

Farm Service Agency U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

USDA Designates Four Counties in Western Washington as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought

News Release | Washington | October 23, 2023

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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 <u>emergency loans</u>. 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>U.S. Drought Monitor</u>, these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for eight or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

Triggering Disaster: Drought

Impacted Area: Washington

Application Deadline: 6/10/2024

Primary Counties Eligible: Lewis, Pacific, Thurston, and Wahkiakum

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible: Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Mason, Pierce, Skamania, and Yakima

Oregon: Clatsop

More Resources

On farmers.gov, the <u>Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool</u>, <u>Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet</u>, and <u>Loan Assistance Tool</u> 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.

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