public health and safety, including safe use of food and drugs and safe use of hazardous materials; 2. Border and coastal protection and surveillance; 3. Protection of Federal lands, buildings, waterways, equipment and other property owned by the United States; 4. Law enforcement and criminal investigations; 5. Emergency and disaster assistance; 6. Activities necessary to maintain protection of research property. On-call staff will be available to support these functions, as necessary.

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.

APHIS activities that are fully funded by annual appropriations would cease during a lapse in funding include, but are not limited to, the following: aquatic animal health program operations, cervid health activities, (including chronic wasting disease), cattle and swine health program operations, pest detection and methods development, wildlife methods development, wildlife damage control efforts, biotechnology and veterinary biologics reviews, and routine animal welfare inspections and Horse Protection Act activities.

Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes:

- In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change,
- how many employees would be affected, and

• the legal basis for such changes.
It is currently projected that APHIS funding available under a lapse in appropriation would support most exempt functions for a prolonged period of time. A number of identified positions will be on-call to assist with program and emergency response efforts as needed.

Research, Education & Economics (REE)

Agricultural Research Service (ARS)

ARS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
N/A	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	5,222
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	3,622
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	1,600
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
Protection of human and animal life as well as research property and data where significant damage could result; provide animal care; support shared building access to non-federal tenants; continued support of in-progress construction projects; continue certain in-progress human studies; and Senior Leaders to maintain contact with USDA Senior Leadership, address urgent issues and monitor communications. Additionally, continuous stand-up of NBAF, which is critical for biosecurity and animal health, and continued research on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, New World Screwworm, and other vital research needs that are essential to protecting public health and safety. Headquarters and Area Excepted Duties: • Coordinate data requests and manage excepted and exempted activities across the agency to prepare for both short and long-term lapse in appropriation scenarios. • Collaborate with various locations/offices on emergent and existing excepted and exempted issues. • Communicate effectively with both excepted and non-excepted employees, adhering to USDA guidance. • Facilitate the designation of additional excepted employees, as necessary, following approval from the Administrator's office to accommodate emergent needs and emergency responses. • Engage with Departmental Management offices, the Under Secretary's office, and REE agency leadership regarding furlough-related data collection and coordination efforts. • Partner with OHRM and REE agencies on personnel matters, including time and attendance reporting and benefits related to the furlough.	

- Collaborate with the USDA Agriculture Security Operations Center (ASOC) to address cybersecurity incidents during the furlough period.
- Work alongside the USDA Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Coordination (OHSEC) Operations Center to respond to any arising emergencies.
- Coordinate investigation with the USDA Office of Inspector General (OIG) regarding criminal matters necessitating prompt attention.
- Oversee and manage the continuation of contracting activities essential for safeguarding life and property.

Location Excepted Activities:

- Relay communication to excepted and non-excepted employee in line with USDA guidance.
- Sustain the collection, preservation and analysis of important resources, including data, crops, animals, and germplasm under time-sensitive constraints.
- Ensure continuity of specific human studies while adhering to ethical standards, particularly in relation to biological sampling and experimental protocols.
- Maintain certain animal welfare activities and studies while respecting ethical considerations to prevent unnecessary harm to animals or prolonged experimental protocols.
- Support projects critical to national security and safety, focusing on animal protection, crop production, food safety, and natural resources.
- Grant access to non-federal employees at cooperating institutions for tasks not funded through lapsed appropriations, provided safety and security measures are in place.
- Coordinate efforts with contractors and collaborators performing excepted or exempted duties and the preservation of life and property.

Agency Exempted Activities Supported by Excepted Positions:

- NBAF: Oversee the design, construction, and operational readiness of biocontainment laboratories, crucial for biosecurity and animal health.
- Building & Facilities Projects: Ensure the design and construction of research facilities that are essential for animal and plant care, utilizing no-year funds to support agricultural research.

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.

Citrus Greening, animal/crop production and protection projects and food safety research will be paused for duration of lapse.

Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes:

- In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change,
- how many employees would be affected, and
- the legal basis for such changes.

Up to 1,600 employees will be excepted and/or exempted to protect human and animal life, as well as research property and data that could incur significant damage if left unattended, and research on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, New Word Screwworm, and other vital research needs that are essential to protecting public health and safety. Senior leaders who will be responsible for maintaining contact through official channels and monitoring communications, and other necessary personnel who will be excepted and/or exempted to cover multiple shifts daily for animal care, to pay utilities, and to fulfill other financial obligations that may directly affect the safety of ARS employees, animals, and research materials. Lastly, work related to Buildings and Facilities Projects—including the design and construction of research facilities—is exempted to ensure the care of animals, plants, and associated infrastructure, thereby preserving agricultural research.

