

USDA Designates Two Minnesota Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

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Emergency Support to Producers in Surrounding Counties/Border State Also Available

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18, 2020 — Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue designated two Minnesota counties as primary natural disaster areas. Producers in who suffered losses caused by recent natural disasters may be eligible for U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency loans.

These natural disaster designations allow FSA to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters. Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation or the refinance of certain debts.

Excessive Rain and Flooding – June 7-Aug. 20

Producers in Kittson County who suffered losses caused by excessive rain and flooding that occurred June 7 through Aug. 20, 2020, may be eligible for emergency loans.

Producers in the contiguous counties listed below are also eligible to apply for emergency loans:

- Minnesota: Marshall and Roseau
- North Dakota: Pembina

Excessive Rain, Flash Flooding and Flooding – June 7 – Aug. 1

Producers in Roseau County who suffered losses caused by excessive rain, flash flooding and flooding that occurred June 7 through Aug. 1, 2020, may be eligible for emergency loans.

Producers in the contiguous Minnesota counties of Beltrami, Kittson, Lake of the Woods and Marshall are also eligible to apply for emergency loans.

The deadline to apply for emergency loans under this designation is July 12, 2021.

FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

FSA has a variety of additional programs to help farmers recover from the impacts of this disaster. FSA programs that do not require a disaster declaration include: <u>Emergency Assistance for Livestock</u>, <u>Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program</u>; <u>Emergency Conservation Program</u>; <u>Livestock Forage</u> <u>Disaster Program</u>; <u>Livestock Indemnity Program</u>; <u>Operating and Farm Ownership Loans</u>; and the <u>Tree</u> <u>Assistance Program</u>.

Farmers may contact their local USDA service center for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at <u>farmers.gov/recover</u>.

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