



# Washington State Department of Agriculture

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## **Bud Hover announces he is leaving WSDA**

**OLYMPIA** – Director Bud Hover announced today he is leaving the [Washington State Department of Agriculture](#) (WSDA) to return to his farm in Okanogan County and spend more time with his wife and family. In his resignation letter to Governor Jay Inslee, Director Hover wrote:

“I believe we have made great strides in the past two years in advancing new and innovative solutions to help solve some of the pressing issues facing agriculture today as well as making great strides in improving efficiency in the Department of Agriculture,” adding, “However, after many hours of discussion with my wife, Tonya, and considering the needs of her aging father, we have decided that it is time to return to the farm and the Methow Valley.”

Governor Jay Inslee thanked Hover for his work at the agency.

“As a farmer himself, Bud has been a tireless advocate for the average farmer, making sure their concerns were heard at the highest levels of government. He provided key leadership in implementing a state of the art Animal Disease Traceability program that will better protect the state’s vital livestock industry and provided important guidance in the difficult situation we faced with issues at our ports.”

Director Hover was appointed to lead WSDA on April 1, 2013. He will continue to serve through the current Legislative Session, scheduled to conclude April 26, to ensure a smooth transition.

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