Economic Research Service (ERS)

ERS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
ERS expects most shutdown activities to be completed in one-half day. In the event of individual travel or personal leave, some employees may need to perform shutdown activities after the initial one-half day. ERS leaders will work with REE Business Center to notify applicable stakeholders of the status of the lapse in appropriations on the first day of the shutdown in accordance with agency and USDA guidance. Contractors and other cooperators will be notified of the Government status and what limits/changes they will have to operate under by the applicable Contracting Officer/Principal Investigator. These activities may need additional time, no more than an additional one-half day and 2 FTE.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	200
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	188
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	12
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	

Limited agency activity will continue during a lapse in funding. ERS has one-year funding and no other revenue source to continue programmatic activities.

- **Cat III:** Up to 12 senior leadership positions to maintain communication through official channels and monitor communications, including the surveillance of agency critical IT infrastructure systems to prevent security breaches and subsequent operational failures. This includes the: Administrator, Associate Administrator, Assistant Administrator, Chief of Staff, Division Directors (four), Budget Officer.

Allowable excepted activities:

- Coordination of furlough-related data calls and excepted activities throughout the agency
- Respond to urgent furlough related issues throughout the agency as needed or required by Departmental Guidance Respond to Departmental or other excepted issues.
- Provide communication to excepted and non-excepted employees in accordance with Departmental guidance.
- Coordinate with OSEC, ASA/DM offices, Under Secretary's office and REE agency leadership on furlough related data calls and coordination, including website status messages.
- Coordinate with OHRM and the REE agencies on personnel related items such as time & attendance, departures, and benefits during the furlough.
- Coordinate with REE IT Services Division and OCIO Client Experience Center (CEC) to ensure all systems remain online and functional with unauthorized user access denied during the shutdown and to ensure maintenance of the ERS cloud environment. The ERS cloud environment is critical infrastructure. Advise all Agency staff that their computers are to be on during a shutdown to allow for cyber security patches and other critical maintenance.

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.

ERS will suspend almost all program activities. ERS publications, website updates, and data products, will be suspended during a lapse in appropriations. ERS activities during a shutdown will be limited to agency excepted duties described above.

Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes:

- In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change,
- how many employees would be affected, and
- the legal basis for such changes.

In the event additional excepted employees are needed, additional employees may be designated as "on-call" excepted employees with the approval of the Administrator's office to address emergent excepted requirements and/or emergency response.

Two (2) additional emergency response and COOP official are designated as excepted employees to ensure adequate communications with the USDA Operations Center. COOP team members may be required for both readiness activities such as maintaining operable communications as well as any emergency implementation or activation activities, and to ensure adequate communication with the USDA OpsCenter.
Two (2) additional HR staff may be designated as excepted employees to handle specific actions, if needed.

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

NASS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
All activities will be completed within one half day.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	501
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	456
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	45
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	

Excepted Duties and Positions (Cat. 3)
Agency Excepted Duties (Excepted duties as listed are not impacted by timing or season of the year.)

- Coordination of data calls and excepted activities throughout the agency needed to accommodate short and long-term shutdown.
- Respond to urgent furlough related issues throughout the agency and with stakeholders and partners.
- Respond to HQ/regional excepted issues.
- Coordinate between HQ & Regions on current and emergent excepted requirements
- Provide communication to excepted and non-excepted employees in accordance with USDA guidance.
- In the event additional excepted employees are needed, additional employees may be designated as excepted employees with the approval of the Administrator's office due to emergent excepted requirements and/or emergency response.
- Coordinate with DM offices, Under Secretary's office and REE agency leadership on furlough related data calls and coordination.

Coordinate with OHRM and the REE agencies on personnel related items such as time & attendance, benefits during the furlough.

- Address any NASDA (National Association of State Departments of Agriculture) enumerator issues during the shutdown.
- Ensure all office shutdown activities are complete and closed out.
- Monitor communications and keep HQ informed of any local issues that arise.
- Ensure all systems remain online and functional with user access denied during the shutdown.

• Monitor systems during shutdown and be prepared to address any threats to property or infrastructure. • Ensure all lab specimens are properly secured or organized in a sanitary manner. • Monitor incoming packages for lab samples. Ensure all systems are monitored, remain online and are fully functional • Monitor systems during shutdown and be prepared to address any threats to property or infrastructure.
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
All activities that are not noted as excepted will cease, including all data releases.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
If there is a departmentally approved event that requires additional excepted staff, those staff members may be placed on call. There is no count of employees available at this time and no legal basis for such changes.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

NIFA Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
Not applicable.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	297
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	284
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	13
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
• Activities will be funded with non-annual federal administrative set-aside funds, authorized in more than 14 appropriated programs and where not specified, per 7 USC 3315(a)(3). • Coordination of data calls and excepted activities throughout the agency needed to accommodate short- and long-term shutdown. • Respond to urgent, furlough-related issues throughout the agency and with stakeholders and partners.	

