

Working Lands Enterprise Fund

MEAT SLAUGHTER & PROCESSING BUSINESS GRANTS

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2022

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Working Lands Enterprise Fund (WLEF) supports, grows, and sustains Vermont's entrepreneurs by providing financial assistance to the agricultural and forestry industries to allow them to innovate and grow.

In FY22, the Vermont State Legislature and Governor Scott appropriated \$5.3 million to WLEF. Of these funds, \$500,000 was allocated for grants related to slaughter, meat processing, and meat processing training proposals. With these funds, WLEF investments have been able to:

- focus on priority sectors, including grant opportunities for meat slaughter & processing and producer associations.
- scale up impact investments to focus on value-added agriculture and secondary grade wood and forest-based products.
- improve business viability by funding equipment automation, local sourcing and supply chain connections, and energy transformation.

MEAT SLAUGHTER & PROCESSING GRANTS

In FY22, the Working Lands Enterprise Board (WLEB) created a new \$500,000 funding opportunity dedicated to meat slaughter & processing business. Awards between \$50,000 - \$100,000 have been granted to meat slaughter & processing projects that benefit:

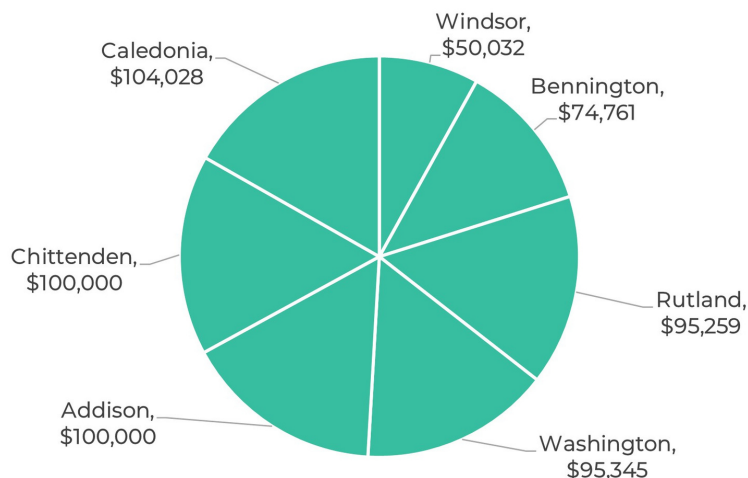
- Infrastructure improvements
- Market development, marketing plans and/or sales strategy)
- Operations logistics
- Workforce training
- Research & design and product development
- Organizational development for procurement and pricing management

FY22 FUNDED PROJECTS

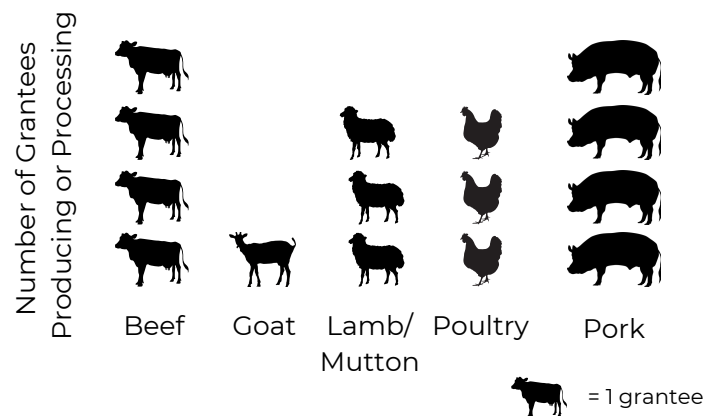
FY22 awarded projects will support a variety of livestock and meat businesses, including farms, slaughter and processing facilities, and smokehouses.

- 47% of applications funded
- \$619,425 total funded of \$1,123,731 requested, or 24% above the \$500,000 allocation
- \$4.6 million contributed in matching funds
- 57% of grantees produce or process more than one type of meat.

FY22 AWARDED FUNDS BY COUNTY



FY22 GRANTEE MEAT TYPES



\$1,123,731

Funds Requested
From 15 Businesses

15

Applicants

7

Projects Funded

\$619,425

Investments Awarded for
Meat Slaughter &
Processing Business Grants