



USDA Deputy Secretary Vaden Confirmed



Photo Courtesy of: ProAg – Stephen Vaden Confirmed as Deputy Ag Secretary, June 12, 2025. <https://www.proag.com/news/stephen-vaden-confirmed-as-deputy-ag-secretary>

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Stephen Vaden was confirmed as the new Deputy Secretary of Agriculture on June 12, 2025. Judge Vaden brings with him a distinguished legal background, having served on the U.S. Court of International Trade and as General Counsel for the USDA. His familiarity with trade policy and regulatory frameworks positions him to make progress for farmers and ranchers across the country, including in tribal nations. Particularly as the Navajo Nation pushes to increase food security and seeks to protect Food and Nutrition Services.

The Navajo Nation Washington Office is finalizing a letter to officially congratulate Judge Stephen Vaden on his new appointment. The letter welcomes the Deputy Secretary into his new role and extends an invitation to visit the Navajo Nation to witness the resilience of Navajo agriculture firsthand.

The Navajo Nation was the first tribe to meet with individuals under USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins' new administration, and the Nation also recently met Deputy Secretary Vaden's Chief of Staff, Jen Tiller. The letter reflects the Nation's enthusiasm to continue building relationships with USDA leadership, including Secretary Rollins, through shared priorities like the Make America Healthy campaign and expanded support for tribal farmers and ranchers. The invitation to Vaden is part of the Nation's broader effort to build strong, early partnerships with the incoming administration, grounded in mutual respect, food sovereignty, and a shared commitment to serving all of America's rural communities.