• Respond to agency excepted issues. • Provide agency financial and grants management support as needed. • Coordinate with Institutes and Offices on current and emergent excepted requirements. • Provide communication to excepted and non-excepted employees in accordance with USDA guidance. • Coordinate with DM offices, Under Secretary's office and REE agency leadership on furlough-related data calls and coordination. • Coordinate with OHRM and the REE agencies on personnel-related items such as time and attendance, benefits, and relocation during the furlough. • Ensure all systems remain online and functional with user access denied during the shutdown. • Monitor systems during shutdown and be prepared to address any threats to property or infrastructure.
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
All program activity will cease.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
The shutdown plan covers 13 essential personnel for a full year. Remaining staff will continue in furlough status until appropriations are enacted enabling furloughed employees to return to work.

Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS)

OCS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
All shutdown activities will be completed within one-half day.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	6
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	5
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	1
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
OCS activities will be suspended during a shutdown. OCS activities during a shutdown will be limited to furlough communications and shutdown activities.	

Senior Leaders to maintain contact with USDA Senior Leadership, address urgent issues and monitor communications.
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
• Coordination of interagency data calls and excepted activities in OCS needed to accommodate short and long-term shutdown. • Coordinate with Science staff to provide scientific expertise to the Secretary as needed.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
The furlough status will not change for any OCS employees.

Rural Development (RD)

RD Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
RD anticipates completing all orderly shutdown tasks within one-half day	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	3,193
Total number of agency employees expected to be furlough under the plan (unduplicated count):	2,640
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	34
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	531
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
There are certain limited activities that are viewed as "excepted" for the purpose of preserving the Government's property within, for example, the Section 521 Rental Assistance Program outlays of prior obligations, Rural Development (RD), and Farm Loan Program (FLP) loans portfolio, which serves as collateral for loans, and borrowers' funds paid to RD in escrow for real estate taxes and property insurance. For such programs, RD will disburse funds, issue loan note guarantees, and take other actions only as necessary to protect RD's interest in properties. To the extent possible RD will provide administrative support ReConnect services which has no-year funding and is therefore exempt from the lapse of the appropriation. When funded by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) RD staff provide support DHS to respond to a Presidentially Declared Disasters. • In these situations, staff may be excepted and deployed to assist with recovery efforts that support the protection of Rural Development property. In certain situations where this staff is assigned as part of an exempt DHS support team, the RD staff will also be exempt.	
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.	
The majority of RD activities will cease. Only the activities listed above will continue.	
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.	
In certain circumstances during the shutdown, the Under Secretary for Rural Development may increase excepted staff to address preservation of property risks as they arise.	

Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs (TFAA)

Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

FAS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	1
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
Employees on travel returning to their duty station within three days.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	550
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	467
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Funding (mandatory) to continue by law:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	83
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
Office of the Administrator excepted personnel (4) will perform the following excepted functions: • Oversee decision-making, respond to security issues, coordinate adjustments in activities. **Business Operations excepted personnel (13) will perform the following excepted functions:** • Manage services, ensure network services remain operational, oversee grants and cooperative agreements, manage purchase card program, protect passports. **Trade Policy and Geographic Affairs excepted personnel (1) will perform the following excepted functions:** • Participate in critical trade negotiations, review reimbursement requests. **Foreign Affairs (FA) excepted personnel (4 – Headquarters; 57 – Foreign Service Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers; for a total of 61) will perform the following excepted functions:** • Support overseas personnel, monitor budgets, address critical needs, protect life and property. **Global Market Analysis (GMA) excepted personnel (1) will perform the following excepted functions:** • Support trade negotiations, process export sales information. **Global Programs (GP) excepted personnel (3) will perform the following excepted functions:**	

• Implement mandatory programs, monitor GSM-102 Program, oversee Food Aid and E-Verify programs, report visa infractions.
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
Trade negotiations and travel for mission critical meetings required to support the Administration's trade and policy objectives
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
N/A

U.S. Codex Office (USCO)

USCO Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
N/A	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	7
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	3
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	4
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
Activities that would continue during a lapse include 1) preparation for and participation in critical international negotiations that cannot be postponed or cancelled, including regular and extraordinary sessions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and/or subsidiary bodies, and 2) previously scheduled and funded multilateral engagements with foreign governments related to Codex issues. Critical international engagements and negotiations are already scheduled for September 28-October 3 and October 13-17. These meetings cannot be rescheduled. In the event of a short-term lapse (e.g., 5 days), three employees would be required to prepare for and participate in these meetings. In the event of a longer-term lapse (i.e., >5 days), one additional employee (i.e., four total employees) would be required to prepare for and participate in critical meetings that are scheduled for November 3-7, November 10-14, and December 15-19. In addition to the four employees identified above, the U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius is in an exempted position that reports for duty during a lapse.	

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
All activities other than preparation for and participation in international negotiations will cease during a lapse, including stakeholder meetings, outreach activities, communications, training events for U.S. delegates, policy and technical support to other U.S. government agencies, and day-to-day programming and administrative tasks.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
During a short-term lapse, 3 employees plus the U.S. Codex Office Manager would be expected to continue carrying out the critical activities identified above. In the event of a longer lapse, one additional employee would need to be un-furloughed to perform these critical activities. The number of hours spent each day performing these activities is expected to vary and will be limited to only the activities identified above (i.e., not full time).

