

Biography of Matt Walker



Matt Walker will serve as the NRCS–North Carolina State Conservationist where he will lead statewide efforts to ‘help people, help the land’ by delivering technical and financial assistance to address natural resource concerns across the state.

Raised in the agricultural tobacco region of western Kentucky, Walker developed an early appreciation for working landscapes and the importance of conservation. That foundation ultimately guided him toward a career dedicated to helping America’s farmers and land managers protect and enhance natural resources.

Walker earned a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from Murray State University in 2000, followed by an M.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from Mississippi State University in 2003. Walker began his NRCS career that same year as a wildlife agency partner biologist, serving in Kentucky and Montana, before transitioning fully to NRCS as an area biologist.

Over nearly two decades with NRCS, Walker has taken on roles of increasing responsibility, including Acting District Conservationist, Area Biologist, State Biologist, Acting Area Conservationist, Acting Assistant Director of Technology, Acting State Conservationist, Acting Chief of Staff to the Associate Chief’s Office, and Acting Associate Deputy Chief and Deputy Chief of Soil Science and Resource Assessment. These assignments have taken him to Kentucky, Montana, Hawaii, Tennessee, Maine, and NRCS National Headquarters.

Before serving as the North Carolina State Conservationist, Walker served as the permanent Maine State Conservationist since 2020.

Years in Service with NRCS: 19