



FoodHub in the News

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FoodHub makes second trip to White House

PORTLAND – The Ecostrust's FoodHub program had its second cameo at the White House Monday when Amanda Osborne, acting director, participated with some 60 other industry leaders in a conversation about the importance of local food.

Osborne was the first speaker called to the microphone by U.S. Department of Agriculture Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan during a well-tweeted and Web-broadcasted summit on local food.

Merrigan and other officials, including White House Chef Sam Kass, were touting the Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food Compass website which highlights local food projects across the country and will expand to include a listing of farmers markets and other local food distribution hubs.

For Portland-based FoodHub, an online match-making website connecting food producers with restaurants and institutions, it was the second trip to the White House in less than 12 months.

Last July, Deborah Kane, then a vice president at Ecotrust and founding director of FoodHub, was invited to speak about FoodHub as a rural economic development tool. Kane has since left Ecotrust and last month joined the USDA as the national director for the agency's farm-to-school program.

Kane wasn't on hand for Monday's discussion, but tweeted about how proud she was to see Osborne there representing FoodHub.

There was a heavy emphasis on social media during the conversation. Osborne used the @Food_Hub Twitter account to provide commentary from inside the room.

FoodHub launched a redesign last summer.

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