Staff Offices

Agriculture Building and Facilities

Agriculture Building and Facilities Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
Not applicable.	
A total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	103
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	75
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	28
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	

The following activities will continue during a lapse of appropriations: Facility operations and maintenance, custodial services, pest control, hazardous material abatement, landscaping, mail services, and other support services during the shutdown. This would be funded with carryover funds.
• In support of Executive Leadership, Oversight and Management Controls
  o 1 Federal employee (Senior Executive Excepted)
In support of Administrative Services for the Office of the Secretary
  o 1 Federal employee (intermittent excepted)
• In support of Building Operations and Maintenance
  o 12 Federal employees
• In support of Sign Language Interpreting Services, if there are excepted employees requiring such services
  o 1 Federal employees
  o Contract – 1 contract employee
• In support of Mail Management
  o 4 Federal employees (intermittent excepted)
• In support of Food Safety Inspection Services Field Supply Requirements
  o 7 Federal employees (intermittent excepted)
• In support of Safety
  o 2 employees (includes 1 intermittent excepted)	

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.	

The following activities will cease during a lapse of appropriations: cafeteria operations, medical units at South, Whitten, and George Washington Carver Center, and the loading docks.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
There are no changes.

Department Administration (DA)

DA Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
Based on the planned shutdown activities, no scheduled tasks are expected to exceed a duration of one-half day.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	179
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	140
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	39
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	

Office of Human Resource Management: 112 total (30 fully excepted)
OHRM will except 30 employees to provide: leadership, management, and direct operations required to cover policy, HR systems, T&A Pay/Benefits/Retirement/Health Insurance for the OHRM-serviced population; and limited staffing support for exempt customers and critical excepted hiring. They would work intermittently, only as needed.
 	
<u>Office of Contracting and Procurement</u>: 67 total (9 fully excepted)
OCP will fully except nine Federal employees in support of the Departmental Administration's contingency plan for lapsed appropriations.
• In support of Executive Leadership, Oversight and Management Controls
  ○ 2 Federal employees (Senior Procurement Executive and Head of the Contracting Activity)
• In support of ongoing availability and user support for USDA's contract writing system (Integrated Acquisition System)
  ○ 1 Federal employee	

• In support of ongoing availability and user support for USDA's Government Purchase Card program
  o 1 Federal employee
• In support of procurement operations division (contract award and administration)
  o 3 Federal employees (two warranted Contracting Officers and the Chief of the Contracting Office). They will provide ongoing support for contracts that protect life and property, such as physical, building, and IT security. Additional customer support to be provided in the areas of cyber security and information technology operations in support of OCIO, and systems support for OCFO payment activities.
• In support of urgent data call from White House/OMB and current Executive Orders / mandates
  o 2 Federal employees (Procurement Analyst and Senior Advisor to the Director)

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
The following activities will cease during a lapse: • General oversight of agency management efforts; • Correspondence management; • Active records retention; • Most employee and labor relations activities; • All hiring activities unless otherwise directed to support emergency response capability; • Processing routine personnel actions; • Retirement processing unless otherwise directed; and • Continuity exercises.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
• If appropriations remain unavailable, the CHCO will conduct a status review on the fifth day to determine whether continued on-site presence is required for the identified 15 employees. Those no longer needed will transition to a full furlough status until further notice. • During the lapse in appropriations, the CHCO will assess office requirements for excepted activities and determine whether to recall furloughed employees. Staff reinstated for these duties will return to furlough status once the specific need concludes.

Hazardous Materials Management (HMM)

HMM Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
Not applicable.	
A total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	18
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	16

Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	2
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
The Hazardous Materials Management has identified two Federal employees that would be intermittently excepted in case of emergency: the Chief of the Environmental Management Division (EMD) and an EMD employee required to coordinate the Department's environmental response and restoration activities and coordinate with the U.S. National Response Team for emergencies of national significance	
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.	
The following activities will cease during a lapse of appropriations: Program activities, including providing leadership, policy, guidance, and funding for department-wide environmental cleanup, future environmental liabilities minimization, and environmental compliance.	
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.	
There are no changes.	

Office of Budget and Program Analysis (OBPA)

OBPA Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
All employees will be directed either to report to their duty stations or to report to their supervisors by telephone to receive assignments of duties or other pertinent information to assure an orderly shutdown of activities within the first half-day of a lapse in appropriations.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	35
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	18
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	17
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.
The following staff will report to work each day to provide support to policy officials managing the continuation of excepted government activities: 1) Director; 2) Deputy Director; 3) Chief of Staff; and 4) Budget Execution Staff Chief, and 5) Program Analysis Division managers and staff. These staff will support the Department's overall shutdown planning implementation, necessary budget execution actions that arise during a lapse in appropriations, and other necessary budget-related activites.
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
During a lapse in appropriations, most activities performed by OBPA will cease. These activities would include programmatic oversight and analyses; strategic planning and performance management; tracking and coordination of Departmental priorities and Executive Order implementation; Departmental Directives coordination; and regular, non-shutdown related budget execution activities.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
For the period of the lapse, the Director will evaluate the need to bring furloughed staff back based on the needs of the office to conduct excepted activities. It is expected that an initial evaluation of need will be performed on the fifth day of a lapse. Employees brought back from furlough for excepted activities will be put back in furlough status when the need for the excepted activity ceases. It is expected that no more than 10 employees would be excepted at any period of time to support excepted activities.

