

## USDA Designates 24 Texas Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

News Release | Texas | September 28, 2023

[View PDF](#)

This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through [emergency loans](#). 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 to refinance certain debts. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

According to the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

**Impacted Area:** Texas

**Triggering Disaster #1:** Drought (Fast Track)

**Application Deadline:** May 6, 2024

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Collin, Panola, Rusk, and Smith

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:** Cherokee, Dallas, Denton, Fannin, Grayson, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Hunt, Nacogdoches, Rockwall, Shelby, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood

**Louisiana:** Caddo and De Soto

**Impacted Area:** Texas

**Triggering Disaster #2:** Drought (Fast Track)

**Application Deadline:** May 13, 2024

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Brewster, Culberson, Ellis, El Paso, Freestone, Harrison, Henderson, Jeff Davis, Loving, Navarro, Presidio, and Reeves

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:** Anderson, Cherokee, Dallas, Gregg, Hill, Hudspeth, Johnson, Kaufman, Leon, Limestone, Marion, Panola, Pecos, Rusk, Smith, Tarrant, Terrell, Upshur, Van Zandt, Ward, and Winkler

**Louisiana:** Caddo

**New Mexico:** Dona Ana, Eddy, Lea, and Otero

**Impacted Area:** Texas

**Triggering Disaster #3:** Drought (Fast Track)

**Application Deadline:** May 20, 2024

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Archer, Baylor, Hudspeth, Hunt, Jack, Kaufman, Rockwall, and Van Zandt

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:** Clay, Collin, Culberson, Dallas, Delta, Ellis, El Paso, Fannin, Foard, Haskell, Henderson, Hopkins, Jeff Davis, Knox, Montague, Palo Pinto, Parker, Presidio, Rains, Smith, Throckmorton, Wichita, Wilbarger, Wise, Wood, and Young

**New Mexico:** Otero

## More Resources

On farmers.gov, the [Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool](#), [Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet](#), and [Loan Assistance Tool](#) can help you determine program or loan options. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

### **Farm Service Agency:**

1400 Independence Ave.  
SW Washington, DC 20250

### **Contact:**

FPAC Press Desk  
[FPAC.BC.Press@usda.gov](mailto:FPAC.BC.Press@usda.gov)