



Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

USDA Designates Colorado Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought

News Release | New Mexico | October 23, 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 eight or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

Impacted Area: Colorado

Triggering Disaster: Drought (Fast Track)

Application Deadline: June 19, 2024

Primary Counties Eligible: Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, and Rio Grande

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

Colorado: Archuleta, Huerfano, Las Animas, Mineral, and Saguache

New Mexico: Colfax, Rio Arriba, and Taos

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