Office of Communications (OC)

OC Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
N/A	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	28
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	25
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	3
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
The designated employees under the plan will be available to perform excepted activities in direct support of the Secretary of Agriculture. These activities are authorized under ADA as they are	

necessary to carry out essential functions related to national emergency and the protection of life or property. In alignment with 7 C.F.R. § 1.131 (Subpart G) – Public Information Policy, these employees will be monitoring and responding to press inquires, drafting and posting social content on behalf of the Secretary, preparing remarks, writing and issuing press releases, and briefing the Secretary on strategy. The following employees will work full days: • Director of the Office of Communications • Press Secretary • Digital Director Unless otherwise directed by OMB, the USDA.gov website will remain live with supporting resources or in a cached state. This means the site will not be updated during the shutdown but will allow for full access to USDA.gov pages and resources in a frozen state of the last operational day before the shutdown. U USDA websites with certain operations granted as 'excepted' will continue normal operations per 7 C.F.R. § 1.131 (Subpart G) – Public Information Policy, only activities necessary for protection of life or property. This disposition will be communicated to all agency heads, web masters, and public affairs directors. All records, personal property, real property, and facilities will be maintained and protected by those entities charged with security for the Jamie L. Whitten and South buildings until such time as funds are appropriated.
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
Services that will not be provided in the event of a shutdown: a) USDA press releases and reports; b) Policy guidance and direction on public affairs issues and programs; c) Video production; d) Design services; e) Photographic Services; f) Radio services g) Printing services; h) Publications; and i) USDA Social Media posts.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
The Director will continually evaluate the need to bring staff out of furloughed status based on the needs of the office to conduct excepted activities. Employees brought out of furloughed status for excepted activities will be returned to furlough status when the need for the excepted activity ceases. **One** employee will be affected and will conduct emergency response activities, as required by 44 C.F.R. Part 334 – Emergency Coordination.

Office of the Chief Economist (OCE)

OCE Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
N/A	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	50

Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	43
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	5
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	2
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
Cat. 1: Five staff (Deputy Director for Climate and Environmental Markets, two economists, one policy analyst, and one agricultural project coordinator) paid with supplemental funds (IRA) will finalize a pending rulemaking on biofuel feedstocks and manage contracts and carry out mission critical work in energy and environmental markets. Cat. 5: Two staff (Chief Economist and World Board Chairman) will be retained under the plan in the category of protecting public health, safety, or the economy. They will support critical activities of the Office of the Secretary, including responding to requests by the Secretary for agricultural and economic intelligence or analysis in support of decision making that may impact public health, safety, or the economy.	
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.	
Weekly weather bulletins; monthly WASDE report; economic policy research activities; agricultural labor activities; risk assessment and cost benefit analysis activities; pest management policy and pesticide use analysis, and biotechnology activities.	
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.	
If a prolonged lapse in appropriations occurs, additional staff may be required to address an emergency situation.[1] The Chief Economist may change the designation of an employee to excepted, only until such time as the emergency need is concluded, upon which time the individual will again be placed on furlough status.	

Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO)

OCFO Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
N/A	

[1] For example, additional staff may be needed for work to support emergency relief programs for agricultural producers on an ad hoc basis.

Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	1,033
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	554
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	479
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.

OCFO will continue to serve as the principal advisor to the Secretary and Senior Officials of USDA on all matters related to financial management, financial management systems, financial control and accounting, internal control and assessment, and financial training. The 479 excepted employees from Headquarters, ACFO Shared Services, and NFC will report to work on day two to continue to provide essential support to policy officials to manage the lapse of government activities, and to provide essential support to policy officials and agency managers in the preservation of health and safety and the protection of property. OCFO's provision of payroll, information technology, human resources, financial services and administrative management activities for USDA covers the legal bases needed to support the excepted employees. OCFO is primarily comprised of employees whose positions are funded through the Working Capital Fund. In the event of a government shutdown, OCFO will utilize the Revolving Fund as its primary source of financial support.

NFC will recall 432 employees as follows:
Payroll processing – 115 employees, End of Year Processing – 14 employees, Retirement and Military Deposits Processing – 41 employees, Customer Support – 45 employees, Debt Management – 23 employees, FEHB Insurance Processing – 20 employees, HR Back Office Servicing – 34 employees, Mainframe Support – 33 employees, Web Support for PPS – 50 employees, Develop Support for Payroll Accounting – 4 employees, Administrative and HR Support – 45 employees, plus Management and Oversight – 8 employees.

FMS will recall 33 employees as follows:
Business Intelligence Division (BID) – 3 employees, Technical Innovations Systems Division (TISD) - 10 employees, System Security and Compliance Division (SSCD) – 3 employees, Quality and Production Management Division (QPMD) – 4 employees, Financial Services Division (FSD) – 5 employees, Customer Support Division (CSD) – 4 employees, Reporting, Reconciliation, and Analysis Division (RRAD) – 4 employees.

FPP will recall 14 employees as follows:
The following positions in Fiscal Policy and Planning will be exempt for the lapse period: Deputy Chief Financial Officer (DCFO) • Chief Operating Officer (COO) • Associate Chief Financial Officer for Shared Services (ACFO-SS) • Associate Chief Financial Officer for Financial Policy and Planning (ACFO-FPP) • Branch Chief, Budget Formulation Division (ACFO-FPP) • Branch Chief, Supplemental Funds, Budget Formulation Division (ACFO-FPP) • Budget Analyst, Budget Formulation Division (ACFO-FPP) • Director, Fiscal Policy Division (FPD) (ACFO-FPP) • Director, Financial Management Services (ACFO-SS) • Director, WCF Division (ACFO-FPP) • Budget Branch

Chief, WCF (ACFO-FPP) • Lead Budget Analyst, WCF (ACFO-FPP) • Accounting Branch Chief, WCF (ACFO-FPP) • Lead Accountant, WCF (ACFO-FPP)
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
Activities not funded through the Revolving Fund would cease, unless an exception to the Antideficiency Act applies to a particular function
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
If the absence of appropriations continues, the DCFO or COO will reevaluate the status on the fifth day and thereafter to make decisions on the necessity for continued attendance by the employees identified above. All other employees will continue in furlough status.

Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)

OCIO Lapse Plan Summary Overview		
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5	
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.		
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	1,243	
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	730	
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)		
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	14 Full Time	371 On call
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0	
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0	
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0	
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	128	
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.		
OCIO plays a critical role in protecting and maintaining the USDA IT infrastructure needed to enable the Mission Areas and Agencies to meet their legal obligations to the American public. USDA Mission Areas and Agencies have “Maximum Tolerable Downtime” (12 hours per FEMA) for their Misson Essential Functions. OCIO must ensure that the supporting infrastructure such as the Data Center, VPN, ICAM, EAD, and cyber security services are fully functioning before they are needed either for day-to-day support to USDA work involving the safety of human life of protection of property or in the event of a national emergency. OCIO is primarily comprised of employees whose positions are funded through the Working Capital Fund. In the event of a government shutdown, OCIO will utilize the Revolving Fund as its primary source of financial support. Employees that support USDA’s MEFs and Emergency Response Functions are considered excepted under category 5. Source OPM “Guidance for Shutdown Furloughs” December 2021		

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 7 Section 2.32 – Chief Information Officer 40 United States Code (USC) Section 11315 – Agency Chief Information Officer 44 USC Section 3506 – Federal Agency Responsibilities
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
Activities not related to continued operation of information systems necessary to support excepted activities) will cease. the following cybersecurity and privacy activities that will cease during a lapse: (1) privacy management and compliance activities; (2) audit and compliance; and, (3) training and awareness.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
N/A

Office of Civil Rights (OCR)

OCR Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
OCR Managers will coordinate the following activities intended to terminate the Office's operations: • Communicate shutdown instructions and procedures to all employees. • Distribute furlough notices at headquarters and all field units to all employees who have not been exempted from shutdown procedures. • Contact any employees on leave and communicate that their leave is canceled. • Contact any employee in travel status and direct them to return to the duty station. • Ensure all employees release completed timesheet entries and submit to the approving official. • Delay any employee transfer of station. • Ensure all records, personal property, and real property are secured. • Cancel all meetings, hearings, and previously arranged OCR business. • Validate existing communication strategy and employee contact information for future communication needs.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	99
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	96
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	3
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	

Only the three employees who are identified as required to perform functions necessary for the orderly shutdown of program activities will report for work, such as reporting case status and contacting vendors/contractors, that all work must cease. The three exempt positions are: • Deputy Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights • Associate Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights • Chief of Staff
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
All activities will cease during a lapse in appropriation, such as complaint processing.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
If a lapse in appropriation extends beyond five days, all 99 of OCR's employees will be furloughed, which will cause delays and inadequacies in processing complaints.

Office of Ethics (OE)

OE Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
All shutdown activities, aside from those ongoing excepted activities described below, will be completed within one half day.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	20
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	18
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	2
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
Only two OE employees will remain to provide the required ethics services for the Department: The Director and Deputy Director of the Office of Ethics. The Director was appointed by the Secretary as the Department's Designated Agency Ethics Official (DAEO) and the Deputy Director serves in that role in the Director's absence. Ethics advice and rulings by the DAEO provide the necessary safeguard to ensure that officials can make critical decisions regarding the safety of human life and the protection of property in circumstances where a conflict of interest arises. In such circumstances, it is expected that the provision of ethics advice would be on an "as needed" or "as requested" basis during the shutdown to support USDA functions related directly to activities respecting the safety of human life or	

the protection of property or the provision of ethics services required for the continued performance of particular excepted functions of the Department or where continued service is required to accomplish the orderly shutdown of the Office of Ethics.
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
All ethics services beyond those described immediately above will cease during a lapse in appropriations.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
A prolonged lapse would not change the nature of OE's excepted/furloughed status.

Office of General Counsel (OGC)

OGC Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
All shutdown activities, aside from excepted or exempted employees to coordinate specific activities as described below, will be completed within one half day.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	197
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	176
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	2
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	15
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	4
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
OGC anticipates working with other USDA agencies and offices to identify areas of legal services required to be continued in support of major excepted or exempted functions. Individual OGC attorneys, administrative personnel, and support staff will be excepted or exempted from the shutdown in areas where (1) their continued service is required for the provision of legal services to the Office of the Secretary, the Deputy, Under, and Assistant Secretaries, and other general officers concerning the shutdown; (2) the provision of legal services is required to support USDA functions related directly to activities respecting the safety of human life or the protection of property; (3) the provision of legal services is required for the continued performance of particular excepted or exempted functions of the Department; (4) continued service is implied from the Constitutional function of the judiciary for cases in litigation that are not postponed during the shutdown; and (5) continued service is required to accomplish the orderly shutdown of the Office of the General Counsel.	

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
All legal activities not required to support ongoing litigation, the safety of human life and protection of property, or fee-funded will be suspended.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
Excepted or exempted managers will document justification and obtain General Counsel approval for additional employees to be retained or recalled to manage ongoing litigation or other matters necessarily implied from ongoing work of agencies. Excepted or exempted managers will issue recall notices or additional subsequent furlough notices as appropriate. Excepted or exempted managers will consult with the President of the union on ongoing issues related to the furlough as appropriate.

Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA)

OHA Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
All shutdown activities will be completed in the .5 days identified.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	52
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	52
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
None.	
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.	
All appeals and enforcement actions overseen by OHA (NAD, OALJ, and OJO) will cease during a lapse in funding. Specifically, all hearings will be cancelled and decisions resolving all adjudications will be held in abeyance until appropriations are approved.	
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.	

Our shutdown preparation includes cancelling hearings for one week. If there is a prolonged lapse, we will have to cancel hearings that are scheduled for more than one week out. This will take less than half a day to complete and will only require 2 managers at NAD and 1 manager at OALJ. Otherwise, no OHA employees are exempt from the furlough.

Office of Homeland Security (OHS)

OHS Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
N/A	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	45
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	17
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	28
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	

The Office of Homeland Security (OHS) will except a total of 28 (13 will be fully excepted and 15 will be intermittently or on call in case of emergency) and 1 contract in support of the Departmental Administration Contingency Plan for Lapsed Appropriations. The function of this organization addresses emergency circumstances, such that the suspension of the function would imminently threaten the safety of human life or the protection of property [1].
 	
• In support of Executive Leadership, Oversight and Management Controls
  ○ 2 Federal employees for leadership/advice to the Secretary on national and homeland security issues.
• In support of running the 24/7 Emergency Operations
  ○ 6 Federal employees to operate the USDA Operations Center.
  ○ Contract:
  ▪ Emergency Operations Center Contract: to provide USDA emergency notification and response capabilities supporting all USDA emergency and security programs worldwide.
• In support of national defense and homeland security readiness:	

[1] OMB Memorandum 18-05 dated January 19, 2018

○ 4 Federal employees to provide access to secure facilities and communications systems, store classified materials and provide for the secure communications in support of the USDA senior leadership. ○ 1 Federal employee to provide continuity of operations and continuity of government {COOP/COG}. • Recall of employees for emergency or unforeseen needs that require response at the request of the Secretary (these employees will be furloughed in the event of a shutdown. However, they will remain on call in the event they are needed. The number of positions activated from furlough status will depend on the circumstances. The positions will be returned to furlough status once the unanticipated event has been addressed. ○ Number of Employees: 15
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
General oversight of Agencies management efforts, efforts to support enhanced customer experience, correspondence management, active records retention, employee relations, labor relations, hiring, physical security assessments, continuity exercises, CFIUS reviews, National Security Adjudications, and management, coordination, the monitoring of the Department's fleet and real property reduction initiatives, as well as others.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
N/A

Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE)

OPPE Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
N/A	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	26
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	26
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	0

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.
None. Not applicable.
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
All initiatives will cease during a lapse in funding.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
No change will occur.

Office of Safety, Security, and Protection (OSSP)

OSSP Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
All specific shutdown activities are expected to be completed within one-half day.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	53
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	4
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	0
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	0
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	49
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
Excepted employees will be expected to perform functions relative to life safety, security, and emergency management efforts aligned with Departmental Administration Contingency Plan for Lapsed Appropriations to provide critical mission support, facility safety, security, and emergency management for the USDA Headquarters Complex (South, Whitten, and Yates Buildings), and the George Washington Carver Center, Beltsville, MD. Provide 24hr protection of the Secretary; provide 24hr oversight of the USDA armed guard force and Security Control Center. The functional components address emergency circumstances, life safety, and security such that the suspension of the function would imminently threaten the safety of human life or the protection of property. The following staff will report to work each day to provide support to Department officials managing continuation of excepted government activities: • In support of Executive Leadership, Oversight and Management Controls ○ 3 Federal employee	

• In support of Executive Protective Operations
  o 26 Federal employees
• In support of Security Services Division and Building Access in the National Capital Region
  o 7 Federal employees
• In support of Facility Protection Division and Building in the National Capital Region
  o 10 Federal employees
• In support of Safety, Training, and Emergency Management (STEM)
  o 3 Federal employees
• Contracts:
  o Security Guards
  o Helpdesk EPACs
  o Helpdesk HSPD12

Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.
Non-excepted employees will not perform any administrative functions in support of excepted employees assigned to protect life and property, including life safety, security and emergency management efforts.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
All excepted employees will still be expected to perform functions relative to life safety, security, and emergency management efforts. All non-excepted employees will continue to be furloughed.

Office of Inspector General (OIG)

OIG Lapse Plan Summary Overview	
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities:	0.5
Describe specific shutdown activities that will not be completed within one-half day, if applicable. Specify the time and the number of employees necessary to complete each activity.	
All 313 OIG employees who are furloughed during a lapse in appropriations are required to perform the following activities, which should take no longer than 4 hours: Employees must secure sensitive data and personal items, update and verify system access credentials, exchange personal contact information with their supervisors, and complete any office-specific directives. OIG employees must cancel scheduled meetings, document project statuses for smooth reentry, remove perishables, unplug appliances, and clean their workspaces. Government equipment must be secured, office trash cleared, and doors locked upon departure. Employees must set a pre-scripted email autoreply, post out-of-office signage if needed, submit their timesheet, shut down all computers and monitors, and fully power down government-issued mobile devices and laptops.	
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before implementation of the plan:	372
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count):	313
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories: (may include duplicated counts)	
(Cat. 1) Compensation is financed by a resource other than annual appropriations:	16
(Cat. 2) Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law:	11
(Cat. 3) Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law:	0
(Cat. 4) Necessary to the discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers:	0
(Cat. 5) Necessary to protect life and property:	32
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse. Also include the legal basis for retaining categories of employees who will be carrying out these activities.	
The Antideficiency Act[2] allows agencies to continue operations that are "necessary for the safety of human life or the protection of property. OIG would continue performing essential law enforcement-related activities, albeit at a dramatically reduced level. The level of support would vary based on the specific needs, which cannot be easily predicted. OIG would also continue monitoring incoming complaints to the USDA OIG Hotline for any allegations involving immediate loss of life and property. Finally, OIG would manage and continue orderly shutdown and residual operations in support of the ongoing law enforcement and Hotline activities. Critical response team includes a Special Agent-in-Charge, Hotline Coordinators, and specialized personnel such as a Program Analyst, a Wildland Fire Investigation Team lead, and a Whistleblower Protection Coordinator. Personnel assigned to no-year or multi-year Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act or American Relief Act projects may be in an "on call as needed" status.	
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse.	

[2] 31 U.S.C. § 1342

OIG would significantly reduce its law enforcement-related activities, while suspending all audit and analytics and innovation-related activities, as well as all mission support activities except for those supporting ongoing law enforcement and Hotline activities, as set forth above.
Should a lapse in appropriations extend for a prolonged period of time (i.e., longer than 5 days), describe the following changes: • In any points in time when the furlough status of employees may change, • how many employees would be affected, and • the legal basis for such changes.
Based on its mission, OIG has identified only activities needed to manage and continue orderly shutdown, continue residual operations, and ensure safety and security against loss of life as those activities that would continue during any Government shutdown. OIG's shutdown plan includes an appropriate number of personnel in the Office of Investigations who are required to work in an ad hoc capacity because of their involvement in specific law enforcement activities that occur during the period of the shutdown. For planning purposes, OIG anticipates 8; however, 24 additional agents may return to duty if they are engaged in judicial proceedings as directed by a court, which include activities such as serving arrest and search warrants or testifying in court proceedings such as before a grand jury or in a trial. These employees would work only for the duration of the specific activity in which they are involved. Certain employees, whose functions may prove to be excepted, will be placed in an "on call as needed" status while furloughed. "On call as needed" shall mean they may be contacted to return to duty to support the excepted functions and activities of OIG